Questions and answers, successes and failures, win and lose ...

Chag HaPesach is one of the Jewish holidays that most calls us to reflection. We are invited to take a journey through the history of the Jewish People and in our Seder to ask questions: “Ma Nishtana HaLalila Haze Mikol Haleilot - why is tonight different from other nights?” The story tells us about the four children: the wise, the bad, the simple and the one who does not know how to ask. And with all this, we narrate the exodus from Egypt, which allowed the people to escape from slavery. All of this can be answered by reading the Haggadah.

However, today, at the beginning of the 21st century, I believe that everyone should reflect on themselves and assess what questions we should ask, whether as wise individuals, as Jews belonging to a beautiful community or as simple people living in this world which changes at breakneck speed and often leaves us out.

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Today, we live in 2017, thousands of years after being chained to pharaohs who ruled the lives of a people. Today we are free, and yet I ask myself, “How far?” Is freedom to look at the clock, meetings and work? Maybe neglecting our lives? Because, certainly, the following situations have happened to us: not being able to go to the doctor because “I do not have time”, or not being able to go to my son’s tennis game because, “I have an urgent meeting” ...

Is freedom to be stuck to e-mails, news about how the same people destroy each other with wars, hunger and bad-treatment, or have time to share a family dinner or go out and play with the children?

Of course, all these questions are not in the Haggadah, but we can answer them individually, depending on our choices.

It is written in our Haggadah: “Vechol Dor Vador Chaiaiv Lirhot Adam et Hatzmó Kehilu yatza MiMitzraim hu” - “In each generation, we are obliged to see ourselves as if each one had left Egypt.”

We thank God that we were not in Egypt 3,000 years ago, like our ancestors, so we can not ignore the request for freedom that we do not always hear.

May God grant us in this Chag HaPesach we can understand the meaning of the word “freedom” today in the twenty-first century, knowing that the time we have lost today will be very difficult to recover tomorrow.

Pesach is time to share our freedom with our loved ones. To enjoy a family dinner, read the Haggadah for our children and to evaluate the possibility that we must live freely according to our ideals and beliefs.

It is my desire to have a Chag Pesach Kasher VeSameach and may we be blessed with the greatest blessing: the blessing of health, freedom and Shalom.

Pesach Kasher VeSameach

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