

Busy during hebrew school?



Now you can learn to read Hebrew in just five weeks. And it really works!

Join thousands of Jews who will learn to read Hebrew in five easy lessons, using the same amazing course that has taught Hebrew to over 100,000 people around the world.

It's easy. It's fun. And it works.

Join us. And this year, celebrate the High Holidays from right to left!

THE CTN HEBREW READING CRASH COURSE

Tuesdays, August 11 - September 8. 8-9 pm.

At the CTN Center, 2832 W. Touhy, Chicago.

info@torahnetwork.org 773.761.0400 x208.

\$25 including workbook. Advance registration required.

www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm



Home for the
Wondering Jew.™

THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX[©]

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

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 36 FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2009 / 10 AV 5762 CANDLE LIGHTING: 7:50 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 8:59 P.M. (CHICAGO)

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: VA'ESCHANAN (DEUTERONOMY 3:23 - 7:11)

*This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored by
Lynne and Fred Brody in memory of Ettl bas Hirsch z"l.*

1. And write these words on the doorposts of your homes. (6:9)

The Mezuzah. A scroll of parchment rolled up and placed on the doorpost.

It contains the words of the Sh'ma. Judaism's declaration of faith:

'Hear Israel, the Lord our G-d the Lord is One.

You shall love G-d with all your heart, all your soul and all your might...'

- The Torah tells us to put a *Mezuzah* on the doors of our homes.

Practically speaking, you will see a *Mezuzah* on the doors of many synagogues.

But the truth is that according to Jewish Law, they don't really need one.

... Only homes do.

Why?

It teaches us a powerful lesson.

Yes. The synagogue is a very important part of Jewish life.

But Jewish spirituality isn't just about prayers. About what we usually call *religious* service.

It's about sanctifying our everyday lives.

Sure in the Synagogue we connect to G-d.

But at home?

We connect to people.

To G-d's children.

Spirituality in the home is about things like how we relate to our spouse. And our children.

Like coming home with a smile. Showing respect. And sensitivity.

Offering our help. *And our time.*

It's about trying to be G-dly. By being a giver.

And doing *chessed*. Acts of kindness.

Spirituality in the home is about having guests. And treating them like family.

... And what happens when we do this?

Our home becomes a place to connect to G-d as well.

Because G-d is comfortable in such a home.

- *Question: How should the Mezuzah be positioned on the doorway?*

Answer: There are two opinions in Jewish tradition.

One says: It should be straight up and down.

The other opinion? Horizontal. Lying on its side, across the doorpost.

So what do we do?

We compromise. And put it on a slant.

... It's an important message.

Something to think about.

Each time we walk in the door.

If we want our home to be truly blessed. To be a place of happiness. And of peace.

There's only one way.

... *Compromise.*

LIVE LIFE TO ITS FULLEST

Living Life to its Fullest

Judaism's Powerful Tools for Getting Greater Pleasure and Meaning Out of Life



Rabbi Moshe Katz's "Living Life to its Fullest" Workshop, was just amazing! Participants raved about it ... learned from it ... and grew from it.

Missed it? No problem. In fact we have gotten requests for a "repeat run" from those who couldn't make it, and plan to make this life changing workshop available again very soon.

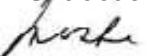
Please help us plan the next presentation by letting us know if you are interested in any of the following:

1. Another evening at CTN.
2. Hosting a workshop in you home for a group of friends. And what evenings would work for you?
3. Hosting a "Lunch & Living Life to its Fullest Workshop" in your office.

**Please contact Rabbi Katz at your earliest convenience
at 773.263.4419 or rabbikatz@torahnetwork.org**

◌ ◆ ◌

Shabbat Shalom and have a wonderful week!


Rabbi Moshe Katz


Rabbi Doni Deutsch

Chicago Torah Network <http://torahnetwork.org>

2832 West Touhy Avenue, Chicago, IL 60645

Phone: 773.761.0400 Fax: 773.761.9262 e-mail: info@torahnetwork.org