

TSIYON NEWS

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In this Tsiyon News...

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From Eliyahu

I'm hooked on service. This ministry has been serving since 1981, and I'm as excited about serving Messiah and His people today as I was in the beginning. I live in a community of service. We are all servants here, and we are all hooked on it. I could give you a long list of reasons why living a life of service is so much better than living a life focused on one's own gain. Since I can't accommodate a list of that size here I will share one big reason: the "flow-back effect" of Luke 6:38.

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be given to you. For with the same measure you measure it will be measured back to you." (Luke 6:38)

Do you see the power in that? This verse tells us that when we give of ourselves to serve others there is a "flow-back effect" whereby more blessings come back to us than what we gave through our service. This is one reason why people who live a life of service to others get hooked on the life of a servant. They not only are blessed in feeling good about helping others, but they receive many blessings themselves that they otherwise would not experience. I'm not talking about money here, so much as the real blessings of life, peace, joy, and fulfillment.

For examples of people like that I'm going to draw on the self-sacrifice and service that helped found and grow the modern State of Israel. Frankly, I don't know much about the politics or religious views of the people whose experiences I'm about to share. What I do know is that

it took a lot of self-sacrifice of all sorts of people to bring the modern State of Israel into existence, and to grow from there. That story is full of men and women who gave of themselves - often under pressure, often with little recognition - and then discovered something surprising: when you pour out your life for others, life pours back into you.

Henrietta Szold: Thousands of people escorted Henrietta Szold to her final resting place on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem on February 14, 1945. Henrietta had been born in Baltimore in 1860. Henrietta had never married or raised a family, yet she is remembered as mother of the Yishuv (that is, the Jewish community in Palestine prior to 1948).

She had dreamed of a Jewish homeland in Israel all her life. Although she did not live to see the State of Israel officially established just three years after her death, during her life she had a lot to do with building it. She lived as a servant to others and encouraged others to do the same. Here is a list of some of the things she did:

1. **Founder of Hadassah:** Szold was instrumental in the founding of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, which became the largest and most powerful Zionist group in the United States.
2. **Zionist Organizer:** Szold was a key figure in Zionist organizing, contributing to the Yishuv's infrastructure and Israel's modern medical services.
3. **Education and Scholarship:** Szold was highly educated in Jewish studies and edited significant works of Jewish history.
4. **Social and Communal Work:** She was involved in social and communal work, helping to create the medical, educational, and social service infrastructure that helped turn the dream of a Jewish state into a workable reality.
5. **Youth Aliyah:** Szold spearheaded Youth Aliyah, helping Jewish children escape Nazi Germany for Palestine.

6. Holocaust Rescue: Her work in rescuing children from the Holocaust and rehabilitating them earned her the title “mother of the Yishuv.”

7. Henrietta Szold's contributions to Jewish history and her leadership in Zionist activities have left a lasting impact on the Jewish community, on Israel, and on the broader world.

Henrietta Szold is quoted as saying: "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."



Joseph Gitler: Today Israel is a modern prosperous country. Yet, not everyone is prosperous. According to a National Insurance Institute Report, 25% of the Israeli population lives in poverty and suffers from some level of food insecurity. Joseph Gitler, an American-Israeli from New York, didn't like hearing that. Through his Jewish studies he thought of something he could do about it. The concept is called Leket or "gleanings" derives from the Torah (Lev. 19:9 and Lev. 23:22), which specifies that ears of grain that fall from the reaper's hand or the sickle while being gathered during the harvest must be left for the poor.

In modern Israel some farmers find it unprofitable to harvest all their produce while others cannot pick their entire crop before it begins to rot. In both cases, tens of thousands of tons of fresh fruits and vegetables are wasted each year.

Joseph Gitler saw an opportunity there. He became Founder and Voluntary Chairman of Leket Israel. Joseph Gitler is quoted as saying: "What started as a one-man volunteer operation in my driveway, has, over the last 20 years, become the National Food Bank of Israel and Israel's leading food rescue organization."

Leket Israel is a registered nonprofit Israel-based charity, and is the leading food rescue organization in Israel, serving 330,000+ needy people weekly. Leket Israel rescues surplus agricultural produce and

collects excess cooked meals for redistribution to the needy throughout Israel via its network of 200+ nonprofit organization (NPO) partners. Gitler says: "Leket has 30 to 40,000 volunteers every year helping us pick vegetables in the fields, helping us repack those fruits and vegetables for delivery to 250 agencies ... it is a beautiful sharing world."

Kalman and Malki Samuels: Shalva is an Israeli nonprofit organization based in Jerusalem, dedicated to providing comprehensive support for individuals with disabilities and their families. Shalva was founded in 1990 by Kalman and Malki Samuels. The Samuels' son, Yossi, became deaf and blind following a faulty vaccination.

Can you imagine how you would feel if that happened to your child? You could not be criticized for feelings of horror, anger, and despair. Yet, to live in those negative emotions can only lead to deeper trauma for all involved. The alternative may be harder, to fight your way through the darkness, to a place of serving others who suffer the same challenges as you and your family. Yet, serving others who have suffered as you have suffered is the way out of the darkness of despair into the light of life.

This is what Kalman and Malki Samuels chose to do. Moved by their own experience, the couple launched Shalva to help other families facing disability-related challenges. Its mission is to maximize the potential of individuals with disabilities while fostering an inclusive community of help and support. When you go to the Shalva website you see the Shalva story, and you see a lot of smiles.

Service Benefits: Service is love, and love is good for you. According to some studies, people who volunteer tend to live longer, even after researchers adjust for baseline health and social factors. Studies suggest that sustained service - especially volunteering - correlates with measurable physical benefits, including lower blood pressure and lower mortality risk, though researchers caution that healthier people may also be more able to serve.

Finally, there is one more Jew whose service we must never overlook, The King of the Jews, our Messiah Himself. He is our greatest example of service, even as He said: "The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:28)

We will have a lot more in our live stream tonight about service. The theme will be: "Serve YHWH". This discussion will be drawn from Matthew 20, and will focus on the instructions of Yeshua on service. We invite you to join us tonight, on our live stream, at 8 Central, at Tsiyon.Net - and other popular video platforms. We all serve someone, so this is bound to be good for all of us.

In His Name, Eliyahu

Contact: <https://tsiyon.org> - <https://eliyahubendavid.substack.com/>

Join us tonight at Tsiyon.Net for this encouraging group discussion!



Audio:



Video:



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