

challenged me to think differently about what it means to fight to end modern slavery. I needed to get beyond repeating stories of exploitation and move toward supporting efforts to rebuild lives and resolve root causes. And I had to ask myself, “What does this work mean to me, as an ally? Why am I here?”

This hagaddah represents T'ruah's collective wrestling with *Mah ha'avodah ha'zot lachem*. We began our campaign to fight modern-day slavery in 2009, by raising awareness in the Jewish community about this human rights struggle and mobilizing synagogues to take action locally. We quickly learned deeper questions: not just “how do we teach people that slavery still exists?” but “how can we better support survivors?” and “how can we move from being consumers to being activists?”

I am deeply grateful to Rabbi Lev Meirowitz Nelson, T'ruah's Director of Education, for distilling these theological and practical questions into this amazing hagaddah. I also want to thank Rabbi Jill Jacobs, T'ruah's Executive Director, for the leadership and vision that made this haggadah possible. Finally, many thanks to the rabbis and activists whose reflections serve as the commentary to the hagaddah, and the more than fifty #TomatoRabbis who have visited with the CIW in Immokalee, FL and have led the Jewish community to partner with these leaders. You have taught me so much and I am grateful to be able to share your wisdom with the Jewish community.

This hagaddah is designed so that it can both be used as a complete anti-trafficking seder or incorporated in whole or in part into your seder at home. May this hagaddah inspire all of us to new questions and to build a world of lovingkindness.



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Director of Programs
Adar 5775/March 2015

Introduction

“The wicked child asks: What does this work mean to you? *Mah ha'avodah ha'zot lachem*” (Exodus 12:26). I think about this question a great deal as a rabbi whose core work involves fighting modern-day slavery. I think about it when I talk to my children about what I do every day, when I call anti-trafficking activists and say, “What can rabbis do to support you?” or when I stand before Jewish audiences and urge them to put their energy behind this critical human rights issue.

The answer must go deeper than simply saying, “We were slaves in Egypt once upon a time.” The memory of bitterness does not necessarily inspire action.

What inspires me is not slavery but redemption. God could part the Sea of Reeds, but the Israelites could not truly be free until they had liberated themselves, after 40 years in the desert, from slavery.

I have personally been transformed by my experiences organizing T'ruah's #TomatoRabbis partnership with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) in Florida. Their starting question--What would a slavery-prevention program look like if it were designed by the workers themselves?—



Order of the Seder

<i>Kadesh</i>	Sanctifying	קִדֵּשׁ
<i>Ur'chatz</i>	Preparing	וְרַחֵץ
<i>Karpas</i>	Salting	כַּרְפָּס
<i>Yachatz</i>	Breaking	יַחַץ
<i>Maggid</i>	Telling	מַגִּיד
<i>Rachtzah</i>	Blessing	רַחֲצָה
<i>Motzi Matzah</i>	Partnering	מוֹצֵיא מַצָּה
<i>Maror</i>	Empathizing	מָרֹר
<i>Korech</i>	Sweetening	כוֹרֵךְ
<i>Shulchan Orech</i>	Eating	שֻׁלְחַן עוֹרֵךְ
<i>Tzafun</i>	Searching	צָפוּן
<i>Barech</i>	Thanking	בָּרַךְ
<i>Hallel</i>	Singing	הִלֵּל
<i>Nirtzah</i>	Committing	נִרְצָה

How to use this Hagaddah

The haggadah is a starting point for conversation. Here are some ideas for making your seder interactive:

- Plan ahead. Read through the whole haggadah, and make notes about which sections you will emphasize, where you want to spark discussion, and where you will include rituals, songs, or other activities. Good planning will also help you pace yourself so that you don't end up rushing at the end.
- Focus on the sections of the hagaddah that resonate with you the most. It is better to incorporate fewer sections more deeply than to skim through the whole haggadah superficially.
- Alternate between large group discussion and more intimate conversation within small groups of guests.
- Balance discussion, singing, and ritual. Different people will find different approaches meaningful.
- Before the seder, connect with local anti-trafficking organizations and ask them what action steps or volunteer opportunities would be helpful to them. When seder participants get excited about taking action, you'll have some ideas to share.
- Contact T'ruah at office@truah.org or 212-845-5201 to talk more about how to use this haggadah, or about how to involve your community in efforts to end trafficking.