

**February 28, 2008**

*Dear Friends,*

*Is there something that you feel you can give to others without any limit? What might be on such a list? Perhaps...*

- **Kindness**
- **Hope**
- **Generosity (including generosity of spirit)**
- **Some form of righteous giving/Tzedakah (at least the principle of giving)**
- **Understanding**
- **Empathy**
- **A desire to help and guide people close to us when they come to us for help**

*There are more items to add to this list, I am sure. In the Torah portion for this week, VAYAKHEIL, Moses asked the Israelites to bring gifts of gold, silver, yarn and other items that could enhance the building of the Tabernacle, the Israelite house of worship in the desert. At one point, the artisans in charge of fashioning the Tabernacle and its ritual items told Moses, “the people are bringing more than is needed for tasks that have to be done!” Moses then told the people that they should make no more effort to bring gifts and the Torah declared, “So the people stopped bringing: their efforts had been enough for all the tasks to be done.”*

*What Moses directed the people to do was to stop giving only on a material level. Moses’ original instruction to the people had been that “everyone whose heart so moved them” should bring their gifts. He told them to stop bringing gifts, but their desire to give, the motivation that moved them to contribute to this effort, was essential to the well-being of their community. That desire to give did not need to have a limit.*

*As we continue to give to our families and communities, may our hearts know no limits in our desire to offer assistance, wisdom, kindness and hope. Shabbat Shalom!*

**-- L'shalom,  
Rabbi Larry K.**