

To:

CTN

LUNCH

LEARN

&

MITZVAH

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.

The lunch will be provided by the KJ Café, a joint effort of Keshet, Bernard Weinger JCC and the Sandwich Club. KJ Café is unique. It is staffed by young adults of Keshet which provides educational, recreational and vocational programs for Jewish children and young adults with special needs.

Lunch will be followed by Rabbi Moshe Katz's popular workshop, "Let's Schmooze About Gossip": Becoming better people by watching what we say about others.

Please join us for a great lunch, great learning and a great mitzvah!

Lunch Learn & Mitzvah

**Wednesday, November 3, 2010**

At Northbrook JCC 300 Revere Drive

**Networking & Lunch – 11:30 am**

**Workshop – 12:00 pm**

**Cost – \$15 (includes lunch)**

Advance registration required: [www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm](http://www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm)

Info: [info@torahnetwork.org](mailto:info@torahnetwork.org) or 773 761 0400 x201

Dedicated by the Hartman Family Foundation in memory of Wilfred Lefkovich.



Home for the  
Wondering Jew.™

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

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

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 2 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010 / 7 MAR-CHESHVAN 5771 CANDLE LIGHTING: 5:49 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 6:57 (CHICAGO)

*Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!*

## TORAH PORTION: LECH-LECHA (GENESIS 12:1-17:27)

*This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is dedicated wishing Mazel Tov to Naomi Goldberger and Niv Shikley upon their upcoming marriage. May the extended CTN Family continue to celebrate simchas!*

### **1. The people of Sodom were extremely wicked and sinful to G-d. (13:13)**

*Sodom and Gemmorah.*

What comes to mind?

A hedonistic and immoral society.

*Which is what they were.*

But in Jewish tradition, the people of *Sodom* are infamous for another reason.

And were destroyed for another reason.

*They were not charitable.*

The people of *Sodom* were very wealthy.

But they kept it for themselves.

Wouldn't share it with others.

And in Jewish thought, *Tzedakah* isn't just a nice thing to do.

*... It's an obligation.*

*And not being charitable is evil.*

### **2. And G-d said to Abraham: 'Go for yourself ... to the Land (of Israel) ... (12:1)**

The beginning of Jewish history.

And of the Jewish mission.

G-d's first words to Abraham?

"Go. For yourself."

Not for Me.

But for you.

*It's an important message for us today.*

As we think about our future. About Jewish continuity.

*We want our children to be involved Jews.*

And sometimes, we say things like: '*Do it for Bubby and Zaidy. For your grandparents' sake.*

*Do it for all the Jews who gave up their lives for Judaism.*

And: *Do it to show the Hitlers of the world that they did not succeed.'*

They may all be true.

*But they are not enough.*

Our children need to hear something else about Judaism.

*'Do it for you.'*

We need to show them how Judaism will enhance their lives.

The beauty of *Shabbat*.

The meaning of Jewish ritual.

And the excitement of Jewish learning.

### WHAT BEING JEWISH MEANS TO ME ...

*"To me, being Jewish means having help in answering life's most fundamental questions.*

*Such as: 'How did I come to this place?'*

*And, 'Now that I am here, how should I live?'*

*My faith ... begins with a joyful gratitude that there is a God Who created the universe.*

*And ... gave us laws and values to ... improve our lives.*

*God also gave us a purpose and a destiny. To do justice ...*

*In trying to live according to these principles, I am helped by daily prayer and religious rituals.*

*Such as observance of the Sabbath – a time to stop and appreciate all that God has given us.*

*I also find strength and humility in being linked to something so much larger and longer lasting than myself."*

**Joseph I. Lieberman (United States Senator, Connecticut)**

### FROM JEWISH MYSTICAL THOUGHT ...

#### ***"Blessed are You, G-d, Shield of Abraham" (From the Daily Prayers)***

In Jewish mystical thought, *'Shield of Abraham'* goes beyond how G-d protected our forefather thousands of years ago.

And beyond how he continued to protect us – Abraham's children – throughout our long history.

On the deeper level?

*Shield of Abraham* means that G-d preserves the spark of Abraham within each and every Jew.

*... No matter how far he or she may have strayed.*



*Shabbat Shalom and have a great week.*

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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