

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network

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To:

COMING UP AT CTN ...

Please participate in this Gala Dinner and important CTN fundraising campaign, as we celebrate the CTN past ... and build the CTN future.

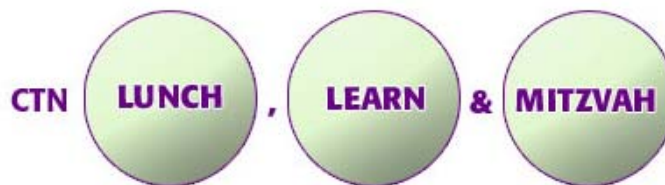
The CTN 20th Anniversary Gala

Guests of Honor: Morris & Delecia Esformes

Dinner Chairs: Bob & Debra Hartman

Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago

Make your reservation, make a contribution to CTN and / or place an ad in the Dinner Journal at www.torahnetwork.org/dinner.htm



A unique opportunity to combine a great kosher lunch with quality Jewish learning, while giving dignity and respect to developmentally challenged young adults.

Wednesday, September 1, 2010. 11:30 am – Networking & Lunch / 12:00 - Workshop
At The Northbrook JCC 300 Revere Drive, Cost: \$15 (includes lunch)

www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm

info@torahnetwork.org



**You're Jewish?
We saved
YOU a seat!**

High Holiday
Learner Services.
No Hebrew required!
No Membership Required!

Join us for inspiring, relevant, meaningful services
that are both traditional and totally alternative.

Watch
for
Details

**Rosh Hashanah is September 9.
And this year it can be the most
meaningful and enjoyable day of
your year.**

**See next week's Shabbat fax for
complete details about the CTN
User-Friendly High-Holiday
Services.**

**Can't wait? Give us a call at
773.761.0400 x202**

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: SHOF'TIM (DEUTERONOMY 16:18 - 21:9)

This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored by the extended CTN Family, in honor of Naomi Goldberger & Niv Shicly, on their engagement. "May you build a beautiful Jewish home together!"

1. Loving your G-d and constantly walking in His ways. (19:9)

'Walking' in G-d's ways.

It's an important choice of words.

Because walking is not necessarily the fastest way to get somewhere.

But sometimes it's the safest.

... Which is an important lesson for Jewish growth.

Because we know how it is. How sometimes we can get discouraged.

About our level of Jewish knowledge. And Jewish observance.

"I know so little. I'll never catch up." And, "I'll never be able to do the whole thing anyway."

So we do nothing. Don't even start.

... And that's a shame. Because sometimes, taking small steps is the only way to reach the goal.

... Take Shabbat as an example. It can be wonderful.

A day to get in touch with family. Community. G-d. And with ourselves.

But it may seem like too much. To do the whole thing. Every week.

... So start small.

Light Shabbat candles. Have a Shabbat dinner. Choose a prayer you find meaningful. Or set aside time for some Torah study.

... Small steps are meaningful.

And they add up.

▪ *Here's a great insight someone once shared at a CTN class.*

He and a friend had joined a bowling league. And they were at pretty much the same level.

... Not all that great.

But soon his friend started doing better. Much better.

So he asked him his secret.

... "Simple. When you bowl, you aim for the pins.

And they're pretty far away. Pretty hard to hit.

Me? I just look at the arrows.

Right down there in front of me.

And then - without ever thinking about the pins - I knock them all down."

... It's a good lesson for bowling.

And a great lesson for life.

Because – as important as having a goal is – sometimes we need to forget about the goal.

And just focus on taking the small steps.

A DEEPER LOOK

"Appoint for yourselves judges and officers at the gates of your cities." (16:18)

The Jewish mystics teach an important lesson from this verse. A lesson that is especially valuable with the High Holidays around the corner.

... That it's not just talking to society. But also to the individual.

Because we all have 'gates' through which we connect to the outside world.

... Our mouth. Our ears. And our eyes.

And we also need to be our own 'judges and officers'. To stop and think, before we say something. Hear something. Or see something.

And make a judgment call. Will it make someone feel good? Or bad?

Will it make me a more spiritual person? A more sensitive person? Or less?

... 'Stop, think and judge.' It's a powerful tool that will help make us better people.

And the world a better place.

THIS MONDAY: CTN YJP SUMMER EVENT



Young Jewish Professionals Relationship Seminar

by Chana Levitan, Author, "I Only Want to Get Married Once"

Monday, August 16, 2010

7:00 pm

2020 North Lincoln Park West, Chicago - Party Room

This Monday, August 16, 7 pm

**2020 N. Lincoln Park West, Chicago
Party Room**

www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm

**Can't wait? Call Rabi Moshe Katz at
773.761.0400 x202**



Shabbat Shalom and have a wonderful week.

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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