**L’Chaim Group Agenda**

**Beth Shechinah**

***The Season of Preparation***

Aug 31 – Sept 6

**Welcome (Icebreaker Options – choose one)**

What made you decide to attend this congregation?

What made you decide to live in Calgary?

What do you still want to accomplish with your life?

For what are you thankful?

What is your most memorable event in life and why?

**Mission Statement:** We focus on three things: connecting with Yeshua, connecting with one another, and serving our world. This group does not exist for us. Someone invited you, now it is your turn to invite others.

**Worship:** (**possible options – choose one**)

Have times in worship where your small group members, one by one, speak out:

Lead members in a time of testimony. Have them share one of the following:

* Their answered prayers during the week
* One or two special things God did for them this week
* The thing about Yeshua that make them follow him
* One attribute of God that was demonstrated to them this week
* Or finish the sentence: “Lord I thank you for…”
* Play song From the East to the West

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWMebzGZGZc>

**Word (Discussion Questions):**

* It is traditional to read Psalm 27 every day during the month of Elul because all three feasts are mentioned. Read Ps. 27 and discuss where the three feasts are mentioned and what truth is important in preparation for the Fall Feasts.
* The four Hebrew letters of the word Elul *(aleph-lamed-vav-lamed)* are the first letters of the four words *Ani l'dodi v'dodi lee* – "I am to my Beloved and my Beloved is to me" (Song of Songs 6:3).  Why do these words sum up the relationship between God and His people?
* Elul – the month preceding Rosh Hashanah – begins a period of intensive introspection, of clarifying life's goals, and of coming closer to God. It is a time for realizing ones purpose in life.  Discuss why it is important for a Believer and a community to go through a season of preparation and introspection. Discuss 2 Corinthians 13:5-10, Hebrews 2:1-3
* What lessons can we learn from Israel in ,Jeremiah 3:`11-18
* Discuss what Yeshua taught about one who has an unforgiving heart and why forgiveness is so important in our faith.  Matthew 6:14,15  Mark 11:24,25
* Yeshua taught a parable on forgiveness in Mathew 18:21-35.  What important lessons can we learn from this parable on forgiveness?
* How can we best prepare our hearts during this month of preparation?  Make it your goal to take some time alone this coming week and ask Adonai to show you  what relationships you  need to reconcile and restore in your  circle of influence.  Make it your goal to reach out to those who you may have issues with and seek reconciliation.

**Works** (**Edification**): Break up into small groups and minister to each other based on what was shared in the Word portion. Spend some time praying for one another to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Witness:** Pray through your ***oikos.*** If you haven’t created an *oikos* list yet, spend the remainder of the time doing that. And if time remains pray through it