

# DAYENU MOMENTS: SEEING THE GOOD IN OUR TIME

The singing of *Dayenu*'s catchy melody is a highlight of the Passover seder. The simple sound, however, belies a deeper message. From slavery in Egypt to the building of the Temple, each verse notes that had just one of those events occurred, it would have been enough for us! This offering brings the voices of NSCI congregants who have shared moments when what was experienced really was "enough." Even in times of scarcity, we can still choose to see the good and express gratitude.

If only we had figured out that our Zoom seder  
was in fact fully real (not virtual),  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had heard the voice of a friend or seen their face through the glass,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had found a new way to celebrate a birthday,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had figured out how to do our job in an entirely new way,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had gathered for shiva online,  
apart but still together across the miles,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had food in our pantry to get us through that day, that week,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had heard our children making music throughout the house while in lockdown,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had watched seeds sprout into plants,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had harvested those plants into food,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had quarantined for two weeks  
to hold that marvelous miracle in our arms for the first time,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had watched our child playing outside with our grandchildren,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had baked challah for the first time,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had heard the shofar in person in the temple parking lot,  
*Dayenu.*

If only our grandparents got vaccinated,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had received our first Covid vaccination,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we had seen our weary face in the mirror,  
but then looked down at our infant's smile,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we were able to stand alone at the beach,  
*Dayenu.*

If only we reset our expectations about what is enough  
and found ourselves content and joyful about the simple things,  
*Dayenu.*

As we reflect on life since last Passover, a year marked by both devastating loss and many unanticipated gains, a lesson becomes clear: awareness of our incremental progress and gratitude for even the smallest of these miracles propel us forward. It is possible that the Promised Land is not some unattainable place, but rather, the space of Promise that exists wherever we find ourselves, so long as we choose to see it that way.

*(Seder participants might choose to share their own "dayenu" moments here.)*

