

## MJS Program Jewish Life Stance

We encourage students in The King's University Messianic Jewish Studies (MJS) program to live out the calling that G-d has for their lives in keeping with Paul's "rule in all the congregations" described in 1 Corinthians 7:17-24. If someone is a Messianic Jew, we encourage them to embrace their Jewish calling and be led by the Spirit in applying the Torah to their lives, lifting up the name of Yeshua. If a student is a Gentile believer, we encourage a similar approach—that they be led by the Spirit in walking out the more universal commandments of G-d (Torah ethics) and to do this in a way that glorifies the Messiah.

In keeping with the stance of the Union of Messianic Jewish Congregations (UMJC), the International Alliance of Messianic Congregations and Synagogues (IAMCS) and Toward Jerusalem Council II, the MJS program maintains that the Torah applies to Jews and Gentiles who follow Yeshua in different ways and that the Jerusalem Council decision in Acts 15 exempted (i.e. gave freedom to) Gentile believers from aspects of the Torah that serve as boundary markers of Jewish identity, such as circumcision, the seventh day Sabbath, Israel's festivals, Leviticus 11 dietary distinctions, etc. (cf. Acts 21:20, 25; Rom 14). If a Gentile believer senses a calling from G-d to live out some of these Jewish-specific areas, that is between them and G-d. However, they do not have a covenantal responsibility to observe these Jewish customs and they should not assume that what G-d has called them to do through the leading of the Spirit applies to all Gentile believers.

We also make a priority distinction between G-d's commandments and Jewish tradition. Jewish tradition should be honored and evaluated for its consistency with Scripture, including the importance of being led by the Spirit.

Finally, we do not expect students to modify their lifestyles as a result of their being part of The King's University Messianic Jewish Studies program, as long as their lifestyle is consistent with "The King's Standards of Conduct" described in the Academic Catalog.