



**“LET’S JUST TAKE  
THINGS FOR GRANTED!”**

*1 Corinthians 16:17-18*

# OK, NOT REALLY!

- On Awakening  
“Let’s just take things for granted!”
- Special → Common → Forgotten
- “Don't take for granted the things closest to your heart, cling to them as you would your life...For without them, life is meaningless.”

—Sarah Schambach

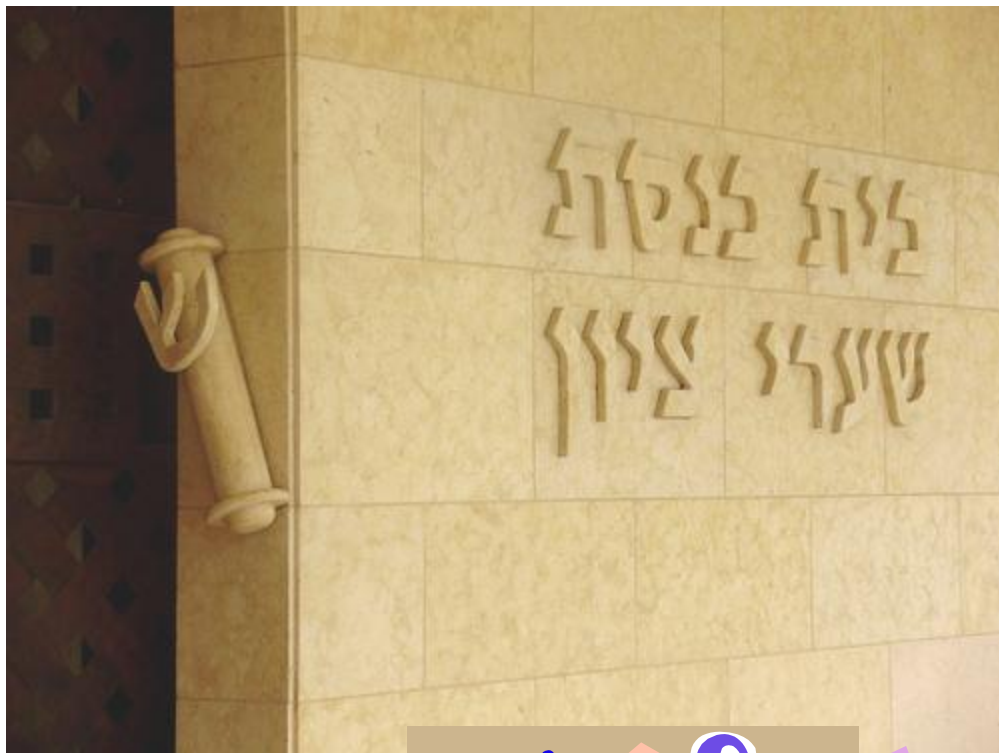


# DEUTERONOMY 11:18-21 (NLT)

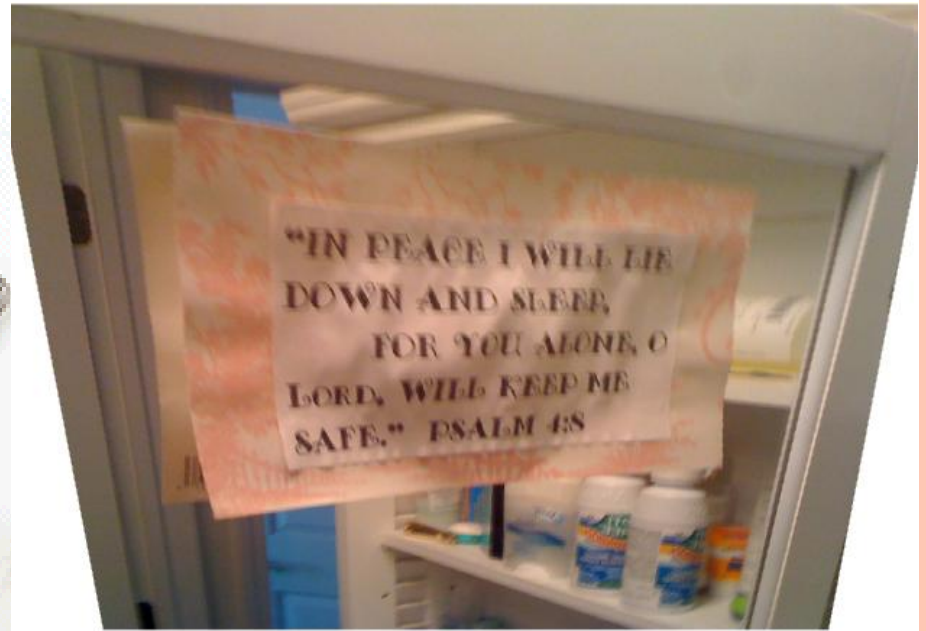
- <sup>18</sup> “Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. <sup>19</sup> Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. <sup>20</sup> Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, <sup>21</sup> so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish...



# KEEPING HIM SPECIAL



# WE DO IT TOO



# DEEPENING IT!

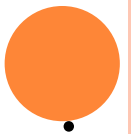
## ○ Proverbs 7:2-4 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> Keep my commands and you will live;  
guard my teachings as the apple of  
your eye.

<sup>3</sup> Bind them on your fingers;  
write them on the tablet of your  
heart.

<sup>4\*</sup> Love wisdom like a sister;  
make insight a beloved member of  
your family.

\* NLT



# REMEMBER AND BE THANKFUL...

- for Jehovah-God
- The People he gives us?



# TAKING THINGS FOR GRANTED...

- When something does not insist on being noticed, when we aren't grabbed by the collar or struck on the skull by a presence or an event, we take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude.

- Cynthia Ozick



# TAKING PEOPLE FOR GRANTED...

- When someone does not insist on being noticed, when they don't grab us by the collar or strike us on the skull by their presence or their efforts, we take for granted the very **people** that most deserve our gratitude.



# HONORING MINISTRY

- Example of Epaphroditus

## **Philippians 2:29 (NLT)**

<sup>29</sup> Welcome him with Christian love and with great joy, and *give him the honor that people like him deserve.*



# HONORING MINISTRY

## ○ 1 Corinthians 16:17-18 (NLT)

<sup>17</sup> I am very glad that Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus have come here. They have been providing the help you weren't here to give me.



# HONORING MINISTRY

## ○ 1 Corinthians 16:17-18 (NLT)

<sup>18</sup> They have been a wonderful *encouragement* to me, as they have been to you. You must show your appreciation to all who serve so well.



- Honor,
  - Appreciation,
  - Encouragement
- 
- “Encouragement is  
the oxygen of the Soul”



# FILLING EACH OTHER'S TANKS

## ○ 1 Thessalonians 5:11-13 (NLT)

<sup>11</sup> So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

<sup>12</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, honor those who are your leaders in the Lord's work. They work hard among you and give you spiritual guidance. <sup>13</sup> Show them great respect and wholehearted love because of their work...



# ENCOURAGEMENT IS A GIFT...

## ○ Romans 12:6-8

<sup>6</sup> In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the...

<sup>8</sup> *gift to encourage others,*  
be encouraging.



# DO WE NOTICE ONE ANOTHER?

- Only when something is wrong
  - Opportunity?
- Totally Unnoticed Ministry List
  - PowerPoint in Worship
    - Time, Timing
- Do we *Really* Notice List
  - The Deacons
    - 26...



# INTENTIONALITY IS REQUIRED

- Intentionality...
  - Come to Church and honor...
  - Who can I thank God for...
- “When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.”

—G.K. Chesterton
- So encourage each other and build each other up!!!

