



“Nudge the Scale”

October 2017

You read the newspapers, you listen to the news, and you can't hold back the tears, you listen in disbelief hoping it's only a movie or a book of fiction that will end soon. The shootings in LA, Hurricane Irma, and the list goes on and on. Horrific loss of life, devastating loss of property, dreams shattered, our spirits beaten to the core.

Then from the depths of all the blood, sweat and tears, come the stories of our Heroes, my heroes, our first responders. Our brothers and sisters in Law Enforcement answer the call regardless of what that call may be, rendering aid, even at the risk of making the ultimate sacrifice. As your Chaplains, we see you in action first hand. We were recently at the scene of an active shooter, and as one of our officers is running toward the hot zone, he turned to me and said "say a prayer I come out okay". It brought tears to my eyes, here we are, our everyday heroes go out every day and make a difference in G-d's world one person at a time, regardless of the political climate.

It brought to mind the parable called "Nudge The Scale, Make A Difference".....

A 91-year-old woman died after living a very long dignified life. When she met G-d, she asked Him something that had really bothered her for a very long time. “If Man was created in G-d’s image, and if all men are created equal, why do people treat each other so badly?”

G-d replied that each person who enters our life has a unique lesson to teach us. It is only through these lessons that we learn about life, people and our relationships with G-d. This confused the woman, so G-d began to explain:

“When someone lies to you, it teaches you that things are not always what they seem. The truth is often far beneath the surface. Look beyond the masks people wear if you want to know what is in their hearts. Remove your own masks to let people know who you really are.

When someone steals from you it teaches you that nothing is forever. Always appreciate what you have. You never know when you might lose it. Never take

your friends or family for granted, because today and sometimes only this very moment is the only guarantee you may have.

When someone inflicts injury upon you, it teaches you that the human state is a very fragile one. Protect and take care of your body as best as you can, it's the one thing that you are sure to have forever.

When someone mocks you, it teaches you that no two people are alike. When you encounter people who are different from you, do not judge them by how they look or act, instead base it on the contents of what is in their hearts.

When someone breaks your heart, it teaches you that loving someone does not always mean that the person will love you back. But don't turn your back on love, because when you find the right person, the joy that one person brings you will make up for all of your past hurts. Times a thousand fold.

When someone holds a grudge against you, it teaches you that everyone makes mistakes. When you are wronged, the most virtuous thing you can do is forgive the offender without pretense. Forgiving those who have hurt us is often the most difficult and painful of life's experiences, but it is also the most courageous thing a person can do.

When a loved one is unfaithful to you, it teaches you that resisting temptation is Man's greatest challenge. Be vigilant in your resistance against all temptations. By doing so, you will be rewarded with an enduring sense of satisfaction far greater than the temporary pleasure by which you were tempted.

When someone cheats you, it teaches you that greed is the root of all evil. Aspire to make your dreams come true, no matter how lofty they may be. Do not feel guilty about your success, but never let an obsession with achieving your goals lead you to engage in malevolent activities.

When someone ridicules you, it teaches you that nobody is perfect. Accept people for their merits and be tolerant of their flaws. Do not ever reject someone for imperfections over which they have no control."

Upon hearing the Lord's wisdom, the old woman became concerned that there are no lessons to be learned from man's good deeds. G-d replied that Man's capacity to love is the greatest gift He has. At the root of kindness and love, and each act of love also teaches us a lesson. The woman's curiosity deepened. G-d, once again began to explain:

"When someone loves us, it teaches us love, kindness, charity, honesty, humility, forgiveness, acceptance, and all of these can counteract all the evil in the world. For every good deed, there is one evil deed. Man alone has the power to control the balance between good and evil, but because the lessons of love are not taught often enough, the power is too often abused.

When you enter someone's life, whether by plan, chance or coincidence, consider what your lesson will be. Will you teach love or a harsh lesson of reality? When you die, will your life have resulted in more loving or more hurting? More comfort or more pain? More joy or more sadness? Each one of us has the power, over the balance of the love in the world. Use it wisely!"

Don't miss an opportunity to nudge the world's scale in the right direction!" end..... Thanks to each of you for going out every day, and leaving G-d's world a better place, by all the kindness that you do. We, your Chaplains, are privileged to be of service to you and your families!

The following "Ten Commandments for Daily Living" was passed along to me by one of our members; let it bring a smile to your heart,

1). PRAYER is not a "spare wheel" that YOU PULL OUT when IN trouble, but it is a "STEERING WHEEL" that DIRECT the RIGHT PATH THROUGHOUT LIFE.

2). Why is a CAR'S WINDSHIELD so LARGE & the REAR VIEW MIRROR so small? BECAUSE our PAST is NOT as IMPORTANT as OUR FUTURE. So, LOOK AHEAD and MOVE ON.

3). FRIENDSHIP is like a BOOK. It takes a FEW SECONDS to BURN, but it TAKES YEARS to WRITE.

4). All THINGS in LIFE are TEMPORARY. If they are GOING WELL, ENJOY them, they WILL NOT LAST FOREVER. If they are going wrong, don't WORRY, THEY CAN'T LAST LONG EITHER.

5). Old FRIENDS are GOLD! NEW friends are DIAMONDS! If you GET a DIAMOND, DON'T FORGET the GOLD! To HOLD a DIAMOND, you ALWAYS NEED a BASE of GOLD!

6). Often when WE LOSE HOPE and THINK this is the END, GOD SMILES from ABOVE and SAYS, "RELAX, SWEETHEART; it's JUST a BEND, NOT THE END!"

7). When GOD SOLVES your PROBLEMS, you HAVE FAITH in HIS ABILITIES; when GOD DOESN'T SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS, HE has FAITH in YOUR ABILITIES.

8). A BLIND PERSON asked GOD: "CAN THERE be ANYTHING WORSE THAN LOSING EYE SIGHT?" HE REPLIED: "YES, LOSING YOUR VISION!"

9). When YOU PRAY for OTHERS, GOD LISTENS to YOU and BLESSES THEM, and SOMETIMES, when you are SAFE and HAPPY, REMEMBER that SOMEONE has PRAYED for YOU.

10). WORRYING does NOT TAKE AWAY TOMORROW'S TROUBLES; IT TAKES AWAY today's PEACE.

For the curious...."Putting the dash in G-d",

Please note: I do not spell out the name of G-d out of respect. Spelling out THE NAME and then throwing it in the trash, would be a desecration of THE NAME, so I put in the dash.

This is a religious custom I follow, and please don't be offended. Thanks for understanding.

If you would like to discuss it further, please don't hesitate to drop me a line or give me a call.

Compliments of your Police Chaplain Rabbi Moshe Wolf
May G-d bless you and keep you safe. Amen!
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