

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network .

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To:



A Woman's Prayer

Learn how to make prayer work – or work better – for you. To make it a positive, exciting, and rewarding part of your life. And discover the unique power of individual prayer, using your own words ... the way it was done in Biblical times.

A special CTN learning opportunity for women, with Jerusalem's

Rabbi Menachem Nissel

Thursday, February 16, 8 pm, at The CTN Center, 2832 W. Touhy

Suggested donation: \$10. Students: \$5. ~ info@torahnetwork.org

Rabbi Menachem Nissel is the author of 'Rigshei Lev - Women and Tefillah: Perspectives, Laws and Customs' (Targum Press), and a very popular lecturer at various Yeshivas and seminaries in Jerusalem. Rabbi Nissel's unique combination of Torah scholarship and outstanding kiruv talent has allowed him to play a leadership role in training kiruv professionals, through the Ner L'Elef Teachers Training Program. He is also the Rabbinical Resource for NCSY, and is invited to speak in communities around the world, where he inspires audiences on a wide variety of topics. Don't miss this important presentation.



Home for the
Wondering Jew™

THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX[©]

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

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 15 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012 / 10 SHVAT 5772 CANDLE LIGHTING: 4:49 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 5:59 (CHICAGO)

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: B'SHALACH (EXODUS 13:17 - 17:16)

This week's Shabbat Fax is sponsored by Rabbi Moshe & Bracha Katz and Rabbi Doni & Esti Deutsch, wishing Mazel Tov to Peter & Mara Warman on the birth of their son. May he grow to be a source of great joy and pride to you, your family, and the entire Jewish People!

1. *The people were thirsty for water, and they complained ... "Why have you brought us up from Egypt ...?" Moshe cried out to G-d: "What shall I do for this people? A bit more and they will stone me!" G-d said to Moshe, "Pass before the people... (17:3)*

The Jewish People are in the desert. And there is no water. They get really upset. And they let it out on their leader. Moshe.

... It's never been easy to be a Jewish leader. And this was an especially hard time.

It's almost like they forget everything good Moshe ever did for them.

... Not just: *"We need water"*.

But, *"Why did you take us out of Egypt!"*

Moshe is also very upset. And he cries out to G-d. *'What should I do? They're going to stone me?'*

... The Talmud says that G-d was not pleased with Moshe.

And that when G-d says *'Pass before the people ...'*, He's giving Moshe a subtle message:

... *'You say they'll stone you?*

Go ahead. Try it. Pass before them.

You'll see. They won't stone you!

... *So why are you talking bad about my children.'*

It's a powerful message. About how G-d wants us to deal with people. Even when they do something wrong.

... It's like if someone you know is having problems with her child. Maybe even serious problems.

And you say to the parent: *'Your child did something horrible! Who knows what he'll do next!'*

... The parent gets defensive. Irritated. A little insulted.

And you may even lose a friend.

... Because she loves her child.

And of course she knows there's a problem. But there's a right and wrong way to handle it.

... *You care? Great.*

You have advice? Maybe even a solution? ... Wonderful! Let's hear it.

But don't tell me that that my child is bad!

... *That's not what I want to hear!'*

... And that's exactly what G-d says to Moshe:

'Don't speak that way about My children.'

... Which is something to think about next time we're about to talk about someone else. About to speak *lashon hora*. Gossip.

... Remember that we're all G-d's children. And G-d is a very loving parent.

Someone did something wrong? So address it in a constructive way, if you can.

... *But don't talk bad about them.*

Because that's not what G-d wants to hear!

LIFE AFTER THE SUPER BOWL

In 1992, Alan Veingrad helped secure his team – the Dallas Cowboys – a Super Bowl victory.

... Today, Alan and his family observe Shabbat.

He grew up with what he says was a 'very secular' background. His parents insisted on Hebrew school to prepare for his Bar Mitzvah. But "I just didn't connect. After my parents dropped me off, I'd walk in the building and go out the back door. I spent the time throwing pebbles into a lake".

After retirement from sports, he married and started a family. The Veingrads settled in Fort Lauderdale and soon welcomed their first child, Jeri Lauren. Local Rabbis invited them for Shabbat meals. The Shabbat atmosphere and inspiring Torah discussions whet Alan's yearnings...

His cousin and personal radiologist, Dr. Jonathan Rubin, who examined Veingrad's x-rays after each football injury, invited the Veingrads for a Shabbat meal. And during the meal he asked him, 'Alan, would you go to a Torah class?' He went, and found the Rabbi's class particularly inspiring.

One day he read an article in the Fort Worth Star Telegram that described the former lineman's current life. It spoke of his 'busy lifestyle' of kayaking, martial arts, biking, landscaping and skateboarding with his kids.

Veingrad read it and thought, 'something's missing' – and he decided to start doing Shabbat. 'My family was right behind me.'

Veingrad sees Shabbat as 25 precious hours to recharge. 'I encourage people who sit at home on Friday night with the television, to give themselves a chance to do a real Shabbat in a Rabbi's home. And compare the two experiences.'

... The best line of the whole story probably came from Alan's father:

'Before he passed away, my father called me and said, 'I'm prouder of you with a yarmulke on your head than with a Dallas Cowboy or Green Bay Packer helmet!'

(For complete article, please see

http://www.aish.com/spirituality/odysseys/Life_after_the_Super_Bowl.asp)



Shabbat Shalom and have a great week!

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