

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network

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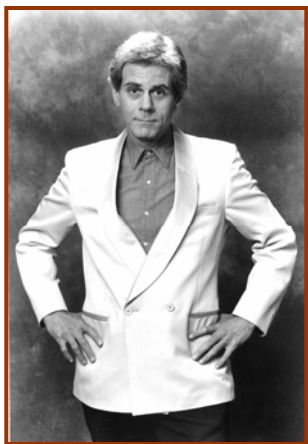


Great networking. Delicious food. Quality learning. It's what 'business lunch' was meant to be.

Lunch & Learn ... and Laugh!

On Monday, October 15, we're taking the 'business lunch and learn' to a whole new level!

First, you'll network with other Jewish professionals and enjoy a gourmet kosher lunch.



Then, you'll get a whole new take on Judaism at Rabbi Moshe Katz's twenty minute presentation on 'The Spirituality of Joy and Humor'.

And then, to top it off you'll be treated to the comedy stylings of stand up comedian extraordinaire, Richard Morris.

Richard is a veteran of the New York comedy club circuit, a frequent guest on NBC's Late Night with David

Letterman, and one of the show's original writers.

Don't miss this great event!

LUNCH AND LEARN ... AND LAUGH!

**Monday, Oct. 15, 2007 ♦ At DrinkerBiddleGardnerCarton
11:30 am: 'Networking & Lunch' ♦ 12 pm: 'Learn & Laugh'
191 N. Wacker Drive, 37th Floor. Hosted by Harold Kaplan**

Cost: \$15 in advance (by October 8) ♦ \$25 after October 8.

Advance Registration: www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm

Info: info@torahnetwork.org or 773.761.0400 x201

THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX[©]

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

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 42 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2007 / 9 TISHRI 5768 CANDLE LIGHTING: 6:30 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 7:40 P.M. (CHICAGO)

Hang in there - Shabbat is coming!

YOM KIPPUR

This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored by Norm & Marsha Smagley in loving memory of Norm's parents, Lazer ben Nachman z"l and Hinda bas Yitzchak z"l, and with a prayer for complete and speedy recovery for Marsha's mother, Shayna bas Madelyn. And may we merit that this year bring us redemption and peace.

1. Prayer.

Getting in touch with G-d.

It's a major part of the *High Holidays*.

And Judaism teaches us a very important lesson. Something to think about before we pray.

Think of a carpenter. Very talented. Able to do great work.

... As long as he keeps his tools in shape.

But if he lets them get ruined?

He's out of business.

Prayer is like that too.

It's powerful. Can accomplish a lot.

And we are given the tool.

The power of speech.

... But there are things that can ruin that tool.

Like if we speak *lashon hara* (gossip and slander).

If we use the gift of speech to hurt others.

... Can we use the same mouth to pray to G-d?

2. Confession.

It's one of the unique parts of the traditional Yom Kippur service.

And it's a very powerful experience.

... We bow our heads.

Stand before G-d.

And admit our sins.

Confront the fact that we've done things that are wrong.

... It's interesting. The 'Yom Kippur Confession' contains a long list of sins.

And many of them probably do sound rather familiar.

... But still. What about the ones we know we haven't done?

Like: *"I admit that I am guilty of stealing."*

Why should we say that if we didn't steal?

The answer is that in Jewish tradition, stealing isn't just about money.

... There's much more to it.

Think about the following situations:

... I'm in a rush as I walk into the office. Someone says hello. But I hurry by. And don't respond.

... Someone in the house is asleep. And I let the door slam shut as I leave.

... I eat a meal. And I don't stop to thank G-d for it.

The Talmud teaches that these are all a form of theft.

Because the person in my office is entitled to my respect.

The person sleeping is entitled to my consideration.

... And G-d is entitled to my thanks.

Judaism sets very high standards for us.

And Yom Kippur is the time to get in touch with those standards.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Yom Kippur can not atone, until one receives forgiveness from the person he has wronged. Otherwise, even if he fasts a hundred years, and utters confessions a hundred times a day, atonement will not be granted."

Rabbi Abraham Danzig (19th century author of Chayai Adam, a standard text of traditional Jewish Law)

'GROWTH' LESSON OF THE WEEK

A Rabbi was about to give an informal class on Jewish ethics and values to his students.

The group met in his office. And as the students walked in carrying their chairs, he told them the following:

"... When you bring in a chair for yourself, what are you?

A 'shlepper'. A guy carrying something from one place to another.

... But what about, if each of you would bring in a chair for someone else?

It's the same amount of effort.

And each of you still ends up with a chair. Just like if you had brought it for yourself.

But this way, you're doing a chessed. An act of kindness."

... It's an interesting thought.

How sometimes we can take a simple act.

And make it something special.

Shabbat Shalom and best wishes for a meaningful Yom Kippur and a great week!


Rabbi Moshe Katz


Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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