"Go Forth" – Go to Yourself, for Yourself, and Beyond Yourself!

Parashat Lech Lecha (Genesis 12:1-17:27)

By Batya Ellinoy
Student, Rabbinical School of Hebrew College

This week’s Torah portion begins with God’s great call to Avram — Judaism’s “founding father” — to go forth from his land, from his home, and from his family, to a land that God will show him. God tells Avram that by doing so, he will be both blessed and a blessing (Genesis 12:1-2). Avram responds to this call by embarking on a harrowing journey with his spouse Sarai and their nephew Lot. This trek will reshape his life and the lives of countless others for generations to come.

The opening words of God’s call, “Lekh lekha,” can actually be translated as “Go forth,” “Go to yourself,” or “Go for yourself,” (or, as my 15-year-old self said to my brother at his bar mitzvah, “Go away!”). However one chooses to translate these words, Lekh lekha is all about movement: going inwards or outwards, moving beyond the familiar and comfortable, crossing boundaries and moving into spaces where we can (re)discover our best selves. It is a journey that begins by first pausing to listen and then moving in step with what one hears, thinks, and feels.
Our Lucky Role as Grandparents

By Beth Moskowitz
Participant, Hebrew College's Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens

I recently enrolled in Hebrew College's Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens class at The Rashi School. Two of my grandsons are students there and I thought it was the perfect place for me to take this particular class.

We were a group of eight with a wonderful, Jewishly-knowledgeable facilitator, who did a fabulous job in leading us through the four sessions.

It was a very moving, deep experience in which we shared so many memories, some real, some passed down as family folklore. At times it was quite emotional. Our own parents and grandparents played an incredible role in our discussions and seemed to impact how we saw ourselves today as grandparents.

I enjoyed the rich and varied curriculum, which could speak to grandparents of all backgrounds and families. This class — with its insightful Jewish sources, lively discussion, and thought-provoking facilitation — was a gift to each of us. It helped us realize the sacredness of our task as grandparents and the impact each of us can have on our own grandchildren. We all seemed to realize how lucky we are to have the tools of our Judaism to help guide us on our paths as grandparents.

Hebrew College offers community learning programs for all ages, stages, and backgrounds, and graduate leadership programs in rabbinical, cantorial, education and Jewish studies, all within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, depth, creativity, and compassion.
Please help us meet this challenge match! If 180 donors who gave $0-$500 last year (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019) increase their gifts **BY ANY AMOUNT** by Dec. 31, an anonymous donor will donate **$18K** to Hebrew College. #chaichallenge

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**EVENTS**

**NOVEMBER**

**Blossoming: The 2019 Hebrew College Jewish Education Conference**

November 11-12
Hebrew College

[Register](#)

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**LimmudFest Boston 2019**

November 17 | 9 am - 5:30 pm
KI Campus, 384 Harvard St., Brookline, MA

*Hebrew College is a co-sponsor*

[Learn more & purchase tickets](#)

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**Azamra: Alternative Shabbat Community Minyan**
Heidi Urich Annual Lecture on Jewish Genealogy with Saskia Coenen Snyder

*Diamonds, Jews, and the Expansion of 19th Century Global Trade*
Free and open to the public

November 17 | 3:30-5:30 pm
Hebrew College
Co-sponsored by [Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston](http://www.icontact-archive.com/archive?c=1010158&f=11451&s=31...be52d2dadb338aff85253f2c50713da0a6474266a223cf23318b57ca770527) and Hebrew College
Learn more

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Ta Sh'ma (Come & Hear)
Ordination Programs Open House and Day of Learning

*The Open House is full. Please contact us to be added to the wait list.*

November 18 | 8:30 am - 7:30 pm
November 19 (optional day to visit classes)
Hebrew College
Learn more

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With Rabbi Lev Friedman, Rab `18. Supported by the [Hebrew College Innovation Lab](http://www.icontact-archive.com/archive?c=1010158&f=11451&s=31...be52d2dadb338aff85253f2c50713da0a6474266a223cf23318b57ca770527).

November 23 | 10 am - 12 pm
Hebrew College Beit Midrash
Learn more

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**DECEMBER**

A Night of Learning: 70th Birthday Tribute to Rabbi Allan Lehmann

December 5 | 7 pm
Hebrew College
Learn more

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**Torah Godly Play Training**

Learn this Torah-telling practice designed to enhance the spiritual lives of children.

December 15-16 | Hebrew College
Learn more & register
RECAP: A New Hasidism: Study, Reflection, and Celebration

On Sunday, November 3, almost 200 people attended a day of learning and music at Hebrew College to celebrate the launch of Rabbi Art Green’s and Dr. Ariel Mayse’s new two-volume work on Neo-Hasidism. (Pictured clockwise from top left) l-r: Miller Center Director and event moderator Rabbi Or Rose, Stanford University’s Dr. Ariel Mayse, and Hebrew College Rector Art Green; Rabbi Nehemia Polen; Rabbi Lev Friedman, Rab’18 and Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman, Rab’14; Rabbi Ebn Leader. (Photos by Alan Sherman, David Stern, and Laurena Rosenberg)

January 2020: How will Hebrew Language classes look in the future?

Find out in "Digital Pedagogy of Literacy: The Hebrew Class of the Future" offered by Hebrew College in partnership with Hebrew at the Center (HATC), a non-profit organization dedicated to revolutionizing Hebrew teaching and learning.

In this 8-week online course, explore how the integration of technology in second language instruction using the proficiency approach maximizes the effectiveness of Hebrew classes and promotes communicative performance of the learner.

Eight one-hour webinars beginning Monday, January 27, 2020. DOWNLOAD THE FLYER

Learn more & register
Jewish Genealogy with Saskia Coenen Snyder

*Diamonds, Jews and the Expansion of 19th Century Global Trade*

November 17, 2019 | 3:30-5:30 pm

Hebrew College

Free and Open to the Public

*Co-sponsored by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston and Hebrew College*

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