

Beyond the Torah is more than a study group; it's an extraordinary adventure. We do not simply read the Torah; we dissect it -- line by line and word by word. And when we think we understand what each verse means, we try to relate it to the time when we believe it was written and then to our own time and even to our own lives. We each bring our own experiences and beliefs to the deciphering of the text and, since our core members include an attorney, a physicist, a psychologist, a writer, an artist, and a Catholic priest, our discussions are fascinating and far-reaching.

GLORYA HALE

The Beyond the Torah Study Group has been meeting for years. After discussing the parashah of the week, one of our members, Bob Levin z"l suggested that we read the rest of the Bible. When we finished reading the entire Bible in July, 2012, we decided to start at the beginning again with Genesis, going at whatever pace we chose and working our way through the Torah. Some weeks we discuss a whole chapter and other weeks only a verse or two. After more than three years, we are now all the way to Leviticus, halfway through the Torah's five books

Our study is amazing. When I read the upcoming section, I often have a certain idea, but when I hear other translations, and other people's thoughts about the meaning of the text and how it applies in our lives today, I get so much more insight.

We welcome new people to come and explore the text with us; each participant makes our mutual study richer.

TOVA INDRITZ

Beyond the Torah is a member-led study group. We meet every Friday morning at 11:45 in the entryway at Nahalat Shalom. Our group has evolved in the several decades since our beginning, and continues to live up to its name. We study not only Torah, but the entire Tanakh, chapter and verse, and delve into commentaries about what we read. Join us! Everyone is welcome!

MARY CARTER

Using the style of the Talmud, here are contributions from dedicated members of our group to provide you with a flavor of our discussions:

the sum of its parts. I have found that participating is a rewarding way to study Torah - putting it into perspective with regard to both the contemporary world in which we live and the ancient world of our ancestors.

DAVID NACHUMSON

I love studying with this group. The discussions are wide ranging and very deep. It's nothing like reading Torah by myself. It's much more satisfying.

SHAD GOLDSTEIN

I get so much from this study group, and learn so much from the various viewpoints. There is frequent laughter and good humor even though we are studying serious material. I benefit from my sense of community and feel totally accepted and welcomed. I have never felt put down because of my ignorance. This is not hyperbole. I have never been part of a spiritual group where I felt so included and cared about. It truly is a community and I am grateful to be part of it.

ANNIE GARDENER

I look forward to unpacking the meaning of Torah every week with this diverse group. Beyond Torah is so nourishing, so personal. The amount I learn is remarkable.

MICHELE DIEL

I appreciate being part of this group. Everyone is friendly, welcoming, respectful to one another, fun, and stimulating. The members always have insights to share that I would not have had on my own. Indeed, the group as a whole is greater than

Congregation Nahalat Shalom
Southwest Center for Jewish Renewal
3606 Rio Grande NW, ABQ, NM
www.nahalatshalom.org
505-343-8227

