Ladies Shabbat School Class- April 11, 2020- led by Miriam Nadler

**Review- Step 1: You are Chosen by Your Heavenly Matchmaker-You are Eternally Desired**

**The Arrangement or Shiddukin- Your Heavenly Matchmake made you a Match!**

1. The first step in the ancient Jewish wedding was the arrangement- Shiddukhin

The father would find a bride for his son- usually through a hired matchmake or shadchan

*Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Messiah, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him.*

*John 15:6 "You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you.*

1. *God the Father chose you to be adopted into His family through Yeshua the Messiah to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.* (Ephesians 1:5)

*Jeremiah 29: 11 “For I know the plans that I have in mind for you” declares the Adonai, “plans for shalom and not for calamity— to give you a future and a hope. (TLV)*

*Your Heavenly Matchmaker made you His match,*

 *He loved you and chose you and this is a fact.*

*Let His value define you and don’t turn back*

*Look to your Perfect Groom, Your Beloved Messiah Yeshua.*

*( to the tune from Matchmaker, Matchmaker - Fiddler on the Roof)*

1. According to ancient Jewish marriage customs, part of the arrangement or *shiddukhin*, is the payment by the father of the Bride Price or *Mohar. (in Gen.34:12 it’s translated “bride payment” and in Exodus 22:17 and 1 Samuel 18:25 “dowry”)*
2. When did Yeshua sign our Ketubah or Marriage contract?

 At that last Passover He took the Cup of Redemption after the meal & said: “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My Blood.” (Luke 22:20) This New Covenant or *Brit Chadashah* is our marriage contract (Ketubah) which was sealed with His own blood. The New Covenant is prophecized in Jeremiah 31:31-34.

***Review Step 2- The Betrothal- Eyrusin and Kiddushin***

1. **During this time everything you do matters to God- we have time to prepare**

*…. sanctify Messiah as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; (1 Peter 3:15)* Kiddushin is based on the Hebrew word *Kadosh*- Holy or set apart

1. Why does everything we do matter while we wait?

 Speaking of the bride of Messiah it says*: And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is* ***the righteous acts of the*** *saints. (Rev. 19:8 NAS)*

 *Ephesians 2:10 For we are* ***His workmanship****, created in Messiah Yeshua* ***for good works,*** *which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

1. What kind of a “Hope chest” are you building? In I Corinthians 3:2-16 Paul exhorts us to be wise as to how we are building our lives.

**This Week- Step 3: The Mysterious and Sudden Fetching of the Bride-**

1. **This is a time of waiting expectantly for our Groom to come for us. Because it’s difficult to wait we sometimes wonder why He seem to delay?**

The Apostle Peter teaches us: 2 Peter 3:3 *Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation." 5 For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, 6 through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. 7 But the present heavens and earth by His word are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. 8 But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.*

1. **So, while we are waiting what is our Groom doing? Yeshua tells us in John 14**

*John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.*

**Why doesn’t Yeshua tell us when He’s returning?** *Matthew 24:36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.”*

1. **Yeshua’s return will be sudden, unexpected & unpredictable as described in the parable of the 10 virgins in– Matthew 25:1-13- note the exhortation to all of us:**

*"Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.”*

1. **The Fetching of Messiah’s Bride***-*

 *I Thess. 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Messiah shall rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

1. **Living in Readiness in Light of His Magnificent Love for you:**

1 John 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. **3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies herself, just as He is pure.**

***Questions, Comments or Prayer Requests: Miriam.Nadler@hopeofisrael.info***