



"A Temple of Friends"

Connections

Winter 2015-2016 — 5776

Back to the Future

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The movie **Back to the Future** was in the news this October. The main character Marty McFly travels back in time to change the present. He meets his parents as teenagers and, boy, is he in for some surprises! In **Back to the Future II**, Marty goes into the future and gets to see the world in October 2015. The movie producers made some predictions of what life would be like in our day.

How right did they get it? Not very! There are no hover boards. The cost of USA Today went up, but not as much as they predicted. And, no, the Cubs didn't win the World Series. Oddly enough, that prediction was one of the closest things to actually coming true. The NY Mets, however, were spoilers.

While watching the series between the Mets and the Cubs, I kept thinking about what it would be like to travel back or forward in time.

Imagine if you could go back in time to the 50's. You find yourself in a house with a teenager who is about to go out with her friends. As she says goodbye to her parents they say to her: "Be good." Now come back to the present. You see a teenager getting ready to go out with her friends at night. What do parents say today? "Have a good time."

There is a great difference between "be good" and "have a good time."

"Have a good time" means enjoy yourself. It isn't about contributing to make this world a better place. It means, first and foremost, that life is about being served, not serving others.



"Be good" is different. "Be good" means our actions have consequences. "Be good" means that the most important thing you can do is make a difference in this world. It means the purpose of life is "serving others" not "being served."

The difference between "have good" and "be good" is more than just a change of verbs, it is a change of attitude.

Now imagine that we could go back to the time of the Maccabees. Their actions were focused on changing the world that is into the world that could be. This is the meaning of lighting the menorah. This simple ritual reminds us that we can add more and more light to a world that is increasingly dark. It is a reminder that by changing the present, we can change the future!

Chag ha'Urim Sameach!



CREATE a Menorah
or **BRING** a Menorah

Most importantly,
come **LIGHT** a Menorah!

CHANUKAH SHABBAT

Menorah Lighting

Friday, December 11
at 7:45 pm



Annual Menorah Contest
Build the Menorah
of your dreams!

Prizes, chocolate gelt &
sufganiyot—jelly donuts!