

In the Merit of Righteous Women Our Ancestors Were Redeemed From Egypt:

Parshas Shmos:

1. Women self-sacrifice ingoing out to the fields to be with husbands in order to have children. [6 children at child birth]
 - Children are presently viewed as a financial liability – “We can’t afford to have any more children.”
 - Compare to recent statistics that the average Canadian family has 1.5 children
 - One of the 2 major threats to Jewish continuity today is declining birth rate
 - Whose children are they anyway?
 - Do we have a right to bring a child into a cruel world?
 - Is it possible to raise many children in one home properly?
 - Do not confuse the primary reason for wanting children with the supplementary reason
 - What are the trade-offs for having more children?
2. Shifra & Puah [Yocheved & Miriam] refuse to follow Pharaoh’s instructions to kill the baby boys at birth
3. Not one case of immorality amongst the Jews during despite their state of slavery
4. Miriam brings her divorced parents back together in marriage
5. Miriam finds a way to save Moshe
6. Bisya, daughter of Pharaoh, saves Moshe
7. Tzipora circumcises her son & saves Moshe’s life

Parshas Bo:

1. Mitzvah of sanctifying the moon – 1st of Nisan 2448
2. Women take precious valuables from the Egyptian homes during the night of the killing of the first born
 - Custom to give women jewelry/new clothes in honor of each Yom Tov

Parshas Beshalach: Miriam leads the women in Song at the Sea of Reeds

- Women sing to G-d as their role of the enablers of their husbands

Parshas Yisro: Women were asked to accept the Torah before the men were asked

Parshas KiSisa: Women were not involved in the sin of the golden calf

Parshas Vayakhel:

1. Women were willing to go ahead with the building of a lower level Mishkan; while the men were not.
2. Women begin the donations for the building of the Mishkan
3. G-d insists that Moshe accept the mirrors that the women donated. It is used to make the basin, which is also used to restore matrimonial harmony of the Jewish home.

Parshas Pekudei: Mishkan is up and running on Rosh Chodesh Nisan 2449. It is only a women’s holiday

- Men tend to give up after experiencing failure. Women have the innate ability to renew like the moon. Women do not give up when situations are not optimal.

After the Book of Shmos: Men sin after the report of the Spies – women do not. Women merit entering the land of Israel – the men do not.

Talmud: Women are guaranteed a portion of the World to Come in the merit of taking their children to learn Torah and in waiting for their husbands to return from studying Torah.

Questions: What is the one most important quality that a man should look for in a wife?

What can happily married learn from single mothers?

....And in the merit of righteous women will be redeemed again!