

New Jewish Learning Institute Course Being Offered by Ohr HaTorah

Journey of the Soul: An Exploration of Life, Death, and What Lies Beyond

What is a soul? Where does it go after it departs this world? Do Jews believe in heaven and hell? Can souls communicate with us from the afterlife? How does reincarnation work?

Jewish Learning Institute of Charlotte offers a new course on the spiritual side of existence. Journey of the Soul explores the mysteries surrounding the spiritual

dimension of our existence — our destiny that continues even after we've shed our earth-bound bodies. We examine the transition of the soul into the hereafter, the kinds of legacies that are valued even after we've forsaken this earthly existence, and the accompanying emotional journey and rituals that help the soul and those closest to it prepare for its new

reality.

Besides for providing answers to life's biggest questions, Journey of the Soul will inspire you to remain focused on the parts of life that really matter; it will assist you in becoming more in touch with yourself, with your soul, and with your spiritual dimension; and it will help you discover a newfound relationship with your loved ones

who are no longer here with us physically.

Some questions are universal to the human experience. Is there life after death? What happens to the soul after we die? What is it like for those who have traveled over? These are but a few of the questions addressed in this course from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI). Beginning October 27, JLI will present Journey of the Soul, a new six-session course. Rabbi Yossi Groner of Ohr HaTorah, will conduct the six course sessions at 7:30 on six consecutive Tuesdays at Lubavitch Education Center for the evening classes. Rabbi Shlomo Cohen will begin on Wednesday October 28, at 11 AM for six consecutive Wednesdays.

"There's a significant amount of confusion in the Jewish community about what happens to us when we die," explains Rabbi Naftali Silberberg, the lead editor for the course from JLI's center in New York. "Many ideas that originate in other religions and belief systems have been popularized in the media and are taken for granted by unassuming Jews. In Journey of the Soul, we clear up these misconceptions and introduce an authentically Jewish approach which is both surprising and refreshing." Journey of the Soul provides spiritual insight into the soul's journey through life, death, and beyond, as well as ancient Jewish wisdom that sheds light on the philosophical, emotional, and practical aspects of coping with death and mourning.

"Science knows the very little about the soul and what happens to it post mortem," said Rabbi Groner. "It's about what is truly valuable and meaningful in life

which is relevant to everyone, and many in Charlotte have expressed their curiosity to learn about the topic, so we're expecting a good turnout."

Professor Sheldon Solomon of Skidmore College who co-authored the book *The Worm at the Core: On the Role of Death in Life* commented about the JLI course: "This course strikes me as a very fine juxtaposition of ancient theological wisdom with contemporary empirical science. My sense is that this will be an interesting and rewarding educational and personal experience." Similar sentiments were expressed by other experts in the field, including Professor Jeff Greenberg of University of Arizona; Dr. Casey Skvorc from the National Institutes of Health; Pamela Blair, co-author of *I Wasn't Ready to Say Goodbye*; and Bianca Nogrady, author of *The End: The Human Experience of Death*.

The course is being offered in joint sponsorship with the Washington School of Psychiatry, enabling medical and mental health professionals to earn up to 7.5 AMA, APA, CBBS, and ASWB continuing education credits for their participation.

Like all previous JLI programs, Journey of the Soul is designed to appeal to people at all levels of Jewish knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to everyone in the greater Charlotte community. Interested students may call 704-366-3984 or visit www.myJLI.com for registration and other course-related information. JLI courses are presented in Charlotte as part of the Chabad of Charlotte adult education programming. ✨



jips at
Jewish Preschool
on Sardis

B"H

Crafts

Judaica

Songs

Playtime

New Friends

\$5 per class
Drop-ins welcome

Fridays
11:30 am - 12:15 pm
Oct. 16 - Dec. 18
(no meeting on Nov. 27)

Jewish Preschool on Sardis **rm5**
6619 Sardis Road, Charlotte, NC 28270

Following class, you are invited to stay for our all school Shabbat, 12:15 - 12:45pm

Funded by
Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

P2G COMMUNITY TEEN LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE - JUNE/JULY 2016

In collaboration with the Jewish Federation, Temple Beth El, Temple Israel and Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies

PART I CHARLOTTE: Welcome Hadera teens and introduce them to the American way of life. Together they will explore Charlotte's Jewish community and all the Queen city has to offer to learn about our cultural differences, *tzedakah* and leadership.

Special discount for early registration.

Want to hear experiences first hand? Just ask Ari Rabinovich, David Rabinovich, Katy Smith, Jessica Soto or Joey Kelso to share their stories with you!

PART II HADERA: Journey to Israel with teens from across the Southeast and spend two weeks with students from Hadera. Travel the country, engage in *tikkun olam* projects and learn about Israel's politics, culture and society. Enjoy Israeli hospitality and teen life.

Cost for all 4 weeks is \$2,800, which includes a subsidy from the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. *Rates may vary according to cost of flight*

For more information, please contact Tal Stein in the Federation office at 704.944.6751 or tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org