Being
The Intergenerational Messianic Community of Lifelong Learners

Teen’s Shabbat Education
12/10/16
Compiled by Henri Louis Goulet
Faith Webbing
Educational Strategy

Beth Messiah congregation
Faith Webbing
Adapted from Gary Pecuch

Faith Webbing is a deep, purposeful intergenerational approach to connecting youth to faith(fulness) through a congregation. Members of all ages spend time side-by-side involved in the life and outreach of the congregation. The vision is to wrap our children and youth in a web of faith(fulness) so loving and caring that they will know God and Messiah Yeshua and always want to be an integral part of a local congregation.
The Ancient Way of the LORD

“Faith Webbing” is just a 21st century term to refer to the ancient intergenerational way of life of the people of God (see, e.g., Gen 18:19; Deut 6:7; Eph 6:4).
For I have chosen him, that he may instruct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.”
You shall inculcate them diligently into your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.
Deut 6:7 – Inculcate What?

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your nephesh and with all your capacity".
What is Love?
How Can It Be Commanded?

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How Can It Be Commanded?

Love is not primarily a sentiment, nor a private matter. It is, in part, affect or emotion, but more outward, action-oriented, and practical than the Western concept. It is strongly focused on the provision of instrumental help and the fulfilling one's covenantal obligations (which is what is being commanded).
Ephesians 6:4

Καὶ οἱ πατέρες, μὴ παροργίζετε τὰ τέκνα ὑμῶν ἀλλ᾽ ἐκτρέφετε αὐτὰ ἐν παιδείᾳ καὶ νουθεσίᾳ κυρίου.

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.
What's at Stake?

Who is the light of the world in each of these verses?

Isaiah 42:6
John 8:12
Matthew 5:14
What's at Stake?

Being the Messianic Community that brings light to the world
The Current Science on Lifelong Learning for Lifelong Thriving

THE SPIRITUAL CHILD

The New Science on Parenting for Health and Lifelong Thriving

LISA MILLER, PH.D.

Cerego Learning Science
Scientific Validation of Biblical Inculcation

The current science on lifelong learning for lifelong thriving in living validates the approach commanded by God Himself in Deuteronomy 6:7 regarding ‘inculcation’.
Inculcate: A Definition

To teach and impress by frequent repetitions or admonitions: urge on or establish in the person

To cause (as a person) to become impressed or instilled with something

And note well: to ‘instill’ something is to introduce and implant it gradually, little by little
Intergenerational Inculcation of the Messianic Worldview and Way of Life

All of our Religious School lifelong learning is ultimately about the parental, grandparental, congregational, communal, and otherwise intergenerational inculcation of the Messianic worldview and way of life into our children (Cf. Gen 18:19; Deut 6:7; Eph 6:4).
What’s a Worldview?
Ways of knowing complementing the capacities of sight and mind should also be embraced by Messiah-followers in order to do justice to their complete God-given natures and allow them to comprehend the totality of reality in its rich multiplicity and fullness to the extent humanly possible. To this end, spiritual writer Parker Palmer has advocated what he calls “wholesight,” which fuses sensation and rationality into a union with other, yet often neglected ways of knowing such as imagination, intuition, empathy, emotion, and most certainly faith(fulness).
Excerpt from Naugle (Discuss)

In God’s epistemic grace, he has provided a variety of cognitive capacities which are adequate for and to be employed in grasping the diverse modes of created reality, an ancient concept known as adaequatio. All capacities ought to be well employed when it comes to apprehending the truth about God, humankind, and the world, else one suffers from metaphysical indigence (deficiency)
For a variety of reasons—perhaps a bits-and-pieces mentality, or an inability to make the theological connection between the Earlier and Later Scriptures, or a destructive dualism that divides life into the airtight compartments of the sacred and secular—contemporary biblical understanding among everyday professed followers of Messiah is subject to extreme forms of reductionism. A comprehension of the overall biblical story and its constituent components is lost upon the minds of far too many believers. There is precious little understanding of the broader horizons of the Scriptures.
When it comes to the faith, many well-intended persons understand it in limited terms as a church view, or a spirituality view, or a religious view . . . , but not as a comprehensive, all-embracing, holistic world and life view. But the notion of a comprehensive, biblical worldview has a mysterious way of opening up the parameters of the Bible so that Messiah-followers might be delivered from a fishbowl-sized religion into an oceanic perspective on the faith.
Rom 12:1 Therefore, I exhort you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; which is your only reasonable response in worship. 2 Do not allow yourselves to be shaped to the pattern of the age in which we live, but allow yourselves to be transformed by the renewing of your mindset. Then you will be able to discover what God's will is, that which is good, acceptable, and wholly complete.
Worldview → Way of Life

A worldview is a way of seeing, perceiving, and engaging the world that manifests itself in one’s entire way of life.

How profound is our Messianic worldview? The proof is in our way of life! Revisit Rom 12:1-2!
Lifelong Learning

Education in the form of lifelong learning is the centerpiece of discipleship at BMC, because it is the hallmark of the Jewish and therefore Messianic way of life. As Abraham Joshua Heschel rightly stated: “It is wrong to define education as preparation for life. Learning is life, a supreme experience of living, a climax of existence... the school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship.”
Are You Taking Advantage of these Lifelong Learning Opportunities?

Babies to Bubbies

BMC provides a full continuum of engaging and thought-provoking lifelong learning opportunities across the life cycle, from babies to bubbies. These opportunities range from the most elementary to the advanced, depending upon where a person is in their development. For our adult lifelong learning opportunities, see www.bethmessiah.org.
Observational Bible Study

READING THE BIBLE WISELY
An Introduction to Taking Scripture Seriously

REVISED EDITION

Richard S. Briggs
1. Engage the living God in His living Word, instead of viewing the Bible as a mere ‘book’

2. Presume the living Word will make its continued relevance to us clear, as opposed to thinking we have to read the Bible and make applications

3. Allow ourselves to be formed and transformed by our reading and study of the Bible as the living Word of God
Group Exercise: Cost of Discipleship

What will your ‘vocation’ be? How much time, money, and education will need to be invested for you to become a ____________?

Use this as the metaphor for our Messianic way of life and role. How much time must be invested in lifelong learning as the hallmark of the Messianic way of life?!
Unfortunately, the intellectual life, the life of intentional, habitual cultivation of one's mind under Messiah's Lordship, can be valued and entered into only as a part of the overall approach to life just described, and this approach runs contrary to the conditions that define our contemporary lifestyles. Many people today, including many Messiah-followers, simply do not read or think deeply at all. —J. P. Moreland, *Love Your God with All Your Mind*, (1997) p.87
We must recapture our intellectual heritage if we are to present to our brothers and sisters, our children, and a post-Judaeo-Christian culture a version of the Messianic way of life rich and deep enough to challenge the dehumanizing structures and habits of thought of a society gone mad. To do this, we must change our reading habits; indeed, we must alter our entire approach to the life of the mind as part of Messianic discipleship. Reading disciplines the mind, and the mind is like a muscle. If it is not exercised regularly and strenuously, it loses some of its capacities and strength. —J. P. Moreland, *Love Your God with All Your Mind*, (1997) p.87
Concluding Reflection #2

CH 4 “Harassing the Hobgoblins of the [Messianic] Mind”
Concluding Reflection #2

The “Empty Self” Hobgoblin

Inordinately Individualistic
Infantile
Narcissistic
Passive
Sensate
Does not Develop an Interior Life
Hurried and Busy
Concluding Reflection #2

Harassing the “Empty Self”
Hobglobin

Admit the Problem
Choose to Be Different
Change Your Routine
Develop Patience & Endurance
Develop a Good Vocabulary
Set Some Intellectual Goals
Recommended Reading

Love Your God With All Your Mind
J. P. Moreland

Worldview
The History of a Concept
David K. Naugle
Foreword by Arthur F. Holmes
If not us, 
WHO?
If not now, 
WHEN?