

**THE  
MISSING  
FIFTH  
CARD 1**

Read this card before  
Kiddush



This Seder Night activity, based on the teachings of Rabbi Sacks זצ"ל, will take everyone at your table on an adventure, discovering a hidden structure behind the words of the Haggadah. It is based on "The Missing Fifth", which can be found in The Jonathan Sacks Haggada (Koren) or downloaded from rabbisacks.org.

It will give you x-ray glasses that will allow you to see a hidden structure to the Seder, noticeable only to the most observant of participants (or to those with the x-ray glasses!)

In the words of Rabbi Sacks: "Just as an x-ray can reveal an earlier painting beneath the surface of a later one, so beneath the surface of the Haggadah there is another pattern to be discerned."

*Jonathan Sacks*  
THE RABBI SACKS LEGACY

**THE  
MISSING  
FIFTH  
CARD 2**

Read this card after  
Kiddush

Let's start with the following questions:

What are the sets of 'fours' in the Haggadah?  
How many can you find?

Why do you think there are so many sets of fours  
within the structure of the Haggadah?

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## THE MISSING FIFTH CARD 3

Read this card after  
Ma Nishtana

Here is the first set of four, **The Four Questions**. But were there always only four questions? Invite someone to read this text from the Mishnah (Pesachim 10:4):

מִזְגוּ לוֹ כּוֹס שֵׁנִי, וְכָאֵן הֵבֵן שׁוֹאֵל אָבִיו, וְאִם אֵין דַּעַת בְּבֶן, אָבִיו מְלַמֵּד, מֵה נִשְׁתַּנָּה הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל הַלֵּילוֹת, שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין חֶמֶץ וּמַצָּה, הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה כָּלֹ מַצָּה. שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין שְׂאֵר יִרְקוֹת, הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה מְרוֹר. שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין בָּשָׂר צָלִי, שְׁלֹק, וּמִבְשָׁל, הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה כָּלֹ צָלִי. שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ מְטְבִילִין פְּעָמִים אֶחָת, הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְּעָמִים.

They poured him a second cup, and here the child questions the father. If the child lacks the intelligence to ask, the father instructs: On every other night we dip once, on this night we dip twice? Every other night we eat either bread or matzah, but tonight there is only matzah. Every other night we eat roasted, stewed, or boiled meat, but tonight only roasted. Every other night we dip during the meal only once, but tonight we dip twice.

Compare this text to your Haggadah?  
What are the differences?

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## THE MISSING FIFTH CARD 4

Read this card after  
The Four Children

Here's our second set of four, **The Four Children**. But are there only four?

According to the sixth Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn, the Four Children represent the previous four Jewish generations. The **Wise Child** represents the first generation of immigrants from Eastern Europe who were deeply religious. The next generation, the **Wicked Child**, often rejected their parents' religiosity to try and fit in to the new host society. The third generation, the **Simple Child**, is confused. They saw their grandparents doing mitzvot, and their parents lead a life without keeping mitzvot. The fourth generation, the **Child Who Does Not Know How to Ask**, was born after their great-grandparents had died. They only saw rejection and confusion growing up, and so they don't even have the language to engage. Rabbi Sacks relates this interpretation in his Haggadah, and tells us that Rabbi Schneersohn identified a **fifth child**.

Can you guess who the missing fifth child is?

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## THE MISSING FIFTH CARD 5

Read this card at the end of Maggid, before the Second Cup

We have now reached the second of our **Four Cups** of wine. But were there always only four cups? Read this quote from an early edition of the Talmud:

תנו רבנן, חמישי גומר עליו את ההלל ואומר הלל הגדול, דברי רבי טרפון

The Sages taught in a Baraita: With regard to the fifth cup, one completes Hallel over it and recites the great Hallel; this is the statement of Rabbi Tarfon.

The commentators disagreed about this fifth cup:

Rashi

There are only four cups. It is forbidden to drink a fifth. (This version of the Talmud has a misprint.)

Rambam

There is a fifth cup. It is optional, not obligatory.

Ravad

It is a mitzvah to drink a fifth cup, but not obligatory.

What is the fifth cup and do we drink it at our Seder?

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## THE MISSING FIFTH CARD 6

Read this card after the matza and marror have been eaten

The Jerusalem Talmud says the four cups symbolise the **four expressions of redemption** in God's promise to Moshe. This is our fourth set of fours. How could Rabbi Tarfon suggest that there are five cups? See this promise in Shemot 6:6-8:

לכן אמר לבני ישראל אני ה' והוצאתי אתכם מתחת סבלת מצרים והצילתי אתכם מעבדתם וגאלתי אתכם בדרוע נטויה ובשפטים גדלים. ולקחתי אתכם לי לעם והייתי לכם לאלקים וידעתם כי אני ה' אלקיכם המוציא אתכם מתחת סבלות מצרים. והבאתי אתכם אל הארץ אשר נשאתי את ידי לתת אתה לאברהם ליצחק וליעקב ונתתי אתה לכם מורשה אני ה'.

Therefore, say to the Israelites: I am the Lord, and I will free you from the forced labour of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from slavery. I will liberate you with an arm stretched forth and with great acts of judgment. I will take you as My people and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, freeing you from Egyptian forced labour. And I will bring you to the land that I promised to give to Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov; to you I will give it as a possession. I am the Lord.

What are the four expressions of redemption?  
Is there a fifth expression? What is it?

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**THE  
MISSING  
FIFTH  
CARD 7**

Read this card during  
the meal



Are there only four sets of four on Seder night?

Rabbi Sacks suggests otherwise:

There is, in fact, another 'four' on the Seder night, namely the **four biblical verses** whose exposition forms an important part of the Haggadah. (See Devarim 26:5-8.)

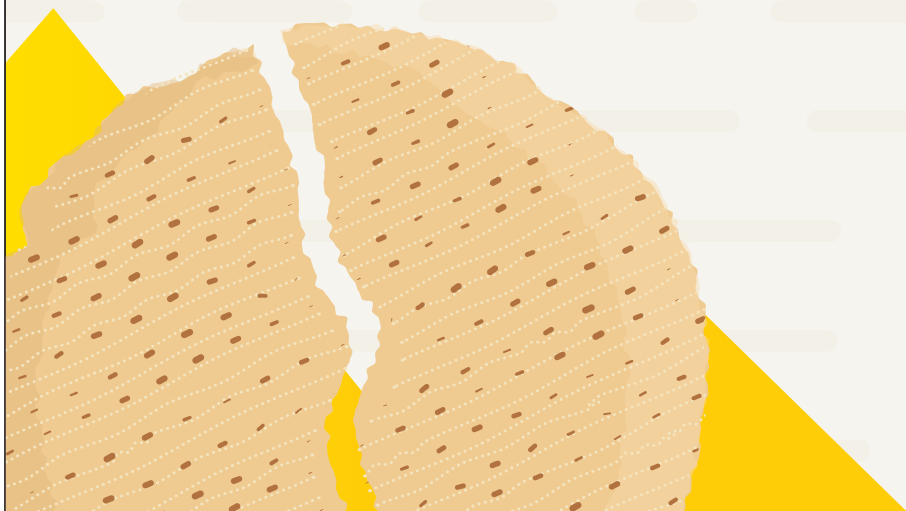
**Can you find these four verses in the Haggadah?  
What do they say?**

**Does this fifth set of four also have a hidden fifth?  
If so, what is it?**

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**THE  
MISSING  
FIFTH  
CARD 8**

Read this card before  
the Afikoman is eaten



We have now identified five sets of five (an extra fifth to our original four sets of four, and an extra set of four, which also has its own hidden fifth).

**What do our missing fifths in each set  
have in common with each other?**

**What message can we take from this  
theme from the missing fifths?**

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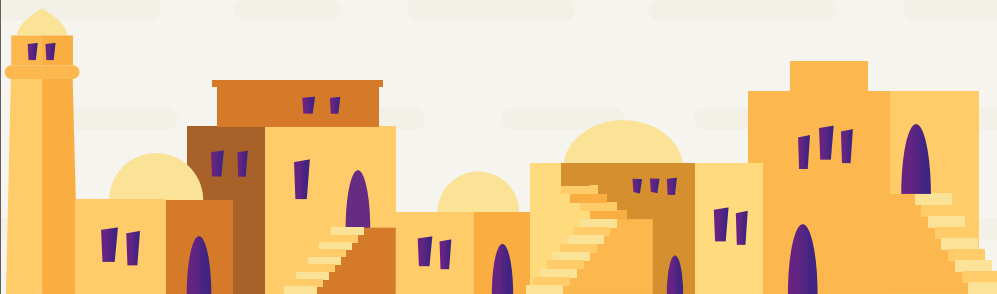
## THE MISSING FIFTH CARD 9

Read this card to  
conclude the Seder  
activity

We conclude this Seder activity with the words of Rabbi Sacks:

"So beneath the surface of the Haggadah we find not four fours, but five fives. In each case there is a missing fifth – a cup, an expression of deliverance, a verse, a question, and a child. Each points to something incomplete in our present situation. In the half-century since the Holocaust the Jewish people has emerged from darkness to light. The State of Israel has come into being. The Hebrew language has been reborn. Jews have been brought to safety from the countries where they faced persecution. In the liberal democracies of the West, Jews have gained freedom, and even prominence and affluence.

But Israel is not yet at peace. In the Diaspora, assimilation continues apace. Many Jews are estranged from their people and their faith. Something is missing from our celebration – **the fifth cup, the fifth deliverance, the fifth verse, the fifth question, and the fifth child**. That is a measure of what is still to be achieved. We have not yet reached our destination. The missing fifths remind us of work still to be done, a journey not yet complete."



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## THE MISSING FIFTH: ANSWER CARD

**Card 2:** There are four sets of four! **(1)** The Four Questions; **(2)** The Four Children; **(3)** the Four Cups of Wine; **(4)** The Four Expressions of Redemption. The Four Children and the Four Expressions of Redemption are based on verses found in the Torah. It could be that the Rabbis chose to continue this structure of fours as another engaging element of the Seder night to keep participants engaged.

**Card 3:** The third of the four questions here is different from Ma Nishtana in our Haggadah. **Instead of "Every other night, some sit to eat and some recline, but tonight we are all reclining" the Mishnah has "Every other night we dip during the meal only once; but tonight we dip twice."**

**Card 4:** The **fifth child** is the one who is not there, the child lost through marrying out and assimilation. This child doesn't even know it is Pesach and does not even manage to find their way to a Seder.

**Card 5:** The **fifth cup** is the Cup of Eliyahu. We pour it (out of respect for Ravad and Rambam) but do not drink it (out of respect for Rashi).

**Card 6:** The four expressions are **וְהוֹצֵאתִי**, I will free you/take you out; **וְהִצַּלְתִּי**, I will rescue you; **וְגִאֲלֵתִי**, I will liberate you; **וְלִקְחָתִי**, I will take you as My people. The **fifth expression** is **וְהִבֵּאתִי**, I will bring you to the land.

**Card 7:** The four verses are: **(1)** "An Aramean sought my father's death." **(2)** "And the Egyptians dealt cruelly with us and oppressed us." **(3)** "And we cried to the Lord, God of our ancestors." **(4)** "And the Lord brought us out of Egypt." **The hidden fifth** from this set of four is "He brought us to this place [the land of Israel] and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey" (Devarim 26:9).

**Card 8:** All the missing fifths are connected to Israel and redemption. **The fifth question** was asked when we ate the Korban Pesach and had a Temple. **The fifth child** is lost to us now, but will return to us when the final redemption comes. The **fifth cup** is the cup of Eliyahu the Prophet who, tradition tells us, will herald the final redemption. **The fifth expression of redemption** and **the missing fifth of the verses from which the Haggadah is expounded** both speak about God bringing the Israelites to the Promised Land. The message we can take from these missing fifths is, in the words of Rabbi Sacks: "Each points to something incomplete in our present situation... [and] a measure of what is still to be achieved. We have not yet reached our destination. The missing fifths remind us of work still to be done, a journey not yet complete."