

From the Rabbi:

Pesach is looming and we are all preparing. I wanted to make a suggestion about this year's seder meals. So many of us are concerned about elderly family members who will be alone for seder this year. Some of them may be ill, some infirm, some just filled with anxiety of being alone and not with any family on this quintessential family chag.

Perhaps you might consider the following based on a teshuva from Rabbi Yosef Tzi Rimon, a noted Rosh Yeshiva and posek from Israel:

About an hour or 90 minutes before candlelighting, convene a pre-Pesach Zoom gathering with the entire family, from far and near. Decide which parts of Magid you want to do as a family. Have children recite Mah Nishtana, so the grandparents can get some "yiddishe nachas"! Recall your family traditions regarding special tunes for Avadim HaYinu, V'Hee She'Amda, Dayeinu, and other selections. You can sing all the songs (the oldies but goodies) from Nirtzah, the last section of the seder. If anyone, especially one of our children, has learned divrei Torah on the Haggadah, let them be shared with the entire family. If there are "big idea" questions that loom large this year – and there are many – discuss them. Hear what people have to say. This enables everyone to personalize and internalize the seder experience.

This would conclude before candlelighting time, when the chag would begin. Our personal davening would almost certainly be elevated. A "regular" halachik seder would commence at the appropriate time, modified or streamlined (or not) in light of the earlier experience with everyone. The concerns about loneliness will have been at least somewhat alleviated in a way that captures what is special about the holiday and that unquestionably maintains the sanctity of the yom tov.

Wishing you the best possible Pesach!

Rabbi Chaitovsky

Information and Inspiration

[Who Compiled the Pesach Haggadah, and Why?](#), Moshe Dann, *The Algemeiner*

[Online Kaddish, Shabbat burials: Jewish legal authorities grapple with pandemic](#), Ben Harris, *The Times of Israel*

[Exodus and Egyptology](#), Raheli Shalomi-Hen, Ilan Ben Zion, *Jewish Review of Books*

Very timely – print out these and use during your seder!

1. [Seder Supplement During COVID-19 Pandemic](#) Rabbi Avi Weiss

2. A Special Prayer for Healing at Our Passover Tables

(To be recited in unison after reciting the Ten Plagues in the Haggadah)

God, who brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, shower us today with Your wonder. Bring a swift and steady end to the plague blowing through the world like pestilence. Free and deliver us. Redeem and liberate us.

Lift and carry us through this crisis.

Shine Your enduring love on those performing daily miracles: medical personnel and teachers, grocery and delivery workers, sanitation crews and volunteers, and all of our healers and helpers. Reward their kindness with good health and a thousand blessings.

We thank them for lifting and carrying us through this crisis.

Endow us with abundant love, compassion, strength and extraordinary patience to remain kind in these trying times and find true shelter in each another.

Let us lift and carry one another through this crisis.

Bring solace and consolation to those who are grieving and to those who are alone and grant a complete healing of body and soul to those who are suffering, in the spirit of Isaiah's wisdom, "For the Lord comforts his people, and will have compassion on his afflicted ones" (49:13).

Hear us, O Lord. Answer us, lift us and carry us. And we say, Amen.

Virtual BMH-BJ on Zoom

After you click the highlighted links, the VIDEO PASSWORD is: **BMHBJ**

The CALL IN NUMBER is: call in number **720 707 2699**

The CALL IN PASSWORD is: **498778**

Monday 4/6

6:00 PM [Daily Minyan](#) with Yahrzeit Memorial Ceremony

Tuesday 4/7

6:00 PM [Daily Minyan](#) with Yahrzeit Memorial Ceremony

7:00 PM [Put Away Your Chametz Party](#). Songs, stories and memories of Pesachs past. Bring a drink and your dinner and join Rabbi Chaitovsky and Cantor Goldstein for the last evening before Pesach. The search for chametz will start after the party.

Wednesday 4/8

8:30 AM [Siyum for First Born with Rabbi Fleischmann](#)

Saturday 4/11

8:30 PM [Havdalah with Rabbi Chai](#)

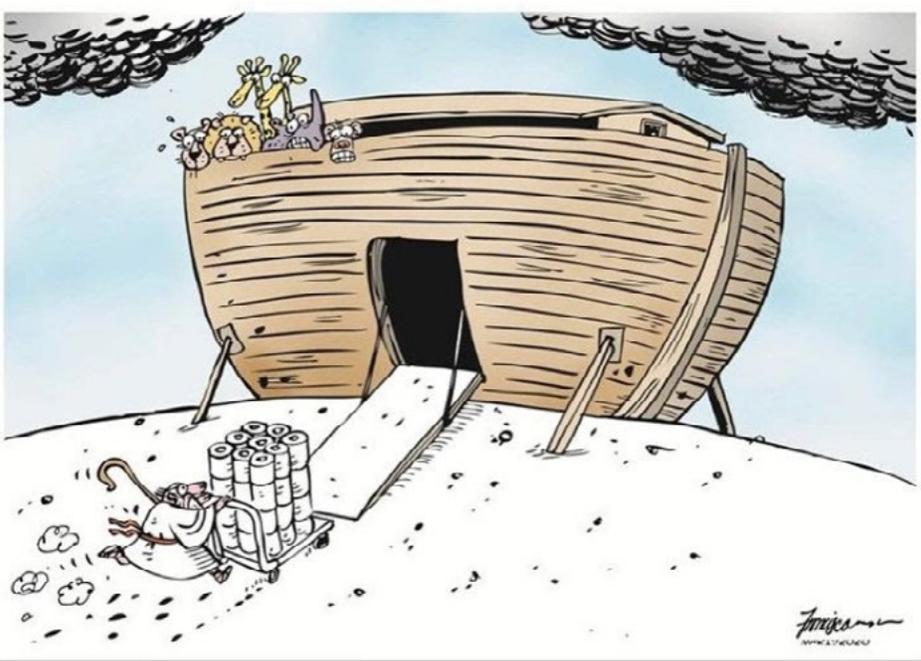
Sunday 4/12

6:00 PM [Daily Minyan](#) with Yahrzeit Memorial Ceremony

Monday 4/13

6:00 PM [Daily Minyan](#) with Yahrzeit Memorial Ceremony

Today's Laughs



Beit Hillel holds that: "If you put hand sanitizer on your doorpost this Pesach, the coronavirus plague will pass over the Jewish homes".



More information at www.BMH-BJ.org