

The Spirituality of Welcoming

Discussion Questions

- 1) Why did you join a synagogue? What initially attracted you? Why have you stayed?
- 2) Consider this question: "If someone met you in the grocery store and asked what you love about your synagogue, what would you say? If asked what your synagogue is known for, what would you say? Answer in this way: "I belong to Congregation So-and-So because....." "We're known for..." "We're proud of our..."
- 3) Have you ever stopped your membership in a congregation? Why? Did anyone "follow up" to ask you why?
- 4) What is your response to Ron's call for a "new aliyah to Judaism?" Is reaching out to non-members an important value in your spiritual community?
- 5) If you were visiting your own synagogue building for the first time, would you be able to easily find the sanctuary? The rabbi's study? The office? The library?
- 6) Do you think your congregation offers "quality service" to its members?
- 7) Are you "spiritually moved" by the worship services offered by your congregation?
- 8) Is the "congregational voice" engaged by the prayer service?
- 9) How were you "inducted" into the membership of your spiritual community?
- 10) How can your congregation deepen the relationships between members and between members and the spiritual community?