

Saturday/Shabbat 8 AM-Should Your Assembly Establish a Nazarene Yisraelite Academy

Not really!

By Apostle Rabbi Moshe Yoseph Koniuchowsky

This is another one of those messages that had I done it 4-5 weeks ago, it would have been a totally different presentation. What I'm about to share may seem negative and a lot of it is. But it is given to protect you from some of the pitfalls we encountered. Given the excruciating events of those weeks my answers and guidance is totally different. Due to lack of response from our members along with the split, we have lost about \$45,000 due to walking away from the building and the original plans. We have moved it into a designated large room in a house.

Remember I said write the vision plainly in black ink but the plans in pencil as they will invariably change as YHWH reveals and changes them. Should you start a school in your congregation or home group? Here is the guidance I can give you.

- Only IF you don't build anything for the people. When people aren't involved they don't appreciate it. Most of our funds came from worldwide friends not from members. So if your people in the local assembly are not interested in providing full funding and sacrifice, or unable do not build it or start it.
- I would have every parent commit to the school and if you find say only 60 or 70% committed to the school, forget it. Out of the 60% that have committed expect to lose another 20% of committed parents' over time until you have only about a 40-50% commitment ratio.
- If you're going to start a school, do not give freebies and freebies are not commitments. Commitments are paying parents. Any promises to pay for scholarships once again releases parents from commitments, shifting the burden to others outside the camp. In addition to providing inequity in dealing with parents it allows the devil to cheapen the education, as parents feel they can promise to send their children, only to withdraw at any time without penalty.
- Don't build buildings or permanent structures until the school is well established.
- Decide what kind of school you want. Open enrollment, or for members of the congregation only.
- Make sure you have committed volunteers. You won't be in a position to pay salary for a while.
- Stay away from certified teachers who have a traditional education mindset and not the personalized study mindset that is needed.
- Open up a school if you don't mind and enjoy battling the gates of hell. If you're up to the challenge go for it.
- Don't let parents and students' commitments fool you. Usually a yes is not a yes. Sorry to be negative but you need to be prepared for what lies ahead.
- A great way to start a school is in the home.

Now we will open up the floor for a few minutes of questions and interrogations.