



**JUDAISM AND THE MYSTERIES OF
LIFE, DEATH AND THE WORLD BEYOND -
SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WITH REB SIMCHA RAPHAEL
SHABBATON AT CONGREGATION KOL AMI
CO-SPONSORED WITH JEWISH CENTER AND FEDERATION
NOVEMBER 11-13, 2016**

FRIDAY NITE: "Do Not Go Gentle into the Night" - Moses's Death in Torah and Midrash

In exploring Moses' response to his immanent death in Torah and Midrash we see that he argued and bargained with G'd, going through the stages of dying, depicted by Dr. Kubler-Ross, eventually accepting his death with spiritual wisdom and equanimity. From Moses' encounter with his own death, we discover an approach to end-of-life care with relevant contemporary implications.

SHABBAT MORNING DVAR TORAH: *Lech Lecha* - Abraham's Calling

In this morning's parasha we read about how Abraham is called to leave his home and birthplace and follow his destiny. In what ways are we called in our own lives today to encounter the unknown and follow our own unique destiny? In what ways do encounters with death and loss motivate us to follow new adventures and explore previously unknown horizons?

SHABBAT LUNCH & LEARN: Afterlife Journey of the Soul in Jewish Mysticism

Does Judaism believe in the afterlife? Unequivocally, the answer is yes! However, today many are unaware of traditional Jewish wisdom on life after death. This presentation explores Judaism's afterlife teachings, particularly in Jewish mysticism. We endeavour to understand relevance of these teachings in dealing with the human encounter with death.

HAVADALAH/MOTZEI SHABBAT:

Twilight Between the Worlds: Tales of Ghosts, Wandering Spirits and Reincarnating Souls

As darkness descends, the crack between the worlds becomes apparent. Through the story-telling traditions of Jewish folk religion we shall enter the invisible worlds populated by ghosts, lost souls, haunting spirits, *dybbukim*, and heavenly angelic guides.

SUNDAY MORNING:

Jacob's Deathbed Drama: Guidelines from Genesis for Conscious Living and Conscious Dying

In the closing chapters of the Biblical Book of Genesis we read of the deathbed stories and end-of-life drama of both Jacob and later of his son Joseph. From this session of textual study and conversation, we shall discover contemporary wisdom and practical guidelines for encountering death and loss with integrity and equanimity in our families and communities.

REB SIMCHA RAPHAEL, PH.D. is **Founding Director of DA'AT INSTITUTE for Death Awareness, Advocacy and Training**, Adjunct Professor in Psychology at Bryn Athyn College, and in private practice as a psychotherapist and spiritual director in Philadelphia. Ordained by Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi as a Rabbinic Pastor, he is a member of the Rabbis Without Borders Network, and author of *Jewish Views of the Afterlife*. His website is www.daatinstitute.net