

A Passover Prayer for All Children During A Time of War Rabbi Noam Raucher, MA.Ed - Executive Director

Kavanah - Intention: <u>Recite this prayer as an introduction to the four children. But, before reciting this prayer,</u> we ask that you place an olive on your seder plate. Olives are a food of both the Israeli and Palestinian people. Like children, olives are also small and delicate. As people who are concerned for the welfare of children, it is our hope that war will end, and people will be able to come together, in peace and kindness, over common values, and respect for each other.

O God of our ancestors, who led us out of bondage, In this time of strife and conflict, we call upon You, As we recount the story of our liberation, Grant protection and peace to all children.

> As You parted the sea for our ancestors, Part the dangers that surround all children in war, Lead them safely through the tumultuous waters, To the shores of peace and security.

As You provided manna in the wilderness, Provide sustenance for their bodies and souls, Nourish them with strength and resilience, Amidst the trials and tribulations of war.

> As You passed over the homes of our people, Pass over all children with Your watchful eye, Shield them from harm, shelter them from danger, And let Your presence be their guiding light.

As we celebrate the Passover feast,

May it serve as a reminder of Your faithfulness, And as we pray for the health and well-being of all children, May they be blessed with the peace that surpasses all understanding.

As we look to the olive on the seder plate, To remind us of what we share with others not at this table, or from our community, And to plant the seeds of something common to nourish, and grow together. So all children can eventually eat as one.

As a protector of those most vulnerable, I lift this prayer to You, For the safety, health, and peace for all children, In the midst of this violent time, May they find refuge in Your loving embrace. Amen.

