

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network

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To:

Please note **new date** and mark your calendars:
The Chicago Conference for Jewish Women
Sunday, May 23, 2010



A day of learning, inspiration and community, for Jewish women of all backgrounds. Watch for complete details.



Home for the
Wondering Jew.™

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: TSAV (LEVITICUS 6:1 - 8:36)

*This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored by Emily Jackson,
"in honor of Rabbi Moshe Katz and Rabbi Doni Deutsch, who
continue to inspire me from afar".*

Special Passover Issue - Thoughts for the Passover Seder

1. Passover. The Seder.

Traditionally, so much of it centers around the children. And their questions.

And that's great.

Because they are the Jewish future.

... But what about us? The adults.

And what if there are no children at the Seder?

The answer? No matter how old you are – you be the child!

Because that's the whole point of the Seder.

... Not just getting children involved.

But discovering the child within us.

Because, there is one thing kids do better than us adults.

They ask questions!

They haven't yet been 'trained' to simply say: 'that's how it is'.

And when kids see something amazing.

They aren't afraid to say "wow".

... We were like that once too.

But then we grew up. Became adults. Educated. Sophisticated.

But we lost something in the process.

... We've got to get back to being like children.

To look at the beauty and complexity of the universe.

And say: "Wow! Who made it?"

To look at Jewish history.

At how all the great empires have disappeared.

And to say: "Why are the Jewish people still here?"

And how did we return to our homeland after two thousand years?

Something that hasn't happened to any other people."

And think about one small nation. The Jewish People.

That changed the world with its Torah.

And wonder how that happened.

... The Seder challenges us to rediscover the curiosity ... the innocence ... and the honesty of a child.

To still ask questions.

And to look for answers.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

... Think about when you're on an airplane.

And the flight attendant gives safety instructions before takeoff:

"In the unlikely event of a drop in the cabin pressure, oxygen masks will appear above your seats."

And then they say something very important.

Something we may not have thought of.

"And if you are traveling with a small child –

– make sure your mask is in place, before assisting your child."

... It's true about Jewish growth too.

We have to first make sure that we are growing Jewishly.

We can't just send our kids off to school. To Jewish activities. To learn about being Jewish.

... Our children need to see that we are learning.

Are involved. And are inspired.

Because only then will we be able to help them grow too.



Shabbat Shalom and have a great week!

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