

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network . Number of pages: 3

To:

"After the Holocaust we don't just need Jewish fans.
... We need Jewish Players." (Esther Jungreis)

"Becoming a Player in the Jewish Future"

An Evening of Inspiration for Jewish men and women
of all backgrounds, with world renowned author and lecturer,
Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis

One of the most inspiring and sought after speakers on the Jewish scene today, Esther Jungreis was born in Hungary and came to the United States after surviving the Nazi's Bergen Belsen concentration camp. She is the Founder and President of Hineni, (www.hineni.org) an international outreach organization with centers in New York and Jerusalem. In March 2006, she was appointed by President Bush to a five year term as a council member of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum.



Rebbetzin Jungreis has been featured in numerous national publications, including The New York Times, Newsweek, Time, and People, is the author of four best selling books, "Jewish Soul of Fire", "The Committed Life", "The Committed Marriage" and "Life Is A Test", writes a weekly column for the Jewish Press, has a weekly television program and lectures around the world.

Please join us and treat yourself to an evening of great inspiration from a truly great and inspiring woman.

🌀 **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 8:00 PM AT THE CTN / SHAAREI TZEDEK CAMPUS**
2832 West Touhy Avenue, Chicago (in the main Shaarei Tzedek Sanctuary)
Lecture will be followed by book signing.

🌀 **TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS:**
\$15 in advance (Student: \$10) / \$20 at the door
Sponsors of \$180 and above will be listed in the Event Program.
Patrons of \$1,000 and above will be invited to a private pre-lecture reception with Rebbetzin Jungreis.

🌀 **REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION:**
www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm
773.761.0400 x208 or info@torahnetwork.org



Home for the
Wondering Jew™

This Special Evening of Inspiration is dedicated
in loving memory of Rhoda Ross and Howard Ross,
parents of Bonnie and Vicki Ross.

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: BEHAR (LEVITICUS 25:1 - 26:2)

This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is dedicated by David Grossman in honor of Rabbi Katz's dad, my dad and all the great dads who taught us so much. Happy seventh birthday to Drew, who together with all my kids teaches me to be a better dad, husband and friend.

1. I will direct My blessing to you ... (25:21)

G-d's blessings. The good things in life.

Jewish tradition makes a big deal about recognizing them. And acknowledging them.

At first glance it's simply the right thing to do.

That we owe it to G-d to express our appreciation for what He gives us.

And yes we do.

... But that's not the whole point at all.

It's not just about G-d.

... It's about us.

Because Judaism teaches that we should enjoy life.

Which is why it insists that we don't lose sight of how blessed we are.

That we don't take things for granted.

The big things in life.

And the little things.

... Think of a bride and groom who had an idea.

"Let's send an invitation to the President.

Who knows? Maybe the White House will send back the reply card. Then we could put it in our wedding album."

The President didn't recognize the names. But he wasn't sure.

After all, he meets so many people. Maybe he did know them. It could be embarrassing.

So he sent back the card. With regrets that he could not attend.

And he sent along a gift. A beautiful silver serving set.

Years later, when guests admire the set, the couple tells them: "It was a gift.

From the President of the United States."

... And somehow the food seems to taste a little better.

... Jewish tradition doesn't just teach this idea.

It gives us a powerful tool to help make it real.

It's called a *bracha*. The one line 'blessing' we say before eating food.

... *It's something to think about. Next time we eat something as simple as a fruit.*

It's just a few words: *Blessed are You, G-d, King of the universe, Who creates the fruit of the tree.*

... And it's a wonderful reminder.

That the fruit is a gift.

Not just from a President.

But from G-d.

He made it for us. And He wants us to enjoy it.

And who knows? It may even make the food taste a little better.

▪ ***It was a hot summer day on a crowded city street.***

The sun is beating down. And hundreds of people feel the heat.

Suddenly there's a refreshing cool breeze.

Everyone feels it. Feels relieved.

But there's one old man who responds in a unique way.

And probably enjoyed the breeze more than everyone else.

He smiles. Looks up to heaven.

... And says, 'thank You.'

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

'*Shalom*'.

It's a very special word. It means peace. It means hello.

And there's a fascinating teaching in the Talmud that *Shalom* is one of G-d's names.

... In Judaism, when we see someone, we say – or at least think – *shalom*.

Not just as a greeting to the other person.

But as a reminder to ourselves.

... Because this person may be different than us.

We may end up disagreeing. Maybe even strongly.

Which is why it's important to remember one thing.

... *Shalom*.

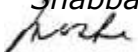
It's more than just a nice thing.


It's G-d's name.

... Make it happen? And we've brought G-d closer.



Shabbat Shalom and have a great week!


Rabbi Moshe Katz


Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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