**Class # 41 – Healing the broken heart of Tisha B’av**

Advanced Fellowship Parsha Class - Sponsored in memory of Alice Toby Barbanel Z”l

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4eGdB45KkII>

1. What is “open adoption”?
2. What is naturally intolerable about adoption to a birth mother?
3. Why does open adoption provide so much comfort to the birth mother?
4. What question about their birth mother dominates an adopted child’s mind?
5. What answer would a birth mother give to the adopted child’s question?
6. Why does this answer only partially answer the question?

Yeshayah [Isaiah 49:14-50 – first section of this week’s haftorah

Zion says, “The LORD has forsaken me, My Lord has forgotten me.”

Can a woman forget her baby, Or disown the child of her womb? Though she might forget, I never could forget you.

See, I have engraved you On the palms of My hands, Your walls are ever before Me.

Swiftly your children are coming; Those who ravaged and ruined you shall leave you.

Look up all around you and see: They are all assembled, are come to you! As I live —declares the LORD— You shall don them all like jewels, Deck yourself with them like a bride.

As for your ruins and desolate places And your land laid waste— You shall soon be crowded with settlers, While destroyers stay far from you.

The children you thought you had lost Shall yet say in your hearing, “The place is too crowded for me; Make room for me to settle.”

And you will say to yourself, “Who bore these for me When I was bereaved and barren, Exiled and disdained— By whom, then, were these reared? I was left all alone— And where have these been?”

Thus said the Lord GOD: I will raise My hand to nations And lift up My banner to peoples; And they shall bring your sons in their bosoms, And carry your daughters on their backs.

Kings shall tend your children, Their queens shall serve you as nurses. They shall bow to you, face to the ground, And lick the dust of your feet. And you shall know that I am the LORD— Those who trust in Me shall not be shamed.

1. Whose is the “mother” and who is the “baby” is this prophecy?
2. Why could Hashem never forget us, while a human mother can forget her baby?
3. What amazing predictions about the ingathering of the Jewish people does the Navi forecast?

Eicha 2:2-4 In blazing anger He has cut down All the might of Israel; He has withdrawn His right hand In the presence of the foe; He has ravaged Jacob like flaming fire, Consuming on all sides. He bent His bow like an enemy, Poised His right hand like a foe; He slew all who delighted the eye. He poured out His wrath like fire In the Tent of Fair Zion.

Eicha 3:10-11 - He is a predatory bear to me, A lion in hiding;

He has forced me off my way and mangled me, He has left me numb.

1. How is Hashem depicted in Eicha? In what way is Hashem’s “abandoning” us to exile, the same as a birthmother giving up her child?
2. Why is it so difficult for us, as an abandoned child, to understand our parent’s reasoning?
3. Why would the natural reaction to this painful reality be to forget exile ever happened? Why would this reaction be a disaster for Israel?
4. Why does Israel, as an abandoned child, need so much comfort specifically after Tisha Bav?
5. What is the hopeful message of the seven comforting Haftorah’s?