



Climb Higher this Passover

Will you be at a Passover Seder this year? Would you like it to be more meaningful? More special?

It can be.

Join Rabbi Doni Deutsch's Torah study group this Wednesday evening, March 17, as we explore Passover and the Seder through the writings of the Talmud and the Jewish mystics.

And this year, appreciate Passover at a whole new level.

A Deeper Look at Passover
Wednesday, March 17, 8:15 pm
At the CTN Center, 2832 West Touhy Ave.
info@torahnetwork.org



Home for the
Wondering Jew.™

THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX[©]

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

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 21 FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2010 / 26 ADAR 5770 CANDLE LIGHTING: 5:33 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 6:44 (CHICAGO)

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: VAYAKHAIL - PEKUDAI (EXODUS 35:1 - 40:38)

This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is dedicated by the entire Pevitz family in loving memory of Trudy Pevitz, on the occasion of her first Yartzeit.

1. Six days you shall work, but the seventh day is Shabbat to G-d. (35:2)

Think of a man hired to manage a company. The owner gives him complete control.

The manager works hard.

Becomes very successful.

... And very busy.

He doesn't have a free minute.

And each time the owner calls to talk to him, he gets the same message:

"I'm sorry. The manager is tied up right now.

He asked if you could call back later."

... Sure the manager is busy.

But no time for the boss?

Not a very good idea!

... And that's exactly the point of Shabbat.

Judaism teaches that G-d created the world.

And then He gave it to us.

To perfect it. And to enjoy it.

... So we get busy. Very busy.

And then somehow, we get so busy – that we forget about G-d.

Shabbat says: Remember that G-d is the Boss.

Take one day a week – and get in touch with Him.

▪ *There's an old Jewish story of a family in Czarist Russia.*

Life was really tough. They were barely able to get by.

One day, the Czar passes by their hut. He happens to be in a good mood.

And he decides to help them.

"Your worries are over. I will give you all the land you desire."

The Czar takes a stake and drives it into the ground outside their hut. He then hands the man three more stakes.

"Walk as far as you like – and then plant another one of these in the ground.

Then turn right, walk again as far as you want, and put in another one. And then do it again.

The whole area within the stakes will be yours. And it's completely up to you.

You decide how much land you'll get."

The farmer can't believe his good fortune.

He's thinking: "I'll be rich. I won't have to work anymore!

I'll just rent out the land and live off the income!

I'll finally have time to spend with my family.

And to do the Torah study I've always pushed off. This is great!"

He thanks the Czar profusely. And begins walking.

He walks for about an hour. Then he thinks to himself: "This is a lot of land. More than enough."

And he is about to stop. To drive in the second stake.

When he thinks to himself: "One second. I can go a little further.

And get more land.

I'll have even more money.

Think of all the good I'll be able to do with it.

Why stop now?"

So he continues walking.

Soon he thinks about it again. And is about to stop. But he catches himself.

"The Czar said I can go as far as I want. I might as well go a little further.

I'll stop soon. And then I'll be able to spend so much time with my family.

To study. To help people."

So he keeps walking ...

And, the story goes, he is still walking.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Happiness.

It doesn't come from having the best of everything.

... But from making the best of everything we have. "



Shabbat Shalom and have a great week!

Rabbi Moshe Katz

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