

## "And The Answer is...." I don't know"

July 2014



The pager goes off in the wee hours of the morning, it is a call from one of our members requesting I respond to the trauma center Emergency Room. Their spouse suffered a sudden cardiac arrest and things didn't look too good.

I responded to the ER spent the better part of the day with the family, we prayed, we chatted, and we shared some humor to lighten the moment. Thank G-d at the end of a two week stay their loved one was permitted to leave the hospital to recoup at home. One of the adult children took a paper out of their pocket with a poem on it and they said "this a poem that was given to me by a friend who suffered a tragic loss, and everybody asked, why us, why to such good people"? Do you mind passing it along"? And I answered that I definitely will pass it along.

The title of the poem is...

"I Don't Know Why"

I don't know why...

I'll never know why...

I don't have to know why...

I don't like it...

I don't have to like it...

What I do have to do is make a choice about my living.

What I do want to do is to accept it and go on living.

The choice is mine. I can go on living, valuing every moment in a way I never did before, Or I can be destroyed by it and in turn, destroy others.

I thought I was immortal, that my children and my family were also, and that tragedy happened only to others.

But I know now that life is tenuous and valuable, so I'll choose to go on living, making the most of the time I have, valuing my family and friends in a way I never experienced before. End of poem. As the saying goes "everyday is a gift, enjoy your present".

Some "Thoughts On Life" learned along the way...

**GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:** No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats. When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.. If your sister hits you, don't hit her back, they always catch the second person.. Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.. You can't trust dogs to watch your food.. Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.. Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.. You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.. The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED.. Raising teenagers is like nailing jelly to a tree.. Wrinkles don't hurt.. Families are like fudge, mostly sweet, with a few nuts..

Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.. Laughing is good exercise, it's like jogging for the soul.. Old age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE: You believe in Santa Claus..You don't believe in Santa Claus..You are Santa Claus..You look like Santa Claus.

DEFINING SUCCESS IN LIFE: At age 4 success is . . not piddling in your pants.

At age 12 success is . . having friends. At age 17 success is..having a driver's license. At age 35 success is ..having money.At age 50 success is . .having money. At age 70 success is..having a drivers license. At age 75 success is..having friends. At age 80 success is..not piddling in your pants.

Always remember to forget the troubles that pass your way; BUT NEVER forget the blessings that come each day.

On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, a blessed safe summer to you and your families.

Should you need a shoulder to lean on, or have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to give us a call or drop us a line.

Compliments of your Police Chaplain,  
Rabbi Moshe Wolf  
773-463-4780, or e-mail:moshewolf@hotmail.com