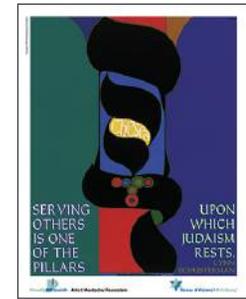


Serving others is one of the pillars upon which Judaism rests.

Lynn Schusterman



What do you think?

Commentary by Sandee Brawarsky

Ethics of the Fathers opens with the dictum, “The world stands upon three things: on the Torah, on worship, and upon acts of kindness.” Lynn Schusterman echoes this teaching in her emphasis on the third pillar, service to others. Every act of kindness, whether a small gesture or a global effort, makes a difference and can potentially transform the world.

Service to others is a responsibility and a privilege, and Schusterman takes both very seriously. She grew up in a family where giving back to society was a core practice. They reached out to individuals by focusing on what was needed, and gave generously with no strings attached. In raising her own family, Schusterman and her late husband, Charles Schusterman, sought to “live by the idea that each of us is worth only what we are willing to give to others.”

- Is there someone in particular who has been an inspiration to you in the area of serving others? What did you do as a result of their inspiration?
- What acts of service can everyone participate in, regardless of income, location, or age?
- Upon which “pillars” does your Judaism rest? Do you agree with Lynn Schusterman that “serving others” is one of the pillars?

What do you see?

Poster Design by Mordechai Rosenstein

Mordechai Rosenstein has been creating Jewish art since 1979 using bright colors and bold Hebrew calligraphy. He produces paintings, murals, silk-screen prints, stained glass, and tapestries, and often incorporates Hebrew letters in flowing form. Many pieces of Rosenstein’s artwork and Judaica are displayed in synagogue interiors across the United States. Rosenstein is a graduate of Philadelphia College of Art, where he was deeply influenced by abstract expressionist Professor Franz Kline.

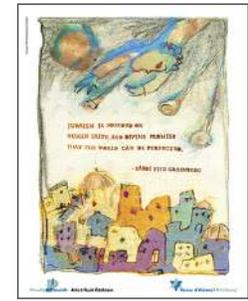
- Describe the different elements you see in this poster and how they suggest meaning for the quote.
- What feelings or moods do the strong colors create for you?
- The Hebrew calligraphy that wraps around the pillar spells “chesed” (loving kindness). What significance can you find in this? Are there other “wrappings” within Judaism that may have inspired the artist?

Please use this guide creatively in your programs. Learn how other organizations have used the posters, and submit a posting about your program, in The Exchange at www.voices-visions.org/exchange.

Copyright © 2015 Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Judaism is founded on human faith and divine promise that the world can be perfected.

Rabbi Irving “Yitz” Greenberg



What do you think?

Commentary by Rabbi Irving “Yitz” Greenberg

Judaism’s central message is *tikkun olam* (repairing and perfecting the world). The Torah teaches that all humans are called to join in the work of making this earth a better place. We are not alone and can work with God to make this happen. If we devote our lives to perfecting the world, if we partner with the generations before us and build on their accomplishments, if we partner with the incoming generations, educating them to join the mission, then together we will eventually achieve our goal.

To achieve our vision, we will have to overcome poverty, hunger, oppression, war, sickness, and more enemies of life. This accomplishment is called the Messianic Age in Jewish tradition.

- The vision of a repaired world is a lofty and a distant one. How can we sustain work in our own small corner of the world and in our own lives without feeling overwhelmed by the greatness of the task?
- What do you feel is the most important work for you, personally, to help repair the world? What encourages you to do it, and what gets in your way?
- Have you ever felt that you “partnered with God”? When? How did it feel?

What do you see?

Poster Design by Ruah Edelstein

Ruah Edelstein is an animation artist, cinematographer, and cofounder of Lumen Anima, an international amity of creative partnerships that brings together different art forms. She was born in Lithuania, where she began her training in fine arts. Edelstein moved to western Europe to pursue a career in acting and later became interested in animation. Edelstein studied for a Master of Fine Arts at California Institute of the Arts (CalArts), and now serves on their faculty as an instructor of film production. Her film, *Died 100 Times*, brought Edelstein international recognition.

- Describe the colors, layout, and atmosphere of this poster. How do they reflect the quote?
- What do you think each of the elements in the sky could represent?
- What does the style of buildings suggest to you? What is their relationship to the objects at the top?

Please use this guide creatively in your programs. Learn how other organizations have used the posters, and submit a posting about your program, in The Exchange at www.voices-visions.org/exchange.

Copyright © 2015 Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

A Jew is asked to take a leap of action rather than a leap of faith.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel



What do you think?

Commentary by Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz

The theologian Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel teaches us to take a leap into ethical and spiritual action that compels transformation, and not to act by faith alone. The same Heschel also taught: “To be is to stand for.” What do Heschel’s teachings mean for us decades later?

In an era where a plethora of choices can paralyze, people often tend toward conformity, apathy, and disengagement. If one merely follows social trends, our most meaningful and authentic communal activities would disappear.

- What leaps of action would you love to presently make?
- What do you have to solve or overcome before you act?
Does anything hold you back from doing so?
- Heschel’s dictum does not mean that Jews need only act, and not believe. Which beliefs can serve as a strong foundation for action?

What do you see?

Poster Design by Ofra Amit

Ofra Amit is an award-winning Israeli illustrator whose works are featured in magazines, newspapers, and children’s books. She graduated from WIZO Canada Institute of Design in Haifa, Israel, and has been awarded many prestigious honors, including the *Communication Arts’* Illustration Annual, *Applied Arts’* Illustration Annual, Bologna Children’s Books Fair Illustrator’s Exhibition, Andersen Contest, Ben-Yitzhak Award of the Israel Museum, and Society of Illustrators’ 2006 award.

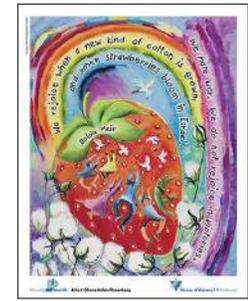
- Describe the elements in this poster and how they portray the quote. Does it change how you originally thought of this quote without the image? How so?
- What is symbolic about the vessel? What does it imply about the giver? What might the flowers represent?
- What do the artist’s choice of colors and the black background convey to you?

Please use this guide creatively in your programs. Learn how other organizations have used the posters, and submit a posting about your program, in The Exchange at www.voices-visions.org/exchange.

Copyright © 2015 Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

We hate war. We do not rejoice in victories. We rejoice when a new kind of cotton is grown, and when strawberries bloom in Israel.

Golda Meir



What do you think?

Commentary by Sarah Gershman

Recently, our family discussed Noah's ark and why God chose a flood to destroy the world. Why not an earthquake or famine? My 7-year-old daughter answered, "Maybe the flood was God's tears."

The flood was tragic. War is tragic. "We hate war." Joy comes not from winning wars, nor from ending floods. With Noah, we rejoice not when the rain ceases, but when the dove returns with a branch in her beak—the promise of renewal. If the floodwaters are God's tears, then the rain that sustains life is like the waters in the womb—nurturing, protective, and giving us space to grow.

- Do you agree that we do not rejoice in victory? Why or why not?
- What invention or innovation makes you particularly joyful or fill you with wonder?
- What about contemporary Israel might elicit a similar response to Golda Meir's wonderment about strawberries and cotton?

What do you see?

Poster Design by Chana Helen Rosenberg

Chana Helen Rosenberg is an Israeli artist whose oil paintings, watercolors, and lino prints are inspired by contemporary Jewish and Israeli life. She incorporates Jewish festivals, celebrations, and characters in her artwork, blending colors and imagery. She is a member of the Association of Israeli Painters and Sculptors, and has displayed her work at exhibitions and online. Rosenberg received her art training and fine arts degree in England, where she first worked as an art teacher.

- Name the different elements that you find in this image. How does each relate to the quote? What emotions does this poster arouse in you?
- Why might the artist have used the imagery of a rainbow and a dove?
- Why do you think the artist has depicted this particular group of people (soldier, kibbutznik, man, woman, and children)?

Please use this guide creatively in your programs. Learn how other organizations have used the posters, and submit a posting about your program, in The Exchange at www.voices-visions.org/exchange.

Copyright © 2015 Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Judaism is about sanctifying life.

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks



What do you think?

Commentary by Dr. Marc Kramer

We have all heard the canard that whereas Christianity is a religion of faith, Judaism is a religion of law. This always struck me as an odd claim. The church is replete with rules, and truly, where would we Jews be without our faith—our *emunah*—our individual and collective will to always believe that better lies just ahead, within reach, if only we would stretch?

Far more satisfying—in fact, deeply gratifying—is Rabbi Jonathan Sacks’s notion that Judaism is in its essence about sanctifying life. The Hebrew word *l’kadesh* means the conscious, willful act of making something holy, setting aside and transforming the mundane into a vehicle for joyfully acknowledging the Creator of the universe. Judaism, thus, seeks to endow life with holiness.

- Who is responsible for sanctifying life, God or man?
- In what ways do you add holiness to daily life? Are there parts of your daily life that do not feel sanctified? Why?
- Rabbi Sacks states that Judaism is about sanctifying life. How do you complete the sentence: “Judaism is about _____”?

What do you see?

Poster Design by Ilene Winn-Lederer

Ilene Winn-Lederer is an author and illustrator whose images blend the mundane, whimsical, and mystical. The online Magic Eye Gallery showcases many of her original works and custom giclée prints. Her Jewish works include *Between Heaven and Earth: An Illuminated Torah Commentary* and, most recently, *An Illumination of Blessings* (a Kickstarter-funded project), in which Winn-Lederer offers images and commentaries depicting 36 ritual blessings. Winn-Lederer attended the Art Institute of Chicago and the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts, and is a member of the Pittsburgh Society of Illustrators. Her clients include leading newspapers, periodicals, and publishing houses.

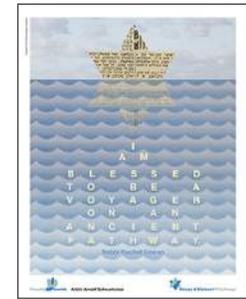
- What are all of the ways that “life” is expressed in this poster?
- How is “sanctification” represented in the image?
- What is unusual about the tree and its setting, and how do these features enrich your understanding of the quote?

Please use this guide creatively in your programs. Learn how other organizations have used the posters, and submit a posting about your program, in The Exchange at www.voices-visions.org/exchange.

Copyright © 2015 Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

I am blessed to be a voyager on an ancient pathway.

Rabbi Rachel Cowan



What do you think?

Commentary by Sandee Brawarsky

When Rabbi Rachel Cowan describes life as a journey, she thinks of joining a path that has been well traversed and cultivated by generations of teachers and spiritual leaders who preceded her. That winding path, which has guided Jews for thousands of years, is layered with wisdom, insight, and tradition. As a contemporary Jewish voyager, she seeks to discover what is ancient and timeless, and at the same time, creates a new path on top of the old by sharing new teachings and interpretations.

- How do you understand the analogy of an “ancient pathway”? Would your image include shared entryways, detours, or bridges?
- “Voyager” often connotes futuristic travel, yet Cowan suggests that we are voyagers on “ancient pathways.” How do you understand this mixed metaphor? Do you feel that you are a voyager on an “ancient pathway” or on an uncharted one?
- What are the responsibilities that accompany a life with ancient foundations? What are the challenges of traversing an “ancient pathway”?

What do you see?

Poster Design by Arnold Schwartzman

Arnold Schwartzman is an Academy Award-winning filmmaker and renowned graphic designer. He has served as the design director for Saul Bass and Associates, has lectured extensively on graphic design and film at many of the leading art institutions throughout the world, and is the author of a number of books. He is active in the Los Angeles Jewish community and has produced films and video exhibits related to Jewish history and the Holocaust. Schwartzman was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for services to the British film industry. He also served as the creative director for the *Masters Series* and the *Proudly Jewish* poster series for Voices & Visions®.

- Describe the components of this poster. What mood do they create?
- Why do you think the artist portrayed this voyage taking place in a very calm setting?
- The boat is made from a folded Yiddish newspaper from 1929 which relates the closing of a yeshiva in the artist’s grandfather’s hometown in Belarus. What does this heirloom add to the image and its interpretation of the quote?

Please use this guide creatively in your programs. Learn how other organizations have used the posters, and submit a posting about your program, in The Exchange at www.voices-visions.org/exchange.

Copyright © 2015 Harold Grinspoon Foundation.