

Topic: How to Start a Homeschool Co-Op
Host: Sister Elisheba Israel House of Officer Elisha
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Shalom Sisters Most High and Christ Bless,

I am Sister Elishiba also known as Sister Leah from the house of Officer Elisha in Atlanta Georgia. Tonight is a fun topic for me and exciting for me. We will be discussing how to start a homeschool co-op. I have been a homeschool mom for several years now and I just started my co-op this year. I would like to thank Mama Shamarah. I appreciate you for allowing me to present this topic, I didn't know that so many sisters were interested in this topic. When we first started some of the teachers were sharing content on social media and direct messages on telegram , so I thought we should do this so I can answer all of the questions.

What is home school?

- It is just what it sounds like, it is when you decide to school your children in your home as opposed to a traditional school setting of a public, private or online school.

What is a Homeschool Co-Op?

- The definition of a Co-Op is a group or families who meet together and work for opportunities to achieve a common goal.
- A co-op can be organized through educational purposes, social purposes, the arts, activities, crafts, our service works of project or a collection of thumb, or all of those things.

Storytime: Before I go into the questions I'll briefly give you a little history on me, and how I got started, and teaching. So obviously, I'm a mom prior to coming into the truth. I had a 3-year-old son, and the summer before coming into the truth, I was just getting done with undergrad, and my background is not in education by any stretch of the imagination, but I decided to pick a low income Neighborhood, an apartment complex in Metro Atlanta. Anybody who's familiar with the Campbellton area in Atlanta knows that it is an impoverished area, and I randomly selected an apartment complex to teach children throughout the summer how to spell.

My first year teaching my son in kindergarten, I did a program called K-12. I liked it. I used to sit with him the entire time, because I wanted to hear exactly what the teacher was teaching him. I wanted to hear how he was being treated, and what I did recognize is the lack of socialization. Of course, you have them implementing the wicked holidays, the deceitful things about history and such. I pulled him out of the K 12 program towards the end of the kindergarten school year, and I just did my own home schooling with him the rest of the year.

Fast forward to the next year I heard about Abeka Academy, which is an online school, but it's a homeschool program, and it is accredited as well as non-accredited, where you can just solely teach on your own.

I started teaching my son. But I wanted to teach other people as well to get him the socialization part that I felt he missed when he was doing exclusive home school. So I started teaching some kids in the body. I was teaching in my home. There were 5 students in my first year, and I loved it. I turned my dining room into a classroom, and I treated it like it was school and were on a schedule.

A sister from the Atlanta camp reached out and said, "Hey, my kids are getting school age, and I want you to teach them". I agreed. Then all the sister's friends called, and I had to cap out at 7 students, so I'll wrap this story up just to kind of get you up to where we are.

We're the homeschool transitioned from traditional homeschooling to Co-Op.

I was getting messages from sisters on telegram, and I was having to turn them down. My lord said, If you get a certain number of students, you can get a location to start up a school, and I did.

I had about 24 students, and we also have small kids that are not school age, so it's about 30 kids. So it's myself, Sister Yochana from Atlanta, another new sister Torques from Atlanta, and we have several volunteer moms who come in to clean, bring things, donate things, and we have a teacher's assistant. Officer Carmeli's daughter comes twice a week to teacher assist, Soldier Tobit's daughter comes every day to teach & assist, and then we

have a sister, Judea from Atlanta, who also comes to teacher assist, which is a total blessing.

Questions:

Do the children wear Uniforms?

Yes, Monday-Wednesday they wear full uniform, and on Thursdays they have the option to dress down. They can pay \$5 if they want to dress down on Thursday's, and one of the homeschool Co-Op moms gets the donations for the week.

What days do you all have school?

We meet Monday -Thursday. Friday is still a home day. We do send work home on Thursday for Friday.

(Will try to answer as best as I can) How do you Teach children with autism spectrum conditions and disorders?

Sis used the word spectrum, so I'm going to use the word spectrum. It's so vast if it's a mild case, could we entertain it absolutely, a severe case? Maybe not, because I don't believe that we have the staff that is equipped to deal with that. I do know from doing my own research that you can get certifications to teach your children to best suit their needs if they do indeed have Autism.

We do have lords will, a teacher next year, who's finishing up her degree here in Atlanta, and she actually has our degree is in early childhood education with the concentration in early childhood and learning disorders, so Lords will we get her so we can cover those children who may, in fact, suffer from things of that nature.

But I would tell you to probably go online to kind of look at those certifications that you can get to help suit those needs and teaching of your child.

How can I accelerate the schooling process to have my child start college at 16?

If your child is advanced, you can test them out of certain grades. People can test out of classes. You can give double math classes, double English, things of that nature, so they meet the requirements for your particular state, and you can test them out so that they can indeed go to college early.

Is there a way to homeschool without an online teacher interaction? I'll be the only teacher.



Yes, The only class that does have online at this point is the kindergarten class, because we did have a family that moved to Savannah, she wanted to have that option for her girls, and so we did honor that, and we do zoom classes for her. But that's it for this year Lords Will were able to implement that at a later date.

How do you balance curriculum with multiple age groups?

We're a co-op, so as you saw on the video, we have the different classes. My class is age range. I teach, third and fourth together, which can be done, and then one class has pre-k, and another teacher has kindergarten, so that's how we balance having multiple curriculums, We split it amongst the sisters.

What materials are standard for a learning environment?

Anything that you would have in a classroom setting; books, paper, writing essentials, paint. You want manipulative toys, games, desk, chairs. We mimicked a classroom. Whatever you would envision in a classroom is what you should envision in your home, school or homeschool co-op space.

How much time should be dedicated to learning each day?

Our State requires 4 and a half hours. We do 5 and a half hours, so we meet from 9am. to 2:30pm. We do 5 and a half, because we have a 30 min lunch and a 30 min recess and chose to do 5 and a half as opposed to 4.

How are different learning styles accounted for?

We use the Abeka curriculum, you may or may not be familiar. It's an award-winning curriculum based out of Florida. It's been around since the Seventies, and they do really good with styles of learning. I've brought one of my curriculum lesson plans, the way it's structured, it introduces a lesson for your preparation. So the night before, you know what to pull, and what materials you will need. Your warmups. You're going to always have a review, and then you're going to have instruction. Instruction is what is new, so whatever that entails, they'll have the traditional way, if you will, of teaching that lesson. But when that lesson comes back around, so say it's learning how to count money. They're going to tell you this bill is worth this amount. This coin is worth this amount the next time it comes around they may have points where you're actually physically seeing and touching the coins. And the next time it comes around you may have calculators that you're using to count them with so it will attack every type of learning style. We add different games and things like that. But it definitely helps when you have a curriculum set up for you that is really good with accounting for different learning styles.

Are there provisions for remediating seeing as home school children tend to have holes in educational development?

I don't know where you got those facts from, home school students are not traditionally known to have gaps, or holes and educational development. They are actually some of the smartest kid's period hands down. One of our parents is in the military, and she said, the majority of the people who score the highest in any rank in the military we're homeschool students.

- Home school students typically have a 100% college acceptance.
- Home school students are the smartest. They are typically in the A range, when they are in a smaller classroom setting, even in a co-op. They get that individualized teaching.

So they definitely are not having holes, and if they do it probably falls back on the home schoolteacher. If you're not consistent and you're not taking home school seriously, then they will have gaps and holes, and I encountered that with some students. I teach the older kids. So sometimes I get students that may be behind, and all praises, parents will confess that they haven't been doing what their supposed to do with them at home, and it does make my job a little harder because I'm at a deficit when I get these Students, one thing I will tell you to help remedy that, and I can only speak for myself is when I started to homeschool my son. That was one of the reasons I opted to teach other people's children because that holds you to a higher level of accountability when you're not just teaching your own kids. Sometimes it's easy to say we'll get to it, we can do class tomorrow or we can double up tomorrow, but when you're teaching other people's kids class starts at 9 O'clock, and you're at work at 8:30. It's just different. And all praises that I found that for myself, because when I first started teaching it was okay. But I was doing it because I felt like I had to. I think it was my second year teaching where I started to like it. My third year teaching I started to love it and now I think I'm in my fifth year, and it's a gift for me. I want to thank the parents for allowing me to teach their children. It is 0% grievous to me. And it was not always like that.

What role do parents play in the curriculum program?

In my particular case, and the sisters that I teach with. We don't develop the curriculum. Yes, we'll do supplemental things, we'll pull different things of course, for Bible study and things like that. We tweak all of that, but our base core curriculum is all purchased through Abeka

Are all students on the same online, curriculum?

So again, it's not necessarily online. It's a co-op. But yes, all of our student's Pre-K on up all use Abeka.

How is the social studies curriculum from the program used? Or is the Bible used?



We use social studies from Abeka. We use their geography, but we don't use their history. We don't use their Bible, even though they use the King James version because of their visuals. They are not our color, I've purchased some different things when we teach history. We just do Bible trivia games, things of that nature. I'll get lessons from my lord to help me with Bible studies, now Abeka does have, scripture of the week, and things like that, and we use that because they still have the King James version. But we do not use their history by any means.

What State/government requirements were met to initiate the program?

In order to do homeschool, you have to inquire within your state. Contact the superintendent in the school district you're located in. They will have you fill out a form. It's super easy. It just has your name, your child's name, your child's age, and what county you choose. You're choosing to homeschool, and that way the State just knows that you're not off the grid, not teaching your kids. You don't want to break any truancy laws.

Is it true that if you homeschool your children, you can make your own curriculum and graduation requirements also, Is there a Third-party test for your children for the State?

Yes, it is absolutely true. Hats off to you if you are able to create your own curriculum, I am not, I will not, will never have never tried. I know, sisters that do, and great! You can create your own curriculum. I'm not sure about graduation requirements.

How do you start the process of teaching your child who's young, from a blank Slate, and continue to build on it?

You're teaching your child every day when you're communicating with them. They're learning from just playing and self-interaction and speaking and things of that nature. It really just depends on the age. But it should be fun, it shouldn't be very strenuous when they're very young. You should do 5 to 10 min increments with the small kids.

Yochana's baby, and my youngest son are a couple of months apart, so my son is 15 months, her youngest daughter is 17 months, and they walk around the school from class to class, and Judeah's son is 1. We let them walk around the school and they bounce around from class to class. But it's so funny because you never know what they're learning. Yochana sent me a video yesterday; the kids have a Spanish song they sing in the morning, and her one year old, sang the whole song yesterday, so you don't know what they're picking up. They're constantly learning, but when they're that young we don't make them sit down for long stints of time. We let them free, play and explore and learn on their own. it really just depends on the age.

What materials are necessary for engaging very young minds to use critical thinking skills?

When you say very young minds, I'm not sure what age range you are referring to, all kids are different, that's a tough one. It really just depends on the age, because each age group, from one to two, Three to four, the expectation or the expectation for teaching them is different.

What is the solution for consistently socializing with children when home schooling?

Okay, so that's a tough one. And if you are in a house where you don't have kids that are close in age, it is very hard for them to be socialized. That's why something like a co-op is important, and I recommend that if you have sisters that are like-minded, who are in the same age group that you all can come together collectively and teach your kids it will help them tremendously, with that portion of it because we can only do so much, as far as socializing with our kids, they need to be with their peers.

There seems to always be hurdles with keeping consistent appointments, for projects, play dates and keeping our child focused.

I didn't necessarily understand that question. I don't find that we have a hard time keeping appointments, because I pretty much arrange everything in my life around my home schooling. So any appointments, or anything that I need to do ,I set after home schooling we're able to slide in some free time. We're planning some, field trips now. We took the kids to the playground this week, so we're done at 2 30. So typically, any appointments or things like that that we need to take care of. We can take care of afterwards. like, I said earlier, we're all wives, So on Friday we're at home cleaning our Lord's homes and taking care of things that need to be done in his house, so that we can continue our lovely co-op that we have.

Can you give me a couple of pointers on how to manage your time better, home schooling, multiple age groups. She says she has a 16-year-old, a 13 year old, a 9 year old, a 6 year old and a one year old, and one on the way. She's been home schooling for over 6 years, but she's finding it's getting harder, as she has more kids.

Sister, I would recommend that you get that homeschool co-op going so that you can split these groups up. It's going to be difficult, is definitely doable.

- The 16- and 13-year-old should be self-motivated, Self-starters. Abeka also has online recorded classes. You can buy a streaming service from them where you do online classes so if the older kids are already established and they're self-paced and they study well, then, that may be something that you consider for them if you cannot do the co-op.
- The 9 and 6 year old when you're giving a lesson to one, you can have the other work.

- the 2- and 3-year-old. You can absolutely pair together and do simple things like circle time. They're actually some YouTube wonderful circle time, pre-recorded videos that you can use for them because at one and two they don't require much. You should buy them kinetic style toys learn in place, style, toys because they can learn as they go, they don't have to be in a structured environment where they have to sit and be taught all day. It's just the older kids that you have to worry about.
- But if you're able to get with some sisters, and possibly you do an age group, they have kids that are similar age to a set of your kids age group, that would be beneficial
- Time, blocking you can set maybe 2 hours for one child and 2 hours for another child, and the two and one year old should definitely be taking naps, our pre-k students take naps every day, you can definitely get more done with the older kids. When the two and one year old are taking naps.

Do I have to be certified to have a homeschool co-op?

No, you don't have to have any type of certification to be a homeschool co-op.

How do I get past the requirements for vaccination for children to take national exams?

So years ago there was a judge by the name of Judge Shapiro, that mandated that neither schools nor hospitals can make you vaccinate because of liability and you can't sue them. But it depends on our ignorance.

So, even when I did K 12(online school) they still required me to have shot records. I requested the waiver, and they didn't ask me any questions. They sent the waiver to me, and I had it filled out, had it notarized and sent it back. You can still have the vaccination waiver where you do not have to be vaccinated for your kids to go to school, and you can use the religious exemption for them.

What works best for a schedule, a regular schedule, or a lock schedule?

We have school from 9am to 2:30pm, some non-negotiables with our schedule are starting 9am every day, we pray at 10:15, we have snack at 12 noon, we pray at 12:05, we have lunch at 12:35, we have recess, and at 2 30 we have dismissal.

Everything else is in between there, however, you want to structure your lessons, do that. I typically start with math, but sometimes my kids get a little antsy if I keep the same schedule, so I'll switch it up sometimes. I think having the schedule is awesome. As far as your lessons, you can switch those up to kind of break up the monotony of doing the same thing every day.

How do you incorporate social studies?

We do Bible and geography for social studies, and we play Biblical games learning about our forefathers, learning about our foremothers' things that nature. I found some games. I think at a store that is awesome, and it's King James with no visuals, just questions and answers front and back and it teaches the kids about their lineage and their history.

What would you base your cost on if you charge a family to home, school their children?

So that's a broad question. Because it depends on a lot of things it depends on. If you're home schooling at home and depends on if you're homeschooling in a dedicated space, it depends on where you live, the cost of buildings, things of that nature. I charge the same amount that I charged when I was teaching in my home, which is asinine, because I'm in a building now, and I stress out every month when it's time to pay all the bills, and I've got unsolicited Council from one of my leadership here and I know that next year it has to go up, because we are in a building, and Lords will, we're able to secure a new building. The building that we're looking at now is significantly higher than what we pay. but we need to double in size because the need is there. We have a waiting list for next year, and the need is the there.

None of us take a salary. I do pay the sisters occasionally when we're able to, but we have lights, gas rent, water. It gets really expensive, and our fees are really, really low. I would definitely take all of that into consideration before setting the fees. Consider that somebody is putting this building in their name, somebody is putting all of these utilities in their name, and these things need to be paid.

And you know, even though the sisters and I that teach, we all have children that go to the school, we still want to help to contribute to our Lord's household, and we should be able to, because we dedicate this time to teaching our sisters children.

Other things to think about is all the things you have to buy, School supplies. School furniture is super expensive, and I think is expensive, because most schools have state funding, we don't have state funding but I still like to have traditional school desk, traditional school chairs, boards, things of that nature. The desk alone for older kids, desk are \$300 a desk. So you know there are a lot of expenses.

That is associated. Some of them are fixed. Some of them are not. When I started in my house, I think I may have spent maybe \$3,000 to get everything set up.

What is the name of your co-op?

The name of our co-op is called 'Gated Community Enrichment, Academy.'

What are some ways to celebrate a child's accomplishment when they are home schooled?

Award card systems, kids are easy. A sticker card goes a long way when they know they're going to fill up that sticker card, and they are going to get a little gift out of that pink container I have in my room, you can get those kids to do anything for a sticker, it is

not complicated at all. I also use certificates. They try to answer all the questions just to get a sticker. So those go a long way, and I think all the classes have a sticker system.

When is the best age to start home schooling?

As I mentioned earlier you are teaching from day one. Our kids walk the around in all of the classrooms they're constantly being taught. Baruch, my third son started Pre K at two and he is three now, and he will be turning four next year, but he is starting kindergarten because he will be ready, but it depends on the child. They are always learning but as far as sitting them down for structured learning starting a child a late two years old is a good age.

What is the biggest challenge of homeschooling?

Home school has been a good thing for me. I progressively loved it even more, but this year was a bit of a challenge for me, because it was the first time that I had to manage other people. Before I've only had to deal with myself and my small class of 6, No more than 7 students, but this year we had so many more students.

So we have more people, and everybody's on a high, excited about having a new building, and all of the things we are going to do. It's great. But then reality sets in, and your kid gets the cold, or whatever the case is, and you're calling off work. And now you are wondering how I can fix this. How do I handle this when you have different things come up like people getting sick, and they can't come to work. And I think having teacher assistants has been a blessing for me.

Having substitutes, you want to plan for things that are unknown because things are going to happen and this year was just a lot more stressful because I had a dedicated building and other bills, and what would you do when parents don't pay, what do you do when students don't show up?

The challenging thing for me was this new co-op prior to the co-op. It was pretty easy. Yochana and I not fasted, and that definitely calmed a lot of the anxiety that I had because I trusted that the Most High used me as a vessel, and that he would see me through it, and He absolutely has, and things are coming together, He's allowing me to do this, so He is also going to allow me to have the strength and the fortitude to make it through. I had to just calm my own nerves because I was stressing myself out.

Fast with my sister and I'm making it through, and it's almost the end of the school year, and we're planning some amazing things for next year. For me the hardest thing was learning how to manage other people, and managing other circumstances that found themselves to be out of my control.

How many hours a day do you Home school?

5 ½ hours a day.

Is the material expensive?

Yes, Abeka is expensive, It's expensive to me; But the beautiful thing about Abeka is that if you spend more than \$400, and you will, you can put 10% down and pay to 10% consecutively for the next 10 months, so you'll pay. Say, if visit \$1,000 you'll pay a \$100 upfront. You'll hold your credit card on file, and for the next 10 months you'll pay a \$100, so that has made it great. I'm able to get everything I need. But yes, I think it's expensive, but it's worth it. When I was deciding to homeschool my son, I would went to all of the private schools in the area just to pick their brain. I knew I was not going to put him in any of those schools, but one of my questions was what curriculum do you use?

Edomites were using Abeka for their children and I wanted the best for our children so I went ahead and paid for it.

Is there a customized lesson plan?

No, we don't customize, and we go off the book. Each school year. It's supposed to be 180 days, and you have 10 days to have off days and field trips and all that stuff. The book we have has 170 lessons pre-planned for you. Everything is laid out by number. From day one, to day 170, you have all of your lessons.

How do we incorporate physical education in the curriculum for New York City children?

I'm not sure how it works in New York for physical education. but we do recess, and that counts for physical education. I think later, Once they get to middle school, high school age it is required, and lords will, we will have a space at that time we can dedicate to having an actual gym.

What home school programs are available for children of Israel? Also for elementary or middle school?

I will recommend Abeka and Abeka is Bible based. You don't have to purchase their Bible curriculum. But from what I know, I don't have a whole lot to compare it to, but when I used it I thought it was great, and I didn't use anything else so that's what I will recommend.

What time of the year is good for homeschoolers to begin?

I use the same way the system is setup; we start school in August. We take our first break at Feast of Tabernacles, and we can go until we've exceeded or met. Our 170 days.

How do you create a space with the children and it doesn't cost a good bit of money?

DIY(Do it Yourself), Yochana is the queen of the DIY and I am the Queen of going to the school box store and spending too much money, I have named her our TikTok teacher, Her classroom looks like a TikTok video. DIY will save you a ton of money.

When you start a co-op, do you need funding? Or how can you get funding from the government?

You do need funding whether that funding is you batting your eyelashes at your lord getting funding, private funding, taking out a loan/business credit. Yes, you are going to need funding. So for me when I did it in the house, I just used money that I had, and started it in the home, moving out of the house it was a lot more, there are things that you can do this year, I did incorporate, I used the name Gated Community Enrichment Academy when I was doing it in my house.

- But when we moved out in order to establish my lease and a bank account, I went through my Secretary of State, and incorporated the name, and I also got a EIN number.

I don't want to go too deep into business credit and things of that nature, but there are tiers that you can do.

- Tier one is your net 30 account, so you can establish and set up some net 30 accounts. I would do 4 or 5 of those if you don't want to wait until 30 days to pay them off. You want to pay them off within 15 days if you can. Don't buy too much on that net 30 because it tends to be a little more expensive because they are giving you credit without really knowing if you're credible. So once you establish those net 30 accounts, you can set up your tier two.
- Tier 2 will be known brands like Sam's club and Home Depot, and Loews and things like that. You can get some credit cards under your EIN number that way, and then once you establish good credit history with those accounts Tier three, and that's when you've decided this is the business that I'm going to be in I'm going to grow it. And maybe you want to purchase the building in your business name or maybe get a 15 passenger van in your business name and things like that. But starting off, you know, if you have just some capital, some money saved, you can go that route and then, you know, try your net 30 accounts to help with funding

How did I find a location?

I just Googled, the location that I wanted to be in here in Georgia and found the commercial rental sites. For me where I rent my store for Pretty Modest Things, the same landlord who owns the building I'm in for my store, owns the building that I'm in now for the school. When I was looking for my store location, I just happened to see that a vacancy came up. I had a good rental history with him, and I was able to rent that location for the school. We found another location that's double the size, and Lord's will we're able to get that one for next year.

What credentials does one need to start and run a homeschool program?

Not many credentials at all. You're just the mom who decided to home school.

Please don't skip the step of letting the State know that you're planning on home schooling so that they will know where your children are because they're so invasive and want to know where your kids are.

Can a single working mother homeschool successfully? If so, what are some steps that can be taken or considered?

Without knowing your personal situation, I'm going to say, yes sis you can absolutely be a single working mother and homeschool successfully. We know two is better than one so if you're working, and you can't homeschool your kids, who are the sisters in your circle? And are they able to help you? But you can do it...As far as steps to consider I really don't know your personal situation. It's really hard for me to answer that. So if you are able to post in the chat, if you're here, and can give me a little bit more detail, I'll gladly circle back and answer that question.

How do you get started? What license do you need and what are the requirements in each particular state?

I'm not for sure what the requirements are in each particular state, but in the State of Georgia, to do an actual homeschool co-op. You don't need any license to be a teacher in the State of Georgia aside from a homeschool teacher, you have to have a bachelor's degree. Now I do have a bachelor's degree, but it is not in early childhood education. I could take a certification to become a teacher, but I don't feel like I need to at this time. If we moved forward to become a private school or something of that sort, then I would explore that. At that time, however, I don't see that happening, because once you become a private school, you have to march to the beat of a different drum, you have to answer questions by the State, and we teach our children according to the laws, and I would like to keep it that way.

Can a Co-Op include various countries online? Where can I find a US high school curriculum that can be used for children in the Caribbean?

I believe 'A Time 4 Learning' is an international curriculum. Acellus, I believe that may be international and I'm not sure about Abeka. You can find out if Abeka is indeed considered an international curriculum.

Is homeschooling based on the parent being the teacher? Or is it where they are in a program, and amongst people with teaching credentials, teaching them on the computer?

It really depends on what you choose and how you choose to homeschool. If you choose to be the home schoolteacher, then absolutely, you're the homeschool teacher. If you use a State funded home school program like K-12, then yes, they're going to have an online teacher. If you choose to use, for example, I keep mentioning Abeka. If you choose to use



Abeka, they also have a recorded homeschool program, so it really just depends on what type of home school program you want to have in your house.

Is teaching your own child without a curriculum even considered homeschool when it comes to Esau and his requirements?

You can indeed create your own curriculum. I don't recommend creating your own curriculum, but people do it.

When teaching, how do we as parents get the proper tools and teaching equipment to keep our children with the educational guidelines?

Well when you purchase the full package from Abeka, you get the supplemental items. I think that comes with your grade book, you get your lesson plan, you get your test books, and when you have to have different things for the lesson, it tells you what you need. So if you need coins and dollar bills, or Play-do, it's going to tell you what you need to enhance that lesson, and they call it enrichment. So you will know ahead of time for every lesson, for every subject, what you're going to need to enhance that particular lesson.

What are some ways to prepare my lord's house financially to start homeschooling? Any suggestions for work from home jobs while homeschooling?

I know sisters in Atlanta that work from home and homeschool. I don't particularly know of any work from home jobs, but I know sisters in our camp in Atlanta that do work from home and also home school.

How do you manage when it comes to implementing school work along with 4 chapters a day, teaching them precepts, and the Milk for a mom new to homeschooling?

Managing 4-5 kids ranging in different ages, is going to be a challenge. And it really just depends on their ages. If you're fortunate to have stair steps, you can group them together. Esau says this child is in this grade and this grade, but children will learn smaller. One thing I learned when I had my 3 year old son, when I would teach the children how to spell he was able to pick up on the words and learn how to spell before he learned how to read. When he was reading he was reading at a phenomenal level quickly because he was taught how to spell at an early age. So, the four chapters a day, the sisters and I just started to set in motion a plan for every day at 2:30 we're going to knock out our 4 chapters essentially to get done. Teaching them their precepts, that's kind of above me, You would probably counsel with your lord or your leadership about how to teach them precepts, but I do have a precept book that I got from IUIC website years ago, and that can be pretty helpful for teaching your kids.

How do you get your 10-year-old son to focus?

Maybe he doesn't understand. Some children respond in different ways. If they don't understand something, sometimes they're embarrassed to say that they don't understand, so you can try to change up your teaching style. He may find that it's boring. How is his foundation? Because if kids miss the fundamentals in their formative years and then you're trying to put these building blocks. And they didn't get the things at the foundation. They're not going to enjoy learning, and they're not going to pay attention. And that's their way of saying I don't understand this, and I don't know how to communicate that I don't understand it. So maybe answering those things. Where was his foundation? Is he understanding what you're teaching him? And how does he learn? Have you identified his teaching or his learning style?

What kind of activities do you incorporate into your daily schedule to help kids get away from just doing work?

We do have recess every day, play games, and go outdoors. We took them to the Park this week. We did try to take them to the library this week, but it was still closed. I can always tell when my kids have gotten a little bored with the way I'm doing things. They love games, and we have a ton of learning games in our class. If you call things games a lot of times, and you're actually still teaching they don't realize that it's a subject, and that they're learning they're thinking they're playing a game. So those are some of the things that we do to break up the monotony. So that the child doesn't feel like it's just a constant learning environment.

How do you run a business and be a full time, mom?

So I do have a business, and I am a full-time mom and teacher. You have to set boundaries, and my lord set the boundaries for me this year, because teaching 6 kids is one thing, but when you go from 6 to 24 kids, and you're teaching with sisters, and all that good stuff, It was different, So I had to cut back. He made me cut back from going into my store every day. I'm only allowed to fill orders twice a week, and so I teach 4 days a week. I go into my store 2 days a week, and he actually made it a requirement that the sisters and I go out. We typically go out on Thursday. We'll go and have tacos and maybe a MaMargarita. That was a requirement from my lord, he said we teach these children, I do store twice a week, and then we have a day where we just kind of kick back, and we chose Thursday to do that and then Friday, we're in the house prepping our lord's house. Setting boundaries and realistic expectations, and not forgetting if you're married to take care of your lord's house. Being able to teach these kids is fun for us. I'm able to do it with sisters that I genuinely like, we get along, we're friends, we've proven each other, and we want to continue to do that. So we have to take care of the home front first, so that we are able to get our stuff and go and teach, and enjoy each other's company every day.

How do we make sure that home schooling is accredited by the government? For example, if something happens with homeschooling and I have to put him back in a public school, how will I be able to make sure that his transcripts are transferred to public school?

You don't have to have transcripts for elementary or middle school children, just have to have their report cards. In the back of Abeka's books, they have progress reports, you can actually just go online and Google, a report card, and you just enter the kids grades in it. You can transfer them from any elementary or any home school program or elementary school. When you get to high school it's the same thing. But with Abeka they have an accredited program, where they keep your records for you, so you have an easier transition going from high school to college for children who plan on going to college. For me, I'm not in an accredited program, but that might change when my boys reach high school grade, I may put them in the accredited program. I will still be teaching them, but Abeka will hold their records, so they have a smoother transition going from high school to college, but transferring them on an elementary level and middle school level as long as you have their report cards you won't have any issue whatsoever.

How do I take my children out of the school system? What will I need to include in the letter to the authorities?

You just withdraw them and tell them that you're homeschooling your kid, and then once you withdraw them, you'll go to your state's website and fill out the intent to homeschool.

I have a 17 month and a 3-year-old, and I tried to do a learning activity with them, such as ABC's, numbers, and little Israel music each day being that they are not at a school age for an official school program. I would like more guidance on how and what a school day should be for this age group. Is allowing them to sleep to 9 and 10 A.M too late?

What you're doing already is amazing. They're sucking it all up, you will retain more knowledge from 0 to 5 than you will in your entire life, so continue to put on that Israel music, continue to play those videos with the ABC's, phonetics, sounds, blending words, things like that. You'll be surprised with what they are retaining right now.

One day, their just going to start regurgitating the things that they've learned. They are learning Sis, trust, and believe it. With the 3 year old you can do a little bit more structured learning with him, and then just allow the 17 month old to be in the 3 year old's presence, while you're teaching you don't have to make the 17 month old sit down, and stay seated, Just allow him or her to be in the room while you're doing a structured lesson for the three-year-old, and also their attention spans are not very long, you can teach for 5 to 10 minutes then give them a break. Teach another 5 to 10 minutes, give them a snack, another 5 minutes, then give them a nap. And is allowing them to sleep to 9:00 too long? No, my kids have it up at 6:00 because we have a building to be at, at 9:00, but letting them sleep until 9:00, who am I to tell you when to make your kids get up? I wish my kids will sleep until 9:00.

Are the time frames of daily lessons different for older children than younger children?

Yes, because they have different attention spans. What our kids do in the pre-k and kindergarten, they do a lot of music and movements and things of that nature, and they do the sensory bins, everything is learning but everything is fun for them, and doing getting shorter increments of time my older kids they can sit through a 20 min math lesson and listen to me go on and on, and then do a worksheet, but the younger kids, can't do that. They will end up, not in enjoying learning. So. Yes, shorter amounts of time for younger children.

How do you start homeschooling a 13 yr. old and 9 yr. old? If you're thinking about taking them out of public school.

If you're able to be at home, and it is just your 13- and 9-year-old, that's pretty doable. If you have some sisters that are interested in getting the co-op started, you can do the older kids she can do the younger kids. And you just bounce off of each other. I know sisters here in Atlanta last year, they took turns teaching 2 days a week. One sister had the kids at her house 2 days a week, the other sister had the kids at her house. It's different ways to do a co-op. Most co-ops actually meet at a library or a park, different things like that. We just ended up getting a dedicated space because I grew out of the space that I had. But if you have sisters with kids around, you all can just bounce off each other. And maybe you teach one group, and she teaches another.

How do you keep a record of grades and progress?

We keep a traditional grade book. I have an old school grade book and Yoli uses an excel spreadsheet to log her grades.

How do I make Curriculum for my toddler, and make changes as they grow?

Momma homeschool room is really awesome for younger kids' curriculum, and there are several other places you can go, but she has some really good stuff for young kids. So if you want to make your own, you can absolutely go visit a school box store. They have a Section dedicated to 2- and 3-year-olds. You can check out some TikTok teachers and learn different things. I know Esty Has some homeschool items, or just things that you can download and print out yourself.

What should conversations look like when setting a general consensus around discipline doing a co-op ?

Our kids are pretty well behaved because their basis of life revolves around the laws, so they're afraid of breaking God's laws. I think I've had to spank 2 kids not too many over the past 5 years, but it's understood, because we're sisters, and our school home is an extension of their home. So the older boys do a lot of writing assignments if they break a

law. They'll have to write, and they hate to write. The younger kids, you know, they might get a little pop. Example we have a Levi prince, he's so bossy, and when he does not get his way, he cries, and with him deep breathing works, we just make him breathe through his nose out through his mouth. There are different ways to discipline kids.

What is the best approach with teaching reading?

What worked for me was teaching spelling first. The traditional way is teaching letter sounds, and so we make symbols, if a vowel is short, we put like a smiley face over the letter and if it's a long vowel, we put a line over the letter, so teaching them, of course their vowels versus their consonants, and then the vowels, have 2 sounds and then once they have mastered letter sounds then you want to start letter blending, and then once you do letter blending, you can start doing your 3 letter words and things of that nature, and there's a rule, and it's typically follows this, not always. But if a four-letter word has 2 vowels, the first vowel is going to be long, and the second vowel is going to be silent. So the sign for a short vowel is a smiley face, long vowel is a line, and a silent vowel. You want to put a line through it. So typically a three-letter word, the vowel is going to be short, so that will always have the smiley face, so the kids see the smiley face they know they're going to say the short a sound instead of long A sound, and if the word has 2 vowels and it's a 4 letter, typically will be long then short.

Starting with just identifying your short and long vowel sounds, and then moving on to blending your words. Repetition is important, because they will get it. I'm watching the younger kids learning to read this year has been amazing, they will absolutely get it but you must be consistent.

What is a non-traditional co-op schedule look like for moms who work full time day or night.

As long as you're getting the hours you need according to the state that you are in, in Georgia it's 4 and a half hours. You don't have to start at a certain time. You don't have to do it consecutively and you don't have to end at a certain time. You just have to make sure you get all subjects in and meet whatever your state requirements are. So, if you work in the morning, your instruction time will be in the evening. One of our teacher assistants goes to school in the evening. She's in tenth grade. She helps us with the Co-op and she does her classes in the evening, so it really just depends on your schedule. But as long as you get it done there's no set time that you have to start.

Can this be done in the Caribbean?

Yes, so the two curriculums that I mentioned earlier are A time 4 learning, I believe, can be done in the Caribbean. Abeka may be able to be done in the Caribbean. Lords will, we may expand our online platform and you can reach out to me directly and anybody else for that matter, with questions or anything. My email is the thegcea@gmail.com

and if I'm able to find some more information for you about doing home school in the Caribbean, I would be more than happy to do that.

Do I need my degree before I start a co-op journey?

So you don't need a degree to start a co-op journey if you were going to be a teacher and not a home school teacher in the State, you would most likely have to have a bachelor's degree, and if it's not in any type of childhood education, you would need to get the certification for early childhood, or whatever grade you were going to teach.

Do you have to receive permission from leadership before starting a homeschool co-op?

I would always get council. I'm married. So I counseled with my lord, but when we started teaching, it was just to teach my lords house children, and then we ended up just having other people outside of our house that we taught, but my leadership has been tremendously supportive of what we're doing and I actually used to teach at the school for a small amount of time, but we needed more space. But yes, if you're married counsel with your lord, and if you're single, I would go to my senior sister, and perhaps counsel with leadership.

Are there different types of co-ops?

You can co-op from home, you can co-op out of a park, you can co-op from a dedicated space. Some home school co-ops focus on the arts, some home school co-ops focus on recreation. There are different types of homeschool, and like I said in the beginning, some combine all types and do a collective effort together.

I have been homeschooling my tenth and third grader for 2 years now, and it was going great but now I have to introduce my 3 year old into the mix? I want him to be ahead of the game. When is it his time to start school?

You can start now, now 3 years old is a great time to start. and, as I mentioned earlier, they're learning every day all day, but you can be very intentional with them at 3 years old because you don't want to miss that Mark. I have always thought that it was ridiculous that kids start school at 5 when they retain more from 0 to 5 than they will in their entire life. Why would you wait to start school at 5? So three-year-old is ideal, and that's that perfect, sweet spot where they're not so immature, like a 2-year-old, and they're ready and willing to learn. So I think it's a great time to start with that three-year-old.

How do you go about finding the right sisters to start co-op to home school?

That's an excellent question, because these are sisters that you are going to essentially be with you every day I think it's very important to be with sisters that you've proven sisters that you genuinely like, sisters that you genuinely get along with, that you have

similarities with, that you can see yourself around that you can spend 5 and a half to 7 hours a day a day with, because a lot of times we stay longer to plan for the next day. We like to go and eat together, and things like that. It is good to work with like-minded sisters that can see the bigger picture. You can't be driven by money when you're doing a co-op, because at the end of the day somebody has to be the one to get the ball rolling. Somebody is responsible for writing the checks for the rent, and the gas, the lights, and the water, and all those things. And if you know that the goal is to grow so we can help meets for our lords in that regard, then, great. But if you're just driven by one thing, then you'll lose the vision so like-minded, everybody has to be on the same page. You have to pray, I prayed before I chose the sisters I got counsel from my lord. It was very nerve wracking for me because even though I'm an entrepreneur, I'm a solo entrepreneur. So other than having interns and things like that. I've never had to really be with other people, constantly, and it's a great dynamic.

I'm thankful for the people that the Most High placed in my life, but don't take it lightly, because you are with these sisters constantly. I know that a long time ago some sisters tried to co-op and they couldn't get along so before you jump into it you definitely want to make sure that you get along with the sisters, and that you can trust these sisters and that you can depend on these sisters because we have these children's lives that were responsible for and if you can just quickly just throw in a towel, then that can create a problem. So, prayer, fasting, and council, will definitely help you when selecting sisters to participate and go on this journey with you.

What is the best way to deal with stress from the troubles of education? How do you stay encouraged and inspired to keep pushing through the rough patches?

Excellent question, and sister prayer, because as I stated earlier it wasn't always this great to me, and now I love it! I feel like the kids are doing me a favor. I didn't always feel that way. Honestly, it was a bit grievous for me in the beginning because it was something that I felt like I had to do. It was not my career choice, it was not anything that I thought I would do prior to coming into the truth, and then, all of a sudden, my life changed. I learn who I am. I came into the truth. And now I have to homeschool, that was a bit much for me, and I prayed, and in the shower, my shower naturally faces the east, and so my hair is covered, and I would pray in the shower, and I'll ask the Most High to allow my passion to align with the purpose that he had for my life, and he honored that. I'm doing what I'm supposed to do, and it feels like a gift for me. So if it's hard for you now, and it doesn't feel good now, it doesn't mean that it cannot change. It doesn't mean that it won't feel good if you truly pray, and you're sincere about doing this thing the Most High will turn it around for you. In college my favorite Scripture was Philipians, 1:6, and we have it on our wall under our crest at the school, and it says:

Philippians 1:6 (KJV) Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

This is a great work, not a light matter, not a light thing, but is a wonderful thing. And if you're in this Titus 2 and you're considering doing it. Hooray! Because at the end of the day I knew I had to do it, and I knew I needed it to feel good, and now it feels good. I'm not a morning person, but now, I get up every morning with a smile on my face, and the time flies by, the sisters and I talk about that all the time how the time flies by, and to see the generational curses being broken, in these children is the biggest gift ever. So keep pushing, keep praying, and the Most High will honor that thing, Trust me, I am living proof, I did not want to be here. It has been full circle for me to be sitting in front of you, teaching a Titus 2 about homeschooling when I used to watch the clock wondering when it would be over, and now we sit around for an extra 2 hours after school is over.

What are the best ways to keep your child engaged in daily activity?

Keeping it fun, education is fun and if you're able to do the collective and do the co-op the best way for us is having other kids that they see on the Sabbath because that makes it fun for them.

So, if you're able to do this, and hopefully, we have sisters on here that know each other, in the same city, and we're able to implement this thing that will be great, because that's the best gift you can give them is letting them be around their peers, that they know they keep the laws with on a day-to-day basis.

Any tips for traditional homeschooling and staying organized for the entire year?

That's a really good question. When you say traditional home school, I feel like I don't know if you mean, coming up with your own curriculum, or whatever the case is. If you're talking about traditional in a sense of you creating your own, Curriculum and things like that. That's not really my expertise, but the things that I use to keep me organized are, I have an answer key that I keep with me I don't have to think when it's time to grade a paper, I keep a folder for papers that needs to be graded, I keep a folder for papers that are already graded, My teacher assistant helps me clean my room, planning for days ahead at times definitely helps and just decluttering, which I need to do a lot of in my classroom right now. But when you say traditional, are you speaking about creating your own curriculum, I'm not the person to ask for that. I don't really know in that regard. So sorry.

What schedule do you go by? Winter breaks? Do you take off for Esau's off Holidays?

We go by the traditional clock. We start in the fall, our fall break is during feast of tabernacles, and then our winter break is during feast of dedication, and then our spring break is during Passover. we typically have class planned on Esau's holiday, but lately our camp has been holding class on the holidays, so we'll close school only for that. But

if our school doesn't have a class, meaning IUIIC doesn't have a class planned then, yes, we're in class, and the only reason we wouldn't hold class. We still get the winter break. We still get the spring break, we still get the fall break, it just happens to fall on our high, holy days.

Do you Homeschool year-round?

We take the summers off, and we're actually considering possibly doing a summer Camp. This summer we haven't ironed out all the details yet, but Lord Will we're able to do that, but as far as schooling, we do take the summer off.

Do you use accredited programs?

The way our curriculum is set up, they do have accredited and non-accredited. We are currently non-accredited just because we keep our own records. That's the only big difference. They offer the same curriculum. Rather you're in the accredited program or the non-accredited. They just hold your records. If you're in the appropriate program, and that's with Abeka solely, I'm not sure how it works with other programs like A time 4 learning and things of that nature.

Things should be learned by a certain age. How do you meet everyone's needs?

We do it by age range, my son is in kindergarten and he's only 4. We'll test our children to see where they should fall, so we don't say you're this age you belong here. We tested them and Abeka is advanced already, and they do well. My son is 4. He'll be in first grade next year, but he will be 5 lords in February, so it really just depends on the child. We don't hold a child back just because of their age. If a child is advanced, and showing that they can keep up with the curriculum, then we'll keep them in the grade that they are currently in and move them forward.

Do I need a physical location, or can I do it online?

You can absolutely do online, or you can do a physical location.

It really just depends on you. The beautiful thing about home school is, you have freedom. The only thing the State requires from you is to let them know your intentions to home school. Then you have the freedom you can choose to create your own curriculum you can choose an online curriculum; you can choose a curriculum that is not online.

The goal and the key is to just be consistent. And I can only speak for myself, and I'm pretty sure that there are some sisters that can relate you can find it difficult, just teaching your own kids, so the co-op can actually be a plus for you, because it allows you to make sure you are teaching your kids the way you're supposed to, because you are responsible for other people's children. But yes, to answer that question. You can do a physical location, or you can do online for homeschool.

Do home school children, especially the pre-k preschoolers, have to be inoculated, as those attending public schools, if so, how can that be Avoided?

If you choose a program like I mentioned K12, or something like that, they're going to absolutely do that because they're following the State. It is a home school program, but it's funded by the state you're going to learn about all the wicked holidays you're going to learn all the lies about Christopher Columbus, you're going to learn all about that, because it is a state-funded homeschool program and same thing with a Abeka, if you do a Abeka recorded home school. I have to go through my curriculum with Abeka , and cross out certain things, like Thanksgiving, Christmas, and things like that. So if you are indeed using a state funded homeschool program. Yes, they are going to do just that. Unfortunately.

I have a 2-year-old son, and he says basic words like, Hi, bye no, shoe, etc. but isn't grasping his ABC's and 1, 2, 3's. He knows the cadence of the songs and some sounds. But how do I get him to grasp those phonics? He's a critical thinker, all praises, so he likes to solve puzzles and put things together more than he does grasping those phonics.

Just because he doesn't articulate it doesn't mean he isn't grasping it, and if he's a critical thinker and he's found what he likes to do, when he's 2 years old he's doing just fine. One day he's going to regurgitate all those things that you thought he didn't know. I don't think you have anything to worry about with that 2 year old.

Can you start your home school if you don't have children in school? and what is the process?

Sure, if you want to be a charitable sister and homeschool another working mom's kids all praises, you don't have to be a mom to home school, you just have to have the desire to want to home school and just make sure that the parent sends in their paper work to homeschool. For me it's required that all the kids that are in our co-op program, send us a copy of their intent, so I know that they sent the document to the State, they have to email that to us, so that we have that on file that we are indeed home schooling your child in this particular county.

What are the most challenging situations that with home school?

I touched on that a little bit. But another thing that is difficult, and this is the worst thing you can do. Sisters, we know that we're in the truth. We love being in the truth, and we don't want to send our kids to school. But if you know that you're not going to home school your kids, please send them to school because they need to be taught, and the last thing you want to do is not teach your children, and then send them over to a sister, and you have not done anything with them. That can be a huge challenge, and it's great. The sisters confess and say, yes, I've not done anything with my kid, but it doesn't make it any

easier, and it doesn't help with the kid's self-esteem. So, if you are not capable of homeschooling, don't have a desire to homeschool. You're better off sending them to school, because nobody wants for your kids to not be educated, that has been a major challenge getting students and you have to bring them up to where they need to be, because they have not been taught at home.

What is the most rewarding thing about homeschooling?

The joy that it brings, the joy in watching these kids flourish, the joy in seeing them not being indoctrinated, knowing who they are in the Most High, being with my sisters every day, being able to take my kids to work with me every day, all my children, no matter their ages, it's a wonderful thing. All of us have kids in the co-op, some of us are pregnant. You don't have to worry about someone making you feel bad about not feeling well, it's just a well-oiled machine. It's a beautiful vibe. I love it so much. I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world, and I'm a mom at the same time. For the sisters that have to go work for Esau, they know that their kids are in excellent hands with their sisters, and they have zero stress when they leave their kids with us, that part right there, is absolutely the most rewarding. You don't have to worry about what they're kids are being taught, if they're mistreating your kids, they know their children are at home when they are away from you, and that they're loved and taken care of. Those are definitely the most rewarding things.

What subjects should be taught during each grade or grade level?

I teach math, language arts, reading, history, geography, science. In the second semester we'll implement health, spelling, poetry, handwriting, and we teach cursive, and handwriting. That's what I teach in my class and then Bible history as well.

Where do you go to buy the appropriate books?

If I say Abeka, one more time I'm going to slap myself. So, I'm not going to say it.

How long should kids' classes be?

Each subject is different but in the beginning, in the front of your lesson plan it will give you a timeframe that you should spend on each lesson **math tends to be the longest.**

How do I balance a worldly education with a scriptural education?

Honestly, I haven't had to experience that. But obviously, if your kid has to be in public school, you just want to shed those layers every day and build them back up. It's so unfortunate, lords will one day we will be able to have a school in every city, and we don't have to worry about taking our kids to public school. My heart goes out to sisters who have to. You have to remind your kids every day who they really are, because they've been in Esau's system. But I would just encourage you to just build them up with

Scriptures, every day and talk to them about what they learned in school, and correct them according to the scriptures.

Should I use online homeschool versus our own self-taught homeschool?

That's just really preference. I like the interaction class. I like being live in the classroom and teaching, but that's really a preference. The bottom line is to make sure that our children are being taught.

How do I report my children's grades to if that is required.

Each state is different. We don't have to report our grades to the state. We just have to keep records in case we're audited. I've never been audited. You can do a quick Google search for your State to see what the requirement is.

Do accredited colleges, universities, or trade schools accept homeschool education?

Absolutely, I actually went to a k-12 graduation this year. And 100%, I believe, of all of the home school students, at k-12 got into college. and I think 90% got high offered scholarships. So yes, homeschool kids are the smartest and brightest, and they do go to college, from PWI's (predominantly white institutions) to HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and everything in between.

So that was actually the last question. I do have a few recommendations:

- **I suggest that you start small with home schooling, and maybe starting in your house if you're just starting.**
- **Two is definitely better than one, even though Yochana and I, most of you know her as Yoli , just started teaching together, she's always been a support. I taught her son years ago; I teach her son now. But she started off as my classroom mom. And now we're teaching together. So two is definitely better than one so if you have, like-minded sisters willing to do it with you, just do it. It doesn't require a whole lot of thought. You can honestly just do it like I mentioned earlier. If you do indeed like the curriculum with Abeka, you can pay a small amount now, and pay off the course in 10 months. You don't have to start at the beginning of the school year. You can start at any time. They actually give you a year to finish that grade before they expect you to go on to the next grade. and then at minimum, 170 days. So just get started.**
- **It can get expensive, a lot of costs are fixed, some are not, so you know. DIY (Do It Yourself) is a way to cut a lot of the cost.**

- **If you do choose to do the co-op, and you have students before you sign a lease and rent out of place. know that about 30% of the people that you sign up are going to pull out so definitely, take that into consideration before you sign a lease. If you need 50 people to cover your rent, and then some in your utilities, you need to sign up 65 people because you're going to lose 30%, everybody's excited about it, but you're going to lose 30% of the people who say they're going to register.**
- **Use business credit, where possible. I would register my name with the Secretary of State, Apply for a EIN number with the IRS, and make sure you pay your net 30 accounts, within 15 days.**
- **Get teacher assistants and substitutes, because in the winter months, people are going to call off work, and if you're dedicated to one class, you can't be in another class, So the teacher assistants have been a lifesaver for me.**
- **Set up telegram groups with each class you have. I have a main one for the school, and then we have one for each class. This has been helpful with communicating for the homework and has been extremely helpful in general. If you have young sisters that are high school age, and they can do their home school in the evening, and they have a passion for teaching pull those young sisters in as teacher assistants and raise them up for the next generation of teachers.**
- **We talked about plan with like-minded people make sure the people you link up with are like minded, and all have the same common goal in mind.**
- **You have to have startup capital, when I did it in my home it was about \$3,000, I'm going to go ahead and mention this amount now, I didn't want to talk about it in the beginning, because I didn't want it to make you sad, but I spent about \$12,000 to \$15,000 setting up the co-op outside of my home. Now I will tell you this about 25% to 30% of that was because I secured the building 3 months before we moved in, because I didn't want the building to go, and there was no tuition coming in, so it could have been a little less than that, but that is about what I spent to get it started. Remember, I told you those desks and chairs are super expensive, having a school in your home, you might have only one space that you need to furnish, Now we have a sitting area, a kitchen area, and Three classrooms and you have to fill those rooms with desks and Chairs, boards, and decor and TV's and all types of things. So there is a cost associated. And one thing you can do to see who's**

serious when you start to register is charge a registration fee that'll weed out people who are not serious very early.

- **Put everything in writing, everything, everything, everything. With your teachers, with the parents, and have a plan of action. If this is not done, things will happen.**
- **Work on, strategically trying to build that business credit from tier one to tier two, to tier Three. Even if you don't do anything with those credit cards when you get to tier two, just keep working on building. And as a reminder to establish your business credit, you'll need to get your name with the secretary of state, get your EIN number and Google net 30 accounts online and then, after you've had those for a couple of months, then try to get credit with like T-Mobile, You can get tablets and things like that. You can get your Sam's club card, Home Depot card and things like that. So work on building your business credit.**
- **And at the end of the day have fun. Find love in doing it. It's such a gift. It's the gift that keeps on giving. So have fun, and enjoy bonding and building these future profits and princesses, and that's all I got. I can answer any more questions, but my portion of the presentation is done.**

How much screen time is too much for a child?

That's really up to you. I only let my kids watch TV on the weekend. You have to make sure if you're not going to allow for a lot of screen time for kids, you have to have great toys to stimulate them. I tell my kids all the time, I don't owe you a TV, you figure out how to play, and they do. So I let my kids watch TV on the weekends. But that's just my personal preference.

What advice would you give to a single sister?

Linking up with other single sisters. and be each other's support, help each other.

What was the name of the Judge you mentioned earlier?

The Judge's name was Judge Shapiro, who mandated that neither hospitals, nor schools can make you get vaccinated, because they can't be held liable if something happens.

Did you need permission to set up chats via telegram by leadership?

I'm Married, so, my lord, set up my telegrams. I would never have a telegram without a man in the vicinity, so my lord is in all telegram groups. It's a separate entity, but I made

sure just to be in order that my lord set it up. So he is the owner of all the telegrams. I'm just the admin.

Did you say that there are 180 days in the school year?

Yes, 180 days. You only have to honor 170. You have 180 school days on the calendar, but you have 10 days for field trips, snow days and things of that nature.

Will you offer online school?

Lord's will, we will try to implement some type of online class that's still in the works, because it is a whole beast within itself. But for more information If you want to reach out to me my email address is: thegcea@gmail.com.

I'm on Abeka, and I'm confused on what to look for.

It's broken up by grade. So if you're confused, Abeka has really great advisors, and you can call tomorrow during school hours, and they'll walk you through it. They can actually get you to sign in, and they can see what you're doing from your sign in so if you're having any issues. I would call during business hours tomorrow. Just browse through, you want to get the most expensive one for whatever grades you're looking at, because that's going to give you everything.

Do you have a professional development plan for your team?

Not at the moment, Yochana holds a degree in early childhood education. One of the other teachers who's coming in New next year, Lords will. Is actually obtaining her degree right now in early childhood education with a concentration in Special ED. So nothing at the moment.

What was the name of the international program you mentioned?

A Time 4 Learning, Abeka, and Acellus.

Can I use tablets/TV to watch educational shows?

If the children are watching educational shows like Sister Tatiana for sure, you just don't want to depend solely on tablets and TVs to teach them, because children learn a lot from just playing and using their imagination, it's a lost art.

Do you cover all subjects every day, or is it broken up on different days?

For the most part yes, Health, Geography, Science, History are not done every day. The main subjects like reading, spelling, poetry, math, and language arts, all of those subjects are done every day.

Do you do like 30 min of math reading etc. Or is it untimed? How do you do your transition from subjects, and do you teach all subjects daily?

Math typically is the longest, second to language arts and transitions are just, when they're finished, they'll take a quick break, we have them get up and stretch, and we'll just transition to the next subject. Spelling is not necessarily that long, and handwriting is not so long.

What are good stimulation toys for toddlers?

I'm not in the toddler class. I can't think of any toddler toys off the top of my head, but what has really been a success is sensory bins, and I know we make our own so anything, like sand and beans and things like that. Those sensory bins are a winner in our school.

What is a good way to start teaching your children spelling?

I have a 2-year-old and a 5-year-old. I use the traditional way of spelling. So saying the word, spelling it, and saying it again is how I teach my kids to spell, and we do games, catching a ball, So if the word is, mat I'll say mat, I'll throw the ball to you. You say the next letter? You throw the ball to me, I say the next letter, that's fun.

We call it a game and they don't feel like they're in a learning environment.

Can you use Abeka if you don't have a co-op?

Absolutely, remember, sisters, I am new to the co-op. I'm not new to homeschooling, and I've always used Abeka.

Where do you find righteous books for them to read?

Believe it or not there are a lot of good books from Black Wall Street, and one of the sisters set up an Amazon store for us, and we've found a lot of good books there, but I've got a lot of my righteous books from people in the body.

Is it possible to homeschool with sisters who have children that aren't Israel? Their own children that they are raising that are not Israel.

I personally don't, and I've had people reach out to me that were not in the truth. I call my school Gated Community Enrichment Academy because everyone cannot get in, and I don't want any confusion. I want my kids to know who they are, understand who they are and not go back and forth with any worldly children. So we're a gated community and it is very intentional.

I have 7 children. Is the price for the K-12 program for all children or does each child fall under a different program?

You will most likely just need to go to a Abeka Com. Pre-k is very inexpensive.

Kindergarten is not that much, but as they progress it does get more expensive, if you



spend at least \$400, then you can put 10% down and pay on it monthly. Their curriculum can be a little pricey.

I enjoyed you all tremendously. Thank you so very much for spending time with me, and just listening to me talk about something that I enjoy doing, and I hope I could be an inspiration to you all. If you have any more questions, please reach out to me. I will be more than happy to answer any questions, the ones that I'm able to, and I will point you in a direction for the questions I'm unable to answer. Stay inspired We got this; these are our children. It's a great work that we're doing. All Praises to the Most High.

Shalom Most High and Christ blessed!