

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network

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# 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.

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

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.

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

The Lunch, Learn, & Mitzvah Learning Series is 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 3 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2010 / 14 MAR-CHESHVAN 5771 CANDLE LIGHTING: 5:38 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 6:47 (CHICAGO)

*Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!*

## TORAH PORTION: VAYAIRA (GENESIS 18:1 - 22:24)

*This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored with huge Mazel Tov wishes to Boris Maslovsky and Nechama Grossman on their marriage this Sunday. May you build a beautiful Jewish home together! From all your friends at CTN.*

### **1. And Abraham was sitting at the entrance of his tent, in the heat of the day. And he saw three men ... (18:1)**

It's a simple story. With a powerful lesson.

'Abraham was sitting at the entrance of his tent. In the heat of the day.'

Why? What was he doing there?

Jewish tradition says that he was looking for tired and thirsty travelers. So he could care for their needs.

Imagine. Abraham is old. Weak. Recuperating from his circumcision.

And it's very hot out.

And the one thing on his mind?

... Helping others.

Because that's what 'chessed' - kindness - is all about.

Not just the willingness to help when called upon.

... But being in touch - really in touch - with people. And their needs.

So that no matter what else I have going on.

No matter how busy I am.

I never forget their needs. And their feelings.

Just like I never forget my own.

▪ **Rabbi Shneur Kotler.** *He was the Dean of the largest Yeshiva in the world.*

*The school had a huge budget. Which fell on his shoulders. In addition, he occupied leadership positions in numerous communal organizations. He rarely had a moment to himself.*

*It was the Yeshiva's annual fund-raising banquet.*

*Months and months of preparation went into it.*

*And well over a thousand people attended.*

*Rabbi Kotler was in the hotel lobby. Personally greeting each guest.*

*The next morning he went over to one of the Yeshiva's new students.*

*"I want to apologize.*

*Last night your father introduced himself to me.*

*And at first I didn't recognize your name.*

*I feel bad. I hope that he wasn't offended ..."*

... Think about it.

Having so much on his mind.

Yet not allowing himself to forget about someone else's feelings.

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Maimonides. One of the greatest Jewish scholars ever. And personal physician to the Sultan of Egypt.

... The story goes that someone once spread terrible rumors about Maimonides. And the Sultan was outraged.

He had the offender brought to Maimonides. And he told Maimonides to cut out the man's tongue.

When the Sultan left, Maimonides greeted the frightened man warmly, and gave him valuable gifts. To show that he forgave him. And felt no hate towards him.

The man was overcome with thanks. And wherever he went, he spoke of the greatness and kindness of Maimonides.

When the Sultan found out, he ordered Maimonides to the palace. 'Why have you failed to carry out my orders?

'I did carry out your orders, your Majesty.

I cut out the man's evil tongue.

... And put in a good tongue in its place.'

### JOKE OF THE WEEK: AN HONEST PRAYER

*"Dear G-d:*

*So far today I am doing all right.*

*I haven't gossiped, gotten angry, stolen or cheated anybody.*

*I haven't been grumpy, nasty or selfish.*

*But, G-d, in a few minutes I am going to get out of bed.*

*And from then on I am really going to need a lot of help.*

*Amen."*



*Shabbat Shalom and have a great week.*

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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