

Leading the Passover Journey

Discussion Questions

- * Think about the purpose of the Seder plate, the three Matzahs, the four cups of wine, Elijah's cup. What does the symbolic meaning of these rituals teach us about the deeper meaning of ritual in the Jewish tradition?
- * There is an organizing principle used in the formulation of the Four Questions and the answer "We were slaves in Egypt ...". Why do you think the Haggadah's authors "hid" the underlying structure of the Four Questions in the re-telling of the Passover story?
- * Through the re-telling of the story of the Exodus in the Haggadah, what were the authors of the Haggadah trying to convey to us about our importance as storytellers of our personal and collective histories?
- * A plethora of folk songs are traditionally sung toward the end of the Passover Seder. How do these meaningful melodies and music help us achieve the goals of the Passover Seder?
- * What are the two elements that the Passover Haggadah explicitly states should be recalled "in every generation" (*bechol dor va'dor*)? What do these teachings tell us about the author's view of Jewish national existence? Do you find these messages to still be relevant to our period of Jewish history and personal identity?
- * In what way does your personal life journey mirror the journey of the Jewish People in the Exodus? How might that parallelism inform the value of Torah/scripture for the rest of your life?