

THE WEXNER FOUNDATION

THE TORAH OF LEADERSHIP

February 24, 2022 | Erica Brown | We Shall Overcome

Becca Thomas: Erica's source sheet for today:
https://www.wexnerfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2-24_Exodus-17-We-Shell-Overcome.pdf

Angie Atkins: Welcome everyone. Feel free to dedicate your learning. I am dedicating mine to a friend's elderly mom who has been very weakened from covid.

Scott Stone: Moses looks weak and he's being held up by others

Susie Sorkin: What a representation of someone so worn out, barely being upright, only with the help of the men

Leora Zabusky: Moses is entirely dependent on the help of others

Sonia: Moses is literally on the edge forced to hang on

Judy Oberlander: A battle for life....appears weak and with white hair..fragility of life...hands up reaching...

Michelle Gavens: Dedicating my learning on the yartziet today of my sister-in-law Dr Susan Stein Gavens, z"l

Goldie's PC: Are they holding him up or throwing him over?

Scott Stone: Young people are using an older person to win a battle.

Sonia: dedicate our learning to the Ukrainian community

Nina Butler: Also, Aharon and Hur are focused on Moshe and not the battle, and neither of them have instruments of battle either

Leora Zabusky: Battle is not only about the physical fight

Susan Rizzo: I just watched that exact scenario in a Gilmore Girls repeat!

Caroline Harris: But WHY does God set it up so he must have his arms up? Isn't that a symbol?

Susan Rizzo: the dance-a-thon

Scott Stone: Is this the ultimate backroom politics?

Caroline Harris: A round in a boxing match is only 3 minutes - it's hard to hold your arms up fighting for even that long without a break.

Susan Rizzo: the choreography with moses' arms gives new definition to "conducting" a military operation.

Lisa Lisser: Tzur yisrael

Scott Stone: They moved the stone to him...not him to the stone?

Michelle Gavens: Use the resources available

Angie Atkins: He hit the rock in anger and becomes mortal from that in a sense, now is his tikkun as he literally holds life and death of the hebrews in his hand...

Angie Atkins: @Michelle — love that idea

Michelle Gavens: Why not use stones to support Moshe's arms? Why didn't Aaron and Hur's arms grow tired?

Elka Abrahamson: My WhatsApp team of women

Larry Gellman: The largest group of people whom I have heard say "I did not sign up for this" are rabbis who are freaked out about what their job apparently includes after Tree of Life and Poway and Colleyville

Caroline Harris: My rabbi, my therapist, and my best friend.

Michelle Anfang: my past presidents

Leora Zabusky: I find it most helpful to lean on a friend who has experienced a similar challenge - someone who can relate

Sue BK (she/her): The professionals I'm paired with, and the people who've previously held the roles I take on.

Scott Stone: This is not meant as a "suck up" ...but I often rely on my Wexner group.

Elka Abrahamson: Adaptive Leadership carefully differentiates between confidants and allies - which is an important distinction

Sonia: Yes Wexner !

Scott Stone: Constant messaging to avoid anger from constituents.

Reisa Schwartzman: Firing

Larry Gellman: A not-exactly-responsive answer is that I am often overwhelmed by leadership roles where the rules of the game change (as they always do) as time goes on and it becomes impossible to hold reasonable conversations with others who are still playing under different rules.

Shira Reifman: fundraising responsibility

Becca Thomas: <https://sapijournal.org/aspiration/2022/02/visionary-leadership-for-a-jewish-future/>

Susie Sorkin: Thanks for sharing Erica's piece, Becca. It was so excellent. I've saved to reread regularly.

Larry Gellman: Synagogue leadership challenges around fundraising and membership are related to what I said before. Synagogue membership used to be mandatory in the Jewish community and now it is not and leaders have to earn the business of customers instead of just opening the door and waiting for customers to walk in. Fundraising is hard because we are used to raising money based on Jewish responsibility and now we have to raise it based on getting our donors to believe that giving that money will help them live happier, better, and more productive lives.

Joan Laguatan: The feeling of Jewish continuity being a challenge and burden

Larry Gellman: I have a comment

Joan Laguatan: Yes! Exactly

Caroline Harris: Maintaining leadership involvement when family crises arise