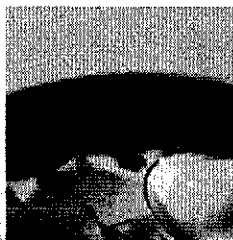
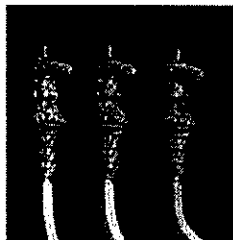




INSTITUTE
FOR
JEWISH
CONTINUITY

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIFE-LONG LEARNING



7504 SEVEN MILE LANE · BALTIMORE, MD 21208

410-415-3755 · INFO@GOIJC.ORG · WWW.GOIJC.ORG



Ties That Bind and Connect
Meaningful Relationships, Meaningful Lives
Session Two
Building Blocks of Good Relationships

Dr. Aviva Weisbord

April 23, 2013



THIS COURSE IS DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF:

אסתר חנה ז'ל בת צבי ופרומה עלקא פייגא בת מאיר ופשא לאה ז'ל נח בן אברהם ופייגא ז'ל
MAY THEIR SOULS BE BOUND IN THE EVERLASTING BOND OF LIFE תהא נשמתם צרורות בצרור החיים

Talmud Tractate Shabbos 127b:

A story is told of a man from Upper Galilee who hired himself out to an employer in the south for three years. On Erev Yom Kippur, the worker said to his employer, "Give me my wages so that I can go home to provide for my wife and children."

The employer answered, "I have no money."

"Then give me fruit," requested the worker.

"I have none," replied the employer.

"Give me property," suggested the worker.

"I don't have any."

"Give me pillows and blankets."

I don't have any."

Disheartened, the man slung his belongings over his shoulder and went home.

After Succos, the employer traveled to the home of the worker with the wages he owed him, along with three donkeys laden with food, drinks and an assortment of delicacies. They ate and drank and the employer gave the worker his wages. Then the employer asked: "When you asked for your wages and I told you that I didn't have the money, of what did you suspect me?"

I thought that perhaps a very good business deal had come your way, a chance to buy merchandise cheaply, and that you had invested all your cash in this unusual opportunity."

"And when I told you I had no livestock, what went through your mind?"

"I thought that perhaps they were hired out."

"And when you asked for land and I said I didn't have any land, what did you think?"

"I thought that maybe it was leased."

"And when I told you I didn't have any fruit, what could you have thought?"

"I thought that perhaps you had not yet separated Maaser (tithes)."

And when you asked for pillows and blankets, and I claimed I had none, what did you suspect?"

"I thought that maybe you had dedicated all your possessions to Heaven."

The employer exclaimed, "That's exactly what happened! I pledged all my possessions for the sake of my son Hyrcanus, so that he should learn Torah. When I came to my colleagues in the South, they released me from my vow. And now, just as you judged me favorably, may Hashem judge you favorably."

