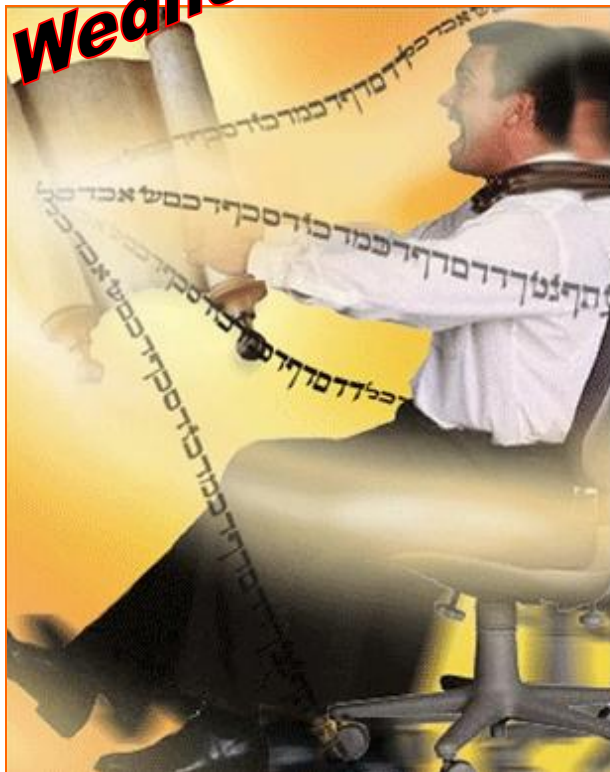


Class Resumes this Wednesday



Let *the*
words
come *to*
life!

Growth. Spirituality. Insight. And tradition. All in one amazing hour of Torah Study.

Join Rabbi Doni Deutsch each Wednesday evening for a unique and powerful look at a 3000 year old best seller. You'll discover the depth of Torah's stories, the mysteries of its laws and the relevance of its lessons, through centuries of Talmudic and mystical commentaries – all brought down to earth and applied to our everyday lives.

No matter what your background and prior Torah study experience, this class is for you.

It's the kind of Torah Study you wish they had back in Hebrew School!

Torah Study with Rabbi Doni Deutsch
Wednesdays, 8:15 pm, at the CTN Center, 2832 W. Touhy
info@torahnetwork.org



Home for the
Wondering Jew™

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: VAYIGASH (GENESIS 44:18 - 47:27)

This week's CTN Shabbat Fax by an avid Shabbat Fax reader with the prayer that the teachings of Rabbis Deutsch and Katz continue to bring spiritual healing and growth to large numbers of our fellow Jews.

1. And Joseph's brothers said: "Please forgive us for the wrong we did to you." And they fell before him to beg his forgiveness. And Joseph said to them: "Don't be afraid. I will take care of you and your children." And Joseph comforted them ... (50:17-21)

Asking for forgiveness.

And forgiving.

According to Jewish tradition they are both obligations.

As the Code of Jewish Law tells us: "If you have hurt someone, you will not be forgiven by G-d, until you ask that person to forgive you.

If he is not ready to forgive you the first time - you must try again and again.

And if someone hurt you, do not be cruel, but forgive him."

And Joseph teaches an important lesson about how to forgive. What that responsibility is about. ... He doesn't just say 'I forgive you'. And leave it at that.

He comforts them. Tells them that he will help them in every way possible.

Because while it may be their job to 'feel bad'.

His job isn't just to forgive. But to try to make them feel good.

▪ **Rabbi Yisrael Kanievsky.** *One of our generation's leading Torah scholars. An awe inspiring combination of great Torah knowledge, piety, and amazing humility.*

The Rabbi had once scolded a young boy who seemed to be misbehaving. But it turned out that he was mistaken. And he apologized to the boy.

One Shabbat morning, six years later, this boy was celebrating his Bar Mitzvah. And people were surprised to see that the aged Rabbi Kanievsky had walked very far to attend.

Someone asked him about it. And he explained.

"Six years ago, I said something that hurt this child. I felt terrible and apologized. And he said that he forgives me.

But I felt that I had not done enough. Because then he was a child.

Today he became an adult. I wanted to speak with him again.

I wanted to make sure that as an adult, he accepts my apologies and forgives me as well."

2. And Jacob blessed Joseph's sons. He said: 'The Jewish People will use you as a blessing. They will say to their children: 'May G-d make you like Menashe and Ephraim'. (48:20)

Blessing the children. It's a beautiful custom.

And it is still done today. Thousands of years later.

At the Shabbat table, many Jewish parents bless their children. Using these very words.

▪ ***Early memories of a child are precious .***

And powerful.

They remain with them. Etched in their minds.

... Which should give us something to think about.

What memories will we give our children?

A big birthday party?

A trip to Disney World?

They're fine.

... *But it can be so much more.*

It can be memories of a very special time.

Time set aside for them.

Once a week.

Every week.

... *The Shabbat meal.*

Maybe there's a lot going on. And maybe there are even lots of grownups at the table.

But first, it's time for them. The children.

A time to connect.

To tell them: *"You are precious. We love you.*

And we have very high hopes for you.

As human beings.

And as Jews.

Make great Jews your role models.

Become great.

And make a difference to the Jewish People."

And most importantly, we tell them: *"We believe in you."*

... *And they will never forget it.*



Shabbat Shalom and have a great week!

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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