

Pesach is a time of inclusion.

Contributed by [Passy Family](#)

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On seder night, there are two moments where we open our doors and invite others in. One is at the opening of the Magid portion of the seder, when we say, "All who are hungry come and eat." There is a beautiful message here: we were once slaves; poor and hungry, and we remember our redemption by sharing what we have with others.

The other, comes towards the end of the seder, when we open the door for Elijah the Prophet. This is a statement of faith, a statement that says that although we are a free people, our redemption is not yet complete, and we believe that it will come.

From the most downtrodden to the most celebrated, the message is clear: everyone is welcome, and everyone is necessary. Why is it that we go out of our way to include all at our seder table? Perhaps it is because when we make room for others, we have the opportunity to make room for ourselves as well. In fact, the Mishnah (Pesachim 10:5) teaches us that:

”בכל דור ודור חייב אדם לראות את
עצמו כאילו הוא יצא ממצרים.”

“In every generation a person is obligated to
see themselves as if they left Egypt.”

The seder presents us with the obligation of identifying with the generation that left Egypt and internalizing that experience. And through that internalization, we come to feel the redemption as if it was our own as well.

Further, the reliving of the story of the Exodus affords us the opportunity עצמו לראות את – to see one's true self. It is only when we are able to see ourselves clearly, that we are able to be redeemed. But perhaps the only way we are able to see ourselves, is when we are truly able to see those around us.