Our History of Studies

We are very clear that Messiah has led us in the choice and timing of the studies we have done over the last many years, and share them here, again, not as a specific blueprint for how it "should be done" but rather as an example.  We have made a continuing effort to keep key concepts in mind, including them as we move through additional studies and incorporating what has been learned as we go.

We also try to use various teaching methods since everyone does not do well with just listening.  Some are shy about speaking up but we try to encourage participation from all.  So, we use flashcards, some (friendly) competitive memorization games, Scripture Sword drills on paper or verbal, asking people to act out a particular portion of Scripture or asking them to physically stand and represent a situation, and so forth.

**2002-3  Ha Yesod**  The Foundation from First Fruits of Zion on recommendation of Dean Wheelock of Hebrew
                Roots Ministries.   FFOZ has since changed their position and now teach that Gentiles do not need to observe Torah.  This study as we have it is no longer available, though we would recommend the original one.  14 week video format. We have offered this study 1-2 times a year as there is interest for new people,  our leadership people taking turns to facilitate the study with each group.
                (NOTE: as of 2014, we would be more likely to recommend Tom Bradford's work at Torah Class;  www.torahclass.com )

2003-4  Torah Club I  FFOZ     Same caution as noted above.
2004-5  Torah Club II    "                         "
2005-6  Torah Club III    "                         "

            Also included commentaries from Na"tan Lawrence, Carl and Julie Parker.
            **Chanukah: LIght in the Darkness**   FFOZ   book and DVD presentation
            **Who is the Bride?**    Rebecca Park Totillo           audio                                            summer 06
            **Worship and Warfare: The Church's Neglected Weapon**  tape   and book entitled:
            **Worship: Holy Ground, Battle Ground or Play Ground?**         by Warren Wiersbe

Not Messianic in focus but deep and thorough encouragement for the importance of worship.

 An audio of this teaching by Warren Wiersbe is available on our website on the [Worship page.](http://www.set-apart-ministries.org/worship.html)

             **Biblical Research Techniques Weekend** Seminar   Frank Houtz  Dry Bones Restoration Company
             **La Shon Hara**   presentation by Dean Wheelock
We have always continued with reading the Torah portion out loud weekly, dividing approximately equal number of verses among all, and have encouraged individual study and observations on each weekly portion at the same time that we have added additional studies as below.

**2006  Eschatalogy Revew** winter

**2007  Spiritual Gifts**    Henry Blackaby                                                                         summer

**2007  Spiritual Warfare**                     Barb Klika                                                               fall

**2007-8  Galatians Study**   Tim Hegg  Torah Resources       Janell Schroeder faciliated

**2008       Prayer Review**          Consideration of similarities/difference in personal and corporate prayer. Encouragement for all to grow accustomed to leading and verbally participating in corporate prayer.                Barb Klika

**2008-9  Creation Gospel**  **Rav. Hollisa Alewine**                                                  winter through spring
                   Chiastic study of 7s

**2008-9  Torah Commentaries  Tony Robinson  Restoration of Torah**           winter through spring
                    Thematic/chiastic study format

2009 -11  Assistance editing Wicked Lamp study by Rav. Hollisa Alewine          fall
                   **Tony Robinson Torah Commentaries**
**Roman's Study   Tim Hegg**                             Janell Schroeder facilitating

**2011--      Concentrating on Torah portion using thematic studies,** drawing Torah and Brit Chadashah together for current application, and personal observations using paleo Hebrew
                  and related information.

 Proceeding very slowly with **Brad Scott's Beresheit Study** as well.
**2011** -  Hosted **Frank Houtz** for a SAM community only training--**Theological Swimming**, better equipping us to  respond to the various challenges about the Deity of Messiah Yeshua.

**2011,** **Sukkoth - 2012** and ongoing:

This Sukkoth was our 7th year keeping the entire Feast week as a community so we determined that we would honor the command to read/listen to the entire Torah during our gathering. Our theme was "Come Away with Me, My Beloved" and all of our worship time was centered on acknowledging His call.  We were so blessed at hearing it all at once, via a Bible reading on CD, that we didn't want to stop there.

We have continued on since then, 3 chapters a week, studying as a community through the Tanahk, keeping in mind the current Torah parsha as well.  We have been amazed how often the Torah portion for the week fits with what we see where we are reading that week, how many and deep are the thematic connections and how often we are seeing one kind of Messiah picture or another. Life, Death and the Number 3!  Some of these insights have become articles in our main website; some longer and some called "Little Gems."

**Sukkoth, 2012** led to a study of the seven assemblies as we understood only AFTER we had arrived at our set apart place as a community.  The chiastic structures we saw in these messages as well as the general themes were very exciting to see and are still in the process of being written and presented don our main site.

**Pesach and Feast of Unleavened Bread 2013** was the first year that we observed as an entire community while away from home and gathered together. It was an amazing experience as we saw the Ruach at work in many individuals doing personal work that daily schedules at home make so difficult!   Before the third day, many were observing that we will be doing this again next week, and Yeshua willing, will not want to miss this opportunity to "Come Away" with Him over Pesach and Unleavened Bread any more than we'd want to miss Sukkoth!  More rehearsing for the Feasts in which we are calling to Come up to Jerusalem!

Though we do not expect that every group will have the same leadings we do, we do strongly encourage people to consider the wonderful opportunity that being together as a community over these appointed times always provides. Not only can we be together for worship and praise, He is also building our relationships as we prepare for all that is to come before He returns.

          Spring of 2012 was the time we became aware of 119 Ministries.  Though we haven't always used their teachings in a community setting, many of our members are watching them personally and are finding great blessing and encouragement in their well done straightforward studies confirming the importance of the Whole Word for today.

 **June, 2013**, we are currently in the Book of Jeremiah/YirmeYahu as we have continued along 3-4 chapters a week for our Torah study.  It has been an adventure of confirmation over and over again of how our Abba has been telling the same story over and over again, providing multiple opportunities for His people to turn back to Him!

**March, 2014**: We are currently studying in Zechariah, nearing the end of our journey through the prophets since Sukkoth 2012. We have been continually blessed and amazed as we have seen just how often each portion of the prophets relates to an aspect of the Torah portion for that week. As we approach Pesach and the study of the Psalms in greater depth seems to be our next focus, in concert with the Torah. We will be using the book **Deeper Places**, by Mathew Jacoby, of Sons of Korah.  Though he is not Messianic, he has a deep understanding of Hebraic worldview and it comes through as he discusses the underlying theme of all the psalmists as their cry to our covenant keeping Elohim.

**August, 2014:**  We have completed the **Deeper Places** study and have indeed been blessed.  The appreciation of the Psalms and our model for being able to speak to our Elohim about all that is in our hearts, both struggles and praise, has had a major impact on many here. It has also increased our use of the Psalms in worship, prayer and study. I developed a list of study questions that guided our discussions chapter by chapter, should you be interested.  Please email me at: info@set-apart-ministries.org and I will forward them to you.

**2015:** We are now studying through the Psalms, applying what we have learned in thematic study, in Word studies, in Deeper Places and drawing the connections made with both the Torah portions and the Brit Chadasha.     The next study anticipated is to be on worship, using  Warren Wiersbe's book **Real Worship**.  Both the **Deeper Places** book and this one are now listed on our SAM home page with a link to Amazon. (We receive a small percentage back from each purchase made through these links.)

**October, 2016:** It became apparent early in the year that we needed to do two things:

1. **Review the basics and**
2. **Review and Expand our Knowledge of Spiritual Warfare: Effects and Intervention**

 Accordingly, we have now reviewed the basics of each of the moedim throughout this year as well as considering the changes we have made in our observations as our understanding as grown. We have also re-considered many aspects of our goals, mission statement and halachah to determine if any updating is required. A few updates are in process.

 We have also reviewed and expanded our understanding of many aspects of spiritual warfare. This includes personal and corporate awareness of any remaining ancestral spiritual issues, study of the nature of heavenly realms as it relates to dimensional terminology and application, study of the First Book of Enoch (in progress) making direct comparisons to Scripture, Book of Yasher and the Book of Jubilees, study of the question of the Divine Council of YHWH and potential impact on understanding of application of warfare principles.

**Through the years we have hosted various speakers/organizations as follows:**
Richard Rives   Wyatt Archealogical Research
Frank Houtz     Dry Bones Restoration Company--Biblical Resaearch Seminar & Theological Swimming
Toby Janicki and Boaz Michaels, FFOZ
Dean & Susan  Wheelock, Hebrew Roots Ministry
Ralph and Mindy Seta of Messianic Dance Camp International Dance Workshop
CARE Hebraic Worship Team Dance Workshop
Theresa Bates  Adonai Dance Ministries  Banner Worship Workshop
David Gipson  Sheep of Israel
Steve and Shirley Rees of Peregrinatti  and Biblical Storytellers
Rebecca Park Totillo   Rebecca At the Well Foundation
Zemer Levav  Worship Concerts