Lessons from the Native Way

Talking Circles

Syio, (greetings) in the name of Yeshua, our risen Lord! We hope this newsletter finds you well and prospering as your soul prospers (3 John 1:2). We are once again honored to bring you good news from your Native brothers and sisters in Christ.

As we pray for and support our troops we want to recognize and honor our heroes who have returned to civilian life. Many of these great warriors of our country are now suffering from the stress of war and terrible things they endured in battle.

If you ask them they will tell you it is just “part of the job.” However, their family and friends know about the nightmares that don’t go away; the guilt that comes from being the one that survived; or even the thoughts of suicide that play on the mind when the depression seems too much to bear. It is referred to as “Post Traumatic Stress Disorder” or PTSD.

“Unless you have experienced it, you cannot relate to it” some will tell you, and yes, that is true. Most folks can not relate, but I know a God who can! He is the God who delivered me. Let me share this good news with you:

First, it is my prayer that the Christian Native community be recognized as an integral part of the destiny of this country. We have a rich spiritual heritage. Our fathers knew of one Creator God and that we must seek His ways and walk in wholeness and harmony with this Creator. Only Yeshua, His Son, can restore us to that oneness that we all seek.

One does not have to be a war veteran to have experienced PTSD. Major auto or motorcycle accidents; rape, sexual abuse; sudden death of a loved one, are just a few of life’s traumatic events that can cause the symptoms of PTSD.

Ten years ago the Veteran’s Administration started a “Talking Circle” for Native Americans suffering from PTSD in Albuquerque, NM. In 2004 it was shut down when the facilitator left the clinic. Last January the Circle was re-instated by a new facilitator, Mr. James Gilles. In an interview last month with the Albuquerque Tribune Mr. Gillies is quoted as saying “The talking circle is just one of the ways the VA works with approximately 5,000 veterans suffering from PTSD, depression and anxiety; the method works best with Indians because it conforms to their cultural practices” Gillies said. He went on to say that “People with PTSD get afraid of getting better because they don’t know wellness, don’t know peace of mind."

All of the group’s 30 to 35 participants are American Indian; however, the talking circle is open to veterans of all races and conflicts.

The method works best with Indians because it conforms to their cultural practices, Gillies said. “We understand that the world view Native Americans hold is really, really different from the Western world view,” he said. "If you don't relate to them from that point of view, it's just not going to work."

Mr. Gillies touched on a very important point that westerners could learn from their Native brethren. “People.. are afraid of getting well!” he said. This way of thinking is not new. The Bible tells us in John 5:6 Yeshua (Jesus) went up to a man (laying by a healing pool) who had been lame for thirty eight years and asked him “Do you want to get well?”

Do You Want to Get Well?

Healing Pool

Photo WEN
Table Rock Lake

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The fear of getting well is still common among believers today. Religion and tradition has taught many that as long as we are in this world we must suffer as the world does. Health, prosperity and victorious living are God’s ideas – not ours. In this verse of scripture the lame man answered Jesus with words of self-pity, “no one will help me get in the pool,...” Look what Yeshua did though – he healed him anyway!

Yeshua, our Jesus, is ready to do that for you right now! He is not limited to just healing a lame man or one suffering from PTSD. He wants you to dance with joy like the Cherokee’s in this picture. What is your fear? If you have never experienced wellness or peace of mind, don’t be afraid. Jesus is ready to show you the Way. What about the disability check you may ask? A dilemma among believers that are trying to receive healing is that once they are healed then they are not eligible for disability checks from the government. This is a major stumbling block to wellness.

Are you afraid that Jesus will heal you? Would you rather live life hurting, and lonely. Don’t feel bad, you are in good company and Jesus knew this, which is the reason he asked the man at the pool “Do you want to be made well?” Your wellness is up to you. You have to first make a decision to be well. He did it for me and he will do it for you. God does not play favorites, but don’t take my word for it - check out what the Bible says in Acts 10:34; Galatians 2:6; and Ephesians 6:9.

If Jesus can heal your mind, body and emotions then how much easier is it for him to show you how to prosper in your finances? It all comes down to trust. Faith is trust and that is what God is looking for. He knows your needs. Remember God does not respond to your needs – he responds to your faith. Selah - Indian word for:

Put that in your pipe and smoke on it a while. 😊

Native Spirituality - not relying on What You See with your natural eyes

There is another road block to healing. It may be beyond your intellectual ability to see yourself as well. Intellectualism can hinder you from receiving from God. Do not rely on your own understanding! (Proverbs 3:5) I am not disrespecting intellectuals. Intellectualism is fine – as long as it does not get in the way of the simplicity of the Gospel – Amen!

Intellectualism can hinder you from receiving from God

Even though Jesus knew the man at the pool did not wish to be made well He still gave him a command to do something that seemed totally impossible. He told him to “Take up your bed and walk.” The lame man knew that to get up and walk would be a total act of faith and that is why Jesus told him to do it. Faith requires action (James 2:17). This is a simple principle, but we try to make it hard. Why? We have been told by others that it is hard. The lame man then made a decision to get well. He responded to the Lord’s command, was healed and took up his bed and walked. The moral of this story is when we obey God we get what God can produce. When we obey men, we get what men can produce. When men are not able to help you, believe that God can help you. Make the choice of life and receive your healing now!

The Bible tells us in Proverbs 2:6 “For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding. For those of you who are hurting or if you know someone who is, I pray for your understanding in this teaching. It is given in the Love of God for your wellness. I encourage you to study the book of Proverbs for the next two months. It is filled with words of wisdom about life for people of any faith. You will be blessed!

Yeshua loves you and so do I.

Grandmother <=>

Merry Heart Does good like a medicine:

Remember, when the chips are down, Buffalo is empty!
The Paradigm Shift - The silent majority is silent no more

Christians are waking up to their responsibilities concerning Israel. On July 19, 2006 over 3,500 delegates “stormed” our Nation’s Capital in support of our Hebrew friends during the first annual Israel-Washington D.C. Summit by the Christians United For Israel.

The summit included a "Night To Honor Israel" banquet, attended by both Christian and Jewish leaders, and a rally in Freedom Square. CUFI was founded six months ago by Sr. Pastor John Hagee of Cornerstone Church in San Antonio, Texas. The group's goals are to unite Christian supporters of Israel, to establish a rapid-response network to send e-mails and faxes and make phone calls to government representatives, and to organize "Night To Honor Israel" events across the country.

Pastor Hagee told the sold out banquet room to think about the CUFI name for a moment - “Christians United - since when have Christians been united about anything?” he asked. The point Pastor Hagee was making is that it is our responsibilities concerning Israel that has caused the Body of Christ to come together in unity. The room was filled with Christians from all denominations.

Just after the summit, more than 15,000 people had signed up to be a part of the rapid-response team. The group had about 3,000 members before the summit and expects that number to increase.

Because Christians have a long history of persecuting Jews, many in the Jewish community have expressed suspicion about the group’s motives.

Hagee says the group’s purpose is not to proselytize or convert Jews. Among the Bible verses Hagee points to is Genesis 12:3, which states "I will bless those who bless you [Israel], and I will curse him who curses you."

It is understandable that the Jewish community is suspicious of the group, said David Brog, he executive director of Christians United for Israel.

After centuries of persecution, "now all of a sudden, the Christians are our friends, and the most robust Christians are our best friends?" said Brog, who is Jewish. "But these Christians have nothing to do with the Christians who lived in the past and persecuted Jews. These Christians are a blessing from God."

The group is also encouraging everyone to get out and “vote the Bible.” That is the shift in philosophy that will take this country back to it’s Christian roots!

Rev. Chari Bouse presents Texas Senator John Cornyn the book “Trail to Tranquility” by Rabbi Lazer “Wolf Brother” Brody. Rabbi Brody sent copies of his book to Bouse for both of the Texas Senators as blessing from the Israelis. He also wanted to thank the Senators for taking the time to listen to CUFI’s “talking points.” Rabbi Brody is the Dean of the Breslev Rabbinical College in Ashdod, Israel. His “Trail of Tears” series won literary awards from the Jerusalem Post last year. The series featured his views on the Cherokee’s being a lost tribe of Israel. His “Lazer Beams” Blog can be found at www.LazerBrody.net.

To enter the Blood Covenant
(To be Born Spiritually-from above)

If you would like to make the wonderful decision to make Yeshua the Lord of your life, simply pray this prayer...

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. I pray and ask Jesus to come into my heart and be Lord over my life according to Romans 10:9-10. "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." I do that now. I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead.

Lord Yeshua, fill me now with the power of your Holy Spirit as your word says in Acts 1:8, and I will never be the same, in Yeshua’s Mighty Name. AMEN!

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