

March 12, 2010

Shabbat Shalom!

The Torah reading this week is about the construction of the Tabernacle, the Israelite house of worship in the wilderness. As I sat in sessions at the convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis in San Francisco this week, I was reminded about the importance of the intangible elements of community. Here are a couple of quick "gems" from my sessions...

From Rabbinic Tradition:

- *"Those who are kind to those who are cruel end up being cruel to those who are kind."*

From author Rachel Naomi Remen, who addressed our convention on March 10:

- *"When we serve others, we serve ourselves - our wholeness that we create inside ourselves can evoke a wholeness in others."*
- *"It is possible to live a good life even though it is not an easy life" (in relation to those living with chronic illness or other challenges)."*
- *"Compassion sustains the world."*
- *"The wholeness of the world can only be sustained one heart at a time."*
- *"Community is the most powerful tool for healing."*

Let us remember that the building blocks of community include trust, respect, communication, honesty, and friendship.

-- L'shalom, Rabbi Larry