



The Ilene C. Leon Chicago Conference for Jewish Women

Jewish Growth by women for women

Featuring a day of great speakers, fascinating topics,
and wonderful spirit, with outstanding scholars,
educators and community leaders, including:

Keynote Speaker:

Lori Palatnik

Renowned lecturer and author, founder of the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project, and regular contributor to aish.com, where her 'Lori Live' blog has 50,000 viewers each month.

Presenters:

Becky Udman

Internationally acclaimed 'Love and Logic'® Parenting and Relationships Instructor and Pre School Director, Torah Day School of Dallas

Esti Deutsch

Certified Life and Relationships Coach, Director of CTN Women's Learning, and teacher and mentor to women throughout the community

Judy Rajchenbach

Lawyer, community leader and popular instructor in a wide variety of Torah topics at Jewish adult education programs around the country

Tema Taxer

Jewish Studies Instructor, Erika Neter Meyer Women's Learning Division of Congregation Adas Yeshurun and Daughters of Israel Jewish Bridal Instructor

For complete details and CCJW schedule, please go to
www.torahnetwork.org/ccjw.htm
email: ccjw@torahnetwork.org
or call 773.761.0400 x207

*Get ready to pamper
yourself from the inside out*



Home for the
Wondering Jew.™

THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX[©]

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

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 31 FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2011 / 16 IYAR 5771 CANDLE LIGHTING: 7:54 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 9:05 (CHICAGO)

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

Torah Portion: BAMIDBAR (NUMBERS 1:1 - 4:20)

This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored anonymously with a prayer for peace in Israel and around the world.

1. G-d said to Moses ... Take a census of the community ... You shall count them ... you and Aaron ... (1:1-4)

It sounds like a simple story: *The Jews leave Egypt. Travel through the desert. And Moses and Aaron are commanded to take a census.*

... Except that when you think about it, it's actually a little strange.

After all, they are in the desert.

And there aren't many 'community resources' to allocate.

So what's the point of the census?

... Jewish tradition says that it's to teach us a lesson.

Because the point isn't just the number they come up with at the end.

But the process of counting itself.

Because counting symbolizes taking a large group ... and focusing on the value of each individual.

Recognizing that each individual has a unique contribution to make.

... And not only that, but look who's doing the counting!

Moses and Aaron!

... *This seems even stranger.*

Sure a census is important. And should be done by responsible people.

But Moses and Aaron themselves!

What happened to the all-important skill of delegating?

... The answer is, sure someone else could have done it.

But the Torah wants Moses and Aaron to do it.

To teach us a powerful lesson.

... *That we're never too smart or talented to learn from others.*

The two greatest leaders – Moses and Aaron themselves – did the counting.

... *Emphasizing the uniqueness of each individual.*

Because even great people can gain from every person they meet.

And that's exactly what they – and we – should always try to do.

As the Talmud teaches: *'Who is wise? He who learns from everyone.'*

STORY OF THE WEEK

1948. A huge banquet is held in Chicago.

A fund-raiser for Israeli Bonds.

Among the many hundreds of people who were there, was Rabbi Mendel Kaplan.

A great Torah scholar who came to Chicago after the war.

He devoted his life to teaching Torah.

From books. And by example.

... The next day he taught his students a very important lesson.

He spoke about the impression the banquet had on him.

... And it really was quite an impressive event.

People all over town were talking about things like the size of the crowd.

And of course, how much money was raised.

... Rabbi Kaplan's perspective?

"It was so inspiring.

Watching Jews stand on line in order to give Tzedakah".

LET'S DO SHABBAT ... THIS WEDNESDAY

Chicago Torah Network presents



LUNCH, LEARN & MITZVAH:

"LET'S DO SHABBAT ... ON WEDNESDAY"

Learn the how, what and why of things like candle lighting ... Kiddush ... blessing the children ... and many other rituals."

**Lunch, Learn
&
MITZVAH**
1st Wednesday of the month

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

Enjoy Rabbi Moshe Katz's popular workshop, "LET'S DO SHABBAT - ON WEDNESDAY"
- Learn the how, what and why of things like candle lighting...
Kiddush... blessing the children... and many other rituals.

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Northbrook JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook

Networking and Lunch: 11:30 am

Workshop: 12:00 pm

Advanced Paid Registration: \$15

At the Door: \$20

(includes lunch)

info@torahnetwork.org or 773-761-0400

The Lunch, Learn & Mitzvah Series is dedicated by the Hartman Family Foundation in memory of Wilfred Lefkovitch

Shabbat Shalom and have a great week!

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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