



TJCII for YOU

A global, biweekly news update



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Rabbi Marty introduces Rachael Klayman as TJCII's new Director of Administration and Communications



I Have Always Loved Stories

By Rachael Klayman

I have always loved stories. Stories of the friendly bear who befriended the gloomy and depressed donkey. Stories of the emperor who had no clothes. Stories of kingdoms under impending darkness until the most unlikely humble hero saves them all. Stories of the brave woman who saved a kingdom by driving a tent peg through the general's head of the other army. Stories of kindness, peace, adventure and reconciliation. Stories that highlight our human frailty yet allow us to play a role in the redemption of humankind. Stories are a portal into life beyond us and within us. Stories offer hope, encouragement and a way to process the world around us.

Most good stories create a space where the reader is engaged. Hopefully, they are engaged in such a way that they are active participants in the storytelling and the life of the story. Stories bring tears and laughter. They bring sadness and joy. They often open our eyes to gateways we would have not otherwise entered. It seems to me that TJCII is one of these great stories. One of the stories that breaks our hearts open, helps us navigate spaces never traveled and allows us an entry point to listen to the stories of others.

You read about the incredible work that the Lord is doing through TJCII in these updates, and perhaps you have experienced TJCII in your town or in your TJCII intercessory group. Perhaps you have only heard TJCII mentioned in passing. Maybe there is a curiosity to explore what God is doing in this time, this place, this

maybe there is a curiosity to explore what God is doing in this time, this place, this TJCII story. Sometimes it is impossible to stand back and not be a part of the story that is unfolding. Sometimes your name leaps off the page and you realize that, "Wow, that is really me in the story!"

This happened to me several months ago. As I was listening to an update on TJCII, I felt that I heard my name being called out off the pages of the story. My heart has always resonated with the themes of humility and reconciliation that are at the core of the TJCII vision. For years I have listened as the Lord has worked among his people across the globe through TJCII. I have heard life changing stories that are within the larger TJCII story. I have seen people and communities transformed through this powerful work of the Lord. I am excited about this new season for me which involves serving TJCII as the Director of Administration and Communications. I am thrilled to be a part of this story. I look forward to all that it entails. The wonder of the story challenges and encourages me each day.

Being a part of the Toward Jerusalem Council II story looks different for everyone. Perhaps it means listening and following the work that is being done? Maybe it means praying? Perhaps it means supporting TJCII financially? Or maybe it means offering yourself as a volunteer or perhaps another way of serving? This is the surprise and wonder about stories. They can take so many creative turns. We may be a footnote in this great story of reconciliation but never ignore the story. Stories change your life.

Short Bio

- Undergraduate degree in Communications and concentration in Jewish Studies from Moody Bible Institute
- Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Duke University
- Worked in the nonprofit sector in management, programming and communications as well as congregational ministry
- Serves at Congregation Sha'arei Shalom as Rebbetzin and Director of Community Engagement
- Mother of three amazing children
- Loves to read, write and explore new food

Watch for our next email in two weeks!

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