

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network

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**Sunday, February 27, 2011**  
**9:00 am - 1:15 pm**  
The CTN Center  
2832 West Touhy Avenue, Chicago, [view map](#)  
1:15 - 2:00 PM Optional light lunch and question & answer session

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The CTN Five-Week Hebrew Reading Crash Course, begins February 8

**Busy during hebrew school?**



# THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX<sup>©</sup>

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

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 14 FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2011 / 2 SHVAT 5771 CANDLE LIGHTING: 4:15 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 5:26 (CHICAGO)

*Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!*

## TORAH PORTION: BO (EXODUS 10:1 - 13:16)

*This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored in memory of Samuel Allen Schwartz - Yeshayahu Asher ben Yoel Phishal z"l, on his 22<sup>nd</sup> Yahrzeit on the second of Shevat. Your love and teachings live on in your children and grandchildren and beyond. You are remembered, missed and loved.*

### **1. You shall tell your children and grandchildren ... how I performed miracles in Egypt ... You will then know that I am G-d. (10:2)**

Teaching our children. And grandchildren.

It's our responsibility. And the future of the Jewish People depends on it.

To see to it that they know our history. The miracle of our survival.

That they know about G-d.

And what is demanded of us.

As human beings. And as Jews.

And that they experience the beauty of Jewish living.

*But there's something striking about the wording of this verse.*

*"Tell your children and your grandchildren.*

*And you will realize that I am G-d."*

*... You?*

Isn't the point of teaching our children, that *they* learn about G-d?

*... The Torah is teaching us a powerful lesson.*

Because when we see to it that our children learn about Judaism.

Something wonderful happens.

*... We grow Jewishly as well.*

We learn by teaching them.

*And we learn from them.*

### **A story told by a soldier in the Israeli Army.**

*"I had drifted far from my Jewish heritage.*

*It simply was not a priority for me.*

*Then, one day, we were in Lebanon. And we were attacked.*

*I was separated from my unit. And was wounded. Bleeding heavily.*

*I knew that unless I was found, I had little time left.*

... My last hours.

What should I think about?

I thought about some of the things I had done in my life.

I was pretty accomplished. And was always proud of it.

But that didn't do it.

I was also a lover of literature. Very well read.

So I started to think about some of my favorites. Classics.

But somehow, that didn't do it either.

Not at a time like this.

Then a picture came to my mind. From my childhood.

My Zayde. My grandfather.

He was holding my hand.

We were walking to Synagogue.

And then another picture.

My Bubby. My grandmother.

She was lighting Shabbat candles. And saying a silent prayer.

For her children. And grandchildren.

These thoughts gave me comfort. Warmth. Meaning.

And then I began to think. What if G-d forbid my grandchildren were in this situation?

What would they think about?

Will I have given them things that are spiritual? Eternal?

Things that connects them to their past. And give them a meaningful future.

... And then something else hit me.

Do we – and our children – need these things only at the last minutes of life?

Don't we need them every day?"

#### THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

'Yesterday is in the past.

Tomorrow is in the future.

Today is a gift.

... That's why it's called 'the present'.



Shabbat Shalom and best wishes for a wonderful week.

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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