



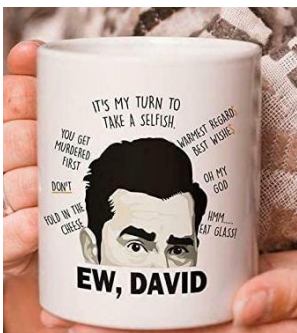
## The Jewish Values Scattered Around “Schitt’s Creek”

PAS Lunch and Learn – April 21, 2021  
Presented by Rabbi Charlie Savenor

*Schitt's Creek is a classic fish-out-of-water tale with a Jewish soul. More than an example of what life is like in a small North American town, this show explores the meaning of family and community when life doesn't turn out the way you planned.*

### Roadmap

- 1) Introductions: The Maimonidean Approach; No Spoilers!
- 2) If you needed to leave your home quickly, what would you bring with you?  
(Please put something in chat)
- 3) Jewish Moments vs Jewish Values
- 4) Departures
  - a. Genesis 3:23
  - b. Genesis 12:1
- 5) Approaching the Other - “Like a Greek in a Sukkah”
  - a. “Bob’s Bagels” – Season 2, Episode 5 – 7:42-9:31
  - b. “Honeymoon” Season 1, Episode 10
  - c. Pirke Avot (Ethics of Our Ancestors) Chapter 4:20
- 6) Taking Care of Those in Need
  - a. Maimonides Mishneh Torah, Matanot Aniyim 7:3
  - b. Pirke Avot (Ethics of our Ancestors) Chapter 4:1
- 7) Not Embarrassing Others
  - a. “Happy Anniversary” Season 2, Episode 13 -- 15:20-17:30
  - b. Talmud Tractate Baba Metzia 58b



- 8) It's All About the Roses - “The Thirteen Petalled Rose” Adin Steinsaltz z”l
- 9) Your Takeaways – What will *you* “fold in the cheese?”

## Departures

### Genesis 3:23

וַיִּשְׁלַחְתֵּהוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים מִגַּן-עֵדֶן לְעַבְדֹת אֶת-הָאָדָמָה אֲשֶׁר לָקַח מִן־שָׂם:

“So the God banished (Adam) him from the Garden of Eden, to till the soil from which he was taken.”

### Genesis 12:1

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָם לֵךְ-לְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ צָרָךְ וּמִמּוֹלַדְתְּךָ וּמִבְּיַת אָבִיךָ אֶל-הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֶרְאֶךָ:

God said to Abram, ‘Go forth from your land, from your birthplace, and from your father’s house to the land that I will show you.’



*“You take that ember of independence and you keep it burning.  
Because you, my darling, are destined to be on fire.”*

Moira Rose to Alexis Rose

## הַכֹּהֵן הַיִּשְׂרָאֵלִי מְצַדֵּק אֶת הַיִּשְׂרָאֵלִי וְאֵת הַיִּשְׂרָאֵלִי מְצַדֵּק אֶת הַכֹּהֵן means "like a Greek in a Sukkah"

### "Honeymoon" Season 1, Episode 10

**Stevie:** So, just to be clear, um, I'm a red wine drinker.

**David:** That's fine.

**Stevie:** Okay, cool. But, uh, I only drink red wine.

**David:** Okay.

**Stevie:** And up until last night I was under the impression that you too only drank red wine. But I guess I was wrong?

**David:** I see where you're going with this. Um, I do drink red wine. But I also drink white wine.

**Stevie:** Oh.

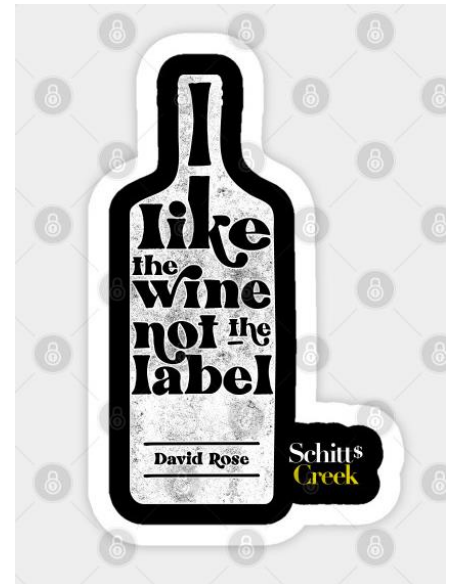
**David:** And I've been known to sample the occasional rosé. And a couple summers back I tried a merlot, that used to be a chardonnay.

**Stevie:** Uh, okay.

**David:** Which got a bit complicated.

**Stevie:** Yeah, so, you're just really open to all wines.

**David:** I like the wine, and not the label. Does that make sense?



### Pirke Avot 4:20

רַבִּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר בֶּן הַחֵיטִי, אָל תִּסְתַּכֵּל בַּקֶּיִץ, אֶל אֲשֶׁר בּוֹ

Rabbi (Rabbi Yehuda haNasi) said:

“Don’t look at the container, but at that which is in it.”



## Taking Care of Those in Need

### Maimonides Mishneh Torah, Matanot Aniym 7:3

לְפִי מַה שֶׁחָסֵר הָעֲנִי אֶתָּה מְצֹוֶה לָתֵן לוֹ. אִם אֵין לוֹ כְּסוּת מְכַסִּים אוֹתוֹ. אִם אֵין לוֹ כְּלֵי בַּיִת קוֹנֵין לוֹ. אִם אֵין לוֹ אִשָּׁה מְשִׂיאִין אוֹתוֹ. וְאִם הֵיְתָה אִשָּׁה מְשִׂיאִין אוֹתָהּ לְאִישׁ. אֶפְלוּ הָיָה דְרָכּוֹ שֶׁל זֶה הָעֲנִי לָרֶכֶב עַל הַסּוּס וְעָבַד רֶץ לְפָנָיו וְהָעֲנִי וְיָרַד מִנְכָסָיו קוֹנֵין לוֹ סוּס לָרֶכֶב עָלָיו וְעָבַד לְרוּץ לְפָנָיו שְׁנַאֲמַר (דְּבָרִים טו ח) "דִּי מַחְסְרוֹ אֲשֶׁר יַחְסֵר לוֹ". וּמְצֹוֶה אֶתָּה לְהַשְׁלִים חֲסָרוֹנוֹ וְאֵין אֶתָּה מְצֹוֶה לַעֲשֹׂרוֹ:

One is commanded to give to a poor person according to what he lacks. If he has no clothes, they clothe him. If he has no utensils for a house, they buy [them] for him. If he does not have a wife, they arrange a marriage for him. If [the poor person] is a woman, they arrange a husband for marriage for her. Even if it was the custom of [a person who was rich but is now] a poor person to ride on a horse with a servant running in front of him, and this is a person who fell from his station, they buy him a horse to ride upon and a servant to run in front of him, as it is said, "Sufficient for whatever he needs." ([Deut. 15:8](#)) You are commanded to fill whatever he lacks, but you are not commanded to make him wealthy.



### Pirke Avot 4:1

אֵיזְהוּ עָשִׂיר, הַשֹּׂמֵחַ בְּחֻלְקוֹ?

Ben Zoma said: "Who is rich? One who is happy with what they have."

## Not Embarrassing Others

### Talmud Tractate Baba Metzia 58b

Anyone who humiliates another person in public, it is as though they were spilling blood. Rav Nahman bar Yitzhak said to student: You have spoken well, as we see that (after the humiliated person blushes,) the red leaves (their face) and pallor comes (in its place, which is tantamount to spilling their blood.)



## It's All About the Roses

### *The Thirteen Petalled Rose - Adin Steinsaltz z"l*

The constant pressure of bodily requirement, the agitation of an ever more hurried life, the noise and excitement of amusements of all kinds serve to dull the soul's aspirations, but they do not eliminate them. Nothing can take their place. And often there remains only an obscure feeling of pain, an almost unconscious sense of lack, of want and deficiency. Sometimes this bursts out with immense force as a great longing or inner need, even if there is no clear knowledge of what it is that is missing. ... And if a person permits his soul to listen, the soul will soon learn that all it needs to do is remember. Because in some dim and enigmatic way, it already knows all this.

