

# Closing Time

Contributed by [Hillel at UCLA](#)

Source:

It is traditional to end seder with *"Next Year in Jerusalem"*. We sometimes think of this as a literal wish, but Jerusalem is more than a place – it is a feeling, a hope. Though it comes at the end of the seder, this moment also marks a beginning. We are beginning the next season with a renewed awareness of the freedoms we enjoy and the obstacles we must still confront. We are ready to embark on a year that we hope will bring positive change in the world and freedom to all people. And in the spirit of thinking about our own story of liberation as a catalyst for change in our world, we add an additional charge: Next year in a just world.

In *The Leader's Guide to the Family Participation Haggadah: A Different Night* Rabbi David Hartman writes: "Passover is the night for reckless dreams; for visions about what a human being can be, what society can be, what people can be, what history may become." What can *we* do to fulfill our reckless dreams? What will be our legacy for future generations? As we close our evening together, consider: what is your own personal Jerusalem where you hope to see yourself a year from now?

**לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה בִּירוּשָׁלַיִם**

*L'shana haba-ah biy'rushalayim*

NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM!