

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network

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To:



Great networking. Delicious food. Quality learning. It's what 'business lunch' was meant to be.

presents



Lunch & Learn, Tuesday August 14

## "Let's Schmooze About Gossip"

with CTN's Rabbi Moshe Katz

At this unique and powerful workshop you will:

- Explore just how important proper speech is in Jewish tradition.
- Learn what you can and cannot say about others.
- What to do when you have information that someone else needs to know.
- Discover tools we can use to help us overcome the temptation to gossip. And more.

**Tuesday, August 14, 2007 ♦ Speaker: Rabbi Moshe Katz  
11:30 - Gourmet Lunch & Networking ♦ 12:00 - Lecture**

*At DrinkerBiddleGardnerCarton, 191 North Wacker Drive,  
37<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room. Hosted by Harold Kaplan*

Cost: \$15 in advance (by Tuesday, August 7) ♦ \$25 (after August 7)

Advance Registration: [www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm](http://www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm)



**Judaism. It's not just about synagogue and Holidays. It's about life.™**

# THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX<sup>©</sup>

A WEEKLY PRESENTATION OF JEWISH THOUGHT PUBLISHED IN MEMORY OF RAE DANIEL

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 37 FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 2007 / 19 AV 5767 CANDLE LIGHTING: 7:47 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 8:56 P.M. (CHICAGO)

*Hang in there - Shabbat is coming!*

## TORAH PORTION: AIKEV (DEUTERONOMY 7:12 - 11:25)

*This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored by the CTN Rabbis and their families, wishing bon voyage to Robin Katz. May your time in Israel be filled with great joy and much spiritual growth.*

### **1. Moshe prayed ... Remember Your servants, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob ... (9:27)**

It's the way Jews have prayed for thousands of years.

*'Blessed are You ... G-d of Abraham, G-d of Isaac and G-d of Jacob ...'*

... It's an important part of Jewish prayer.

First of all - it's pretty impressive name-dropping!

After all, these were the people who introduced the world to G-d.

*... It's sort of like applying for membership in a club.*

*And they say: 'Sorry. Membership is closed. No exceptions'*

*So you mention your grandfather.*

*Who it just so happens, founded the club.*

*And suddenly, there's room for one more ...*

... But there's really much more to it.

Because in Jewish tradition, each of the forefathers represents something.

*A different aspect of spiritual growth.*

Abraham represents *chessed*. Acts of kindness.

Isaac? Spirituality. Prayer.

And Jacob is the one who *'dwells in the tents'*. He represents Torah study.

... And these are very important things to think about as we begin to pray.

Because prayer isn't just about asking G-d for the things we want.

About presenting Him with some sort of 'shopping list'.

*... Prayer is about connecting to G-d.*

*Working on becoming a better human being.*

*And a better Jew.*

And it's a time for a commitment.

To follow the examples of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

## **2. Bind these words as a sign upon your hand and ... on your head. (6:8)**

*Tefillin. Phylacteries.*

Special leather boxes, containing verses from the Torah.

First and foremost, the *Sh'ma*. 'Hear Israel ... G-d is One'.

...Traditionally, Jewish men put on *teffilin* each morning.

On the arm. And on the head.

... It's a very meaningful ritual.

A symbolic way of dedicating ourselves.

Our actions ... and our thoughts.

To the service of G-d.

▪ *The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in the caves of Qumran. Among the findings – a pair of Tefillin. More than two thousand years old.*

*Yigal Yadin, the noted Israeli archaeologist, was taking the ancient and delicate pair of Tefillin to be seen by an expert.*

*On the way, he was approached by someone who was part of a 'mitzvah' campaign to encourage more Jews to put on Tefillin. The man asked him if he would like to put on a pair of Tefillin.*

*Yadin said that he would.*

*And then he told the man: "Ordinarily, I wouldn't have considered it.*

*I am not Dati (observant).*

*... But today – after finding what I did – it's difficult to say no."*

### **THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

*"A guy says to me: 'I don't give charity. I'm selfish.'*

*I tell him, 'You're not selfish. You're foolish.*

*Because you think the greatest pleasure you can get from money is to eat it. Drive it. Or wear it.*

*... But you're wrong.*

*Because there's a lot more you can do with your money.*

*... You can help. And you can create.*

*You can uplift your life. And the lives of others.*

*You're selfish? All you're interested in is enjoying life?*

*Try some of those things.*

*... And you'll discover just how much pleasure money can really give you."*

(Based on The Bible for the Curious and the Clueless (Leviathan Press))



*Shabbat Shalom and have a great week!*

*Moshe*  
Rabbi Moshe Katz

*Doni*  
Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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