



DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY & DON'T DISCUSS THE ELECTION

Our tradition teaches us in Devarim 16:15:

"ושמחת בחגך והיית אך שמח" You shall rejoice on your festivals and should be fully happy.

This is a mitzvah that applies to all three Jewish pilgrimage festivals, but especially to Sukkot, which is also known as Zman Simchateinu or the "Time of our Happiness." As we approach another heated presidential election in America, to create unity, joy and to fulfill this mitzvah of happiness in your sukkah and with your family, we suggest that you refrain from discussing the candidates or election.



IMPERMANENCE VIA THE HONEYCOMB SUKKOT HOLIDAY ENHANCEMENT GUIDE

- How does the impermanence of the sukkah relate to the impermanence of life?
- How can we find meaning and purpose in a world that is constantly changing?
- How can the idea of impermanence inspire us to live more fully and appreciate the present moment?
- What are elements of your lives that feel permanent? Are these positive aspects or negative aspects?
- Do we have the power to change things that feel permanently negative in the lives of others? How?
- Do we have the power to introduce positive permanence in the lives of others? How?



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- How can a feeling of vulnerability be beneficial to our lives?
- Why is this feeling especially important to cultivate during the harvest season?
- How do you think the Sukkah might enhance a sense of unity among the Jewish people?
- How can sitting in a Sukkah bring us closer to God?
- How is Sukkot especially relevant in our world today?
- How do you feel when you go outside and spend time in nature?
- The mitzvah of the Daled Minim (Lulav and Etrog) is often viewed as a metaphor for Jewish unity. How can you explain this?
- The current war in Israel has revealed an unprecedented level of unity among Israelis and Jews around the world. There are so many ways that this unity has manifested itself. Can you recall some of these ways?
- How do you think we can maintain this sense of unity after the war is over?



DAYS OF AWE IN TIMES OF WAR, REFLECTIONS FROM THE FATHER OF A FALLEN HOSTAGE, RABBI DORON PEREZ

This Simchat Torah we will dance with every fiber of our being, celebrating the privilege of being a Jew and at the same time, we will cry, yearn and feel the pain of this past year and what happened last year at this time.

It says in Kohelet 3:4 "Et sefod ve-et rekod," it will be both a time to mourn and a time to dance. A time to feel the pain and a time to celebrate the privilege. A time to laugh and a time to cry. A time to feel close and a time to yearn from a distance. We live in Hashem's world. In Hashem's world somehow things are always okay, even when they are not.