

To:

Living Life to its Fullest #2

More Powerful Tools for Getting Pleasure and Meaning Out of Life!

Please note that this 'Part 2' is a completely self contained session, so whether or not you attended the first workshop, you should not miss this one!

Jewish tradition has amazing tools that will make a real difference in your life.

Guaranteed.

Short, simple things to say, think and do, that will help you appreciate and enjoy all of life's gifts. And will help bring real spirituality into your busy life.

In just seconds a day.

... Little things. That will make a big difference.

Learn them at this unique seminar.

"One of the best evenings I have had for a long time. I could not go to sleep when I got home; I was very deep in thought about your words of wisdom ..."

Lydia Kamerlink, Attorney at Law, Kamerlink, Stark, McCormack & Powers LLC

"I thoroughly enjoyed your program. The lessons you shared helped me focus hard on living life to its fullest ... I am learning something about myself and life every day. Thank you!"

Bob Mednick, Member, Advisory Council to the U.S. Comptroller General

"I had a great time at the discussion ... it will definitely help improve my life."

Jonathan Erlich, Medical Student, University of Chicago

Monday, July 18, 2011 - 7 pm

At The CTN Center, 2832 W. Touhy, Chicago

Followed by refreshments, drinks & schmoozing

\$10 including workbook. Advance registration required

info@torahnetwork.org or 773.761.0400 x208

Registration: www.torahnetwork.org/htm/register.htm



"The Jewish Literacy Course was fascinating, educational, and uplifting. Rabbi Katz is a gifted teacher with a knack for using metaphor and humor to make his lessons both enjoyable and memorable. My wife and I looked forward to each session and discussed what we learned for days if not weeks afterwards. I couldn't recommend the class more strongly. It's a class that every Jew - both he who is deeply familiar with his Jewishness and he who has just begun learning - can benefit from immensely."

(Oren Dekalo, CTN Participant)

THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX[©]

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

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 35 FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2011 / 6 TAMUZ 5771 CANDLE LIGHTING: 8:07 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 9:17 (CHICAGO)

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: BALAK (NUMBERS 22:2 - 25:9)

This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored by Alex and Anna Vaysman, in honor of our grandparents, Maria & Motl Uretskiy, Ilya & Zhanna Vinokur, Riva & the late Yaakov Vaysman z"l, and the late Israel & Sofia Shtrambrand z"l. May their memory be a blessing.

1. *Balaam got up in the morning, saddled his donkey, and went with the officers of Moab. (22:21)*

Background: It was almost forty years since the Exodus. And Balak, the king of the nation of Moab, is frightened by the growth of the Jewish nation.

So he asks a non-Jewish prophet, Balaam, to curse the Jews.

It's interesting how Jewish tradition picks up on a seemingly minor detail in this story.

... Balaam has many servants. Yet the Torah tells us that he saddles his mule by himself.

Why? Because he's excited to start out on his evil mission.

There's another time the Torah makes this point.

It's about our forefather Abraham.

When he was going to fulfill G-d's commandment.

And there too it tells us that Abraham got up in the morning.

And saddled his donkey by himself.

... It's an important lesson.

Think about some of the things that are part of our lives.

Maybe it's the charitable causes we believe in. Or our children's Jewish education.

And our commitment to Israel. And so on.

... If we are excited about something - we get personally involved.

Because it's *really* important to us.

And we want to make sure it gets done.

Instead of leaving it to others to do.

And just *assuming* that it will get done.

2. "*Let me die as a righteous person ...*" (23:10)

Balaam was a 'spiritual' man.

He knew that a human being has a soul. And that the soul is eternal.

And his deepest wish is that he should have eternal life.

That when he dies, he goes to the *World of the Righteous*.

... But he forgot one thing.

That eternity doesn't 'happen'.

... *We create it.*

How? By living an ethical life. A moral life.

By living up to our responsibilities to our fellow man.

And our responsibilities to G-d.

The Torah's bottom line: If you want to die as a great person ... live like one.

- Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach.

He was recognized as one of the greatest Torah scholars of our generation. And especially for his amazing commitment to helping others.

His funeral in Jerusalem about 15 years ago, was attended by over three hundred thousand people.

... *It was during the procession in downtown Jerusalem. A policeman was desperately trying to redirect traffic.*

At one point, he asked someone: "Who in the world was this man?"

Boy! If I knew my funeral would be like this – I'd drop dead right now!"

... But we know it doesn't work like that!

He died a certain way.

Because he lived a certain way.

TORAH STUDY AND LESSONS FOR LIFE WITH RABBI DEUTSCH. WEDNESDAYS AT CTN

Join us any Wednesday, 8:15 pm, at the CTN Center for a unique weekly Torah Study session with Rabbi Doni Deutsch. See for yourself why participants - young and old, married and single, whether or not they have strong backgrounds in Torah study say things like:

"Rabbi Deutsch brings such a brilliant, enthusiastic, and optimistic approach to Torah study that he gives a new spiritual strength to his students each week. The class is thoroughly uplifting and invigorating."

"He draws upon his enormous reservoir of Torah knowledge to give his students a new lesson, a different emphasis, a fresh perspective... Rabbi Deutsch has the uncanny ability to connect 'now and here' with the 'then and there' ..."

Together we'll explore our 3300 year-old 'best seller' and learn not just the stories and traditions, but drawing on the Talmud and centuries of Torah commentary, we will discover practical and valuable 'take-home' lessons for self-improvement and spiritual growth.

Each week is a stand alone class so 'perfect attendance' is not required, and advance registration is not required - so just show up! We'll be glad to have you!

For more information, please contact us at info@torahnetwork.org. Hope to see you Wednesday!



Shabbat Shalom and have a wonderful week.

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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