

Dear fellow Temple member,

For over 30 years, I have been a member of Temple Shalom and have worked in downtown Boston. For almost 30 years, I have been part of one of the Temple's great traditions - the Downtown Study Group. For decades, Temple members who work or live near downtown Boston have gathered about once a month for a lunchtime study session with our rabbi. In truth, our classes are about half study (every year, a different, fascinating topic) and half schmoozing.

If you work or live downtown (or don't mind a mid-day commute), I heartily encourage you to join us downtown, for a little studying, and for a chance to get to know Rabbis Abrasley and Berry, who will be alternating sessions, a little better.

This year, we will be meeting at noon on Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, March 6 and May 1 at the offices of Ghouston & Storrs, 400 Atlantic Ave., Boston. The cost is \$75, which covers lunch. The topic will be *21 Lessons for the 21st Century*, a provocative, new book by historian and philosopher Yuval Noah Harari. As Professor Harari writes in his introduction, the book poses the questions: "What are today's greatest challenges and most important changes? What should we pay attention to? What should we teach our kids?" Check out Bill Gates' [NYTimes review](#).

You can sign up [here](#). For more information or questions contact [Anne Fried](#) or me. Scott Birnbaum