

## **What Students Say about the Conversion Program.....**

“The class is excellent. Being able to hear from all the different Rabbis in the area I think makes the program unique. Also the Hebrew lessons are very valuable especially for someone who is considering converting, and in my opinion essential. The topics are varied and covered in great detail by the various Rabbis. I feel the class provides a very good foundation for those of us in the conversion process.” R

“I am pleasantly surprised by how well-rounded and organized the class is. I especially like the fact that we will have a chance to visit all the synagogues and hear from all the different Rabbis. I feel that this is giving me a much broader view of Judaism and a greater appreciation of the culture and traditions.” - L

“The classes have been great! The wide spectrum of speakers help make the world of Judaism open up. All the classes have been informative and interesting. Thanks for all the work you put into our classes!!” L

“I have found the conversion classes to be absolutely outstanding. I am very grateful for the quality of the program and the effort that you put into making this a wonderful experience for those of us who did not grow up with Judaism. You and the rabbinic community are doing an exceptional thing for those of us in the class - thank you so much.” M

“I feel the program is giving me a broad spectrum of Judaism. I think the class will allow me to view, speak, and represent Judaism in a way that is meaningful to me. I appreciate the different views from the Rabbi's across the KC metro area. I enjoy going to the class every week and learning about a different parts/aspects of the religion.” S

“I enjoy the sessions and look forward to going to class each week.” L

“Highlights for me so far include: the Sukkah night (in spite of the rain) and the ask-the-rabbi panel with rabbis from the three movements.” G

“The curriculum offers a participant the opportunity to be exposed to a breadth of information about the Jewish people and at the same time opens the door to in-depth exploration of religious practice, history, custom and language. Having someone put the collection of “required” books into my hands is a gift beyond measure and added to that is the time and expertise contributed by each and every teacher. Regardless of the intention or eventual conversion of any of the participants, the simple offering of the class is “tikkun olam” in practice.” S “ have found the weekly lectures quite enriching. The books that are a part of the program are invaluable, but the weekly meetings add clarity and richness to the texts. In addition, the meeting allow for friendships and a sense of community and culture to develop.” S

"I appreciate that the class incorporates all the movements and that we change sites and hear from many rabbis within the different movements. I also appreciate that we are able to meet separately with a rabbi of our choosing to help us on this journey." G

"The class is an Incredibly good idea - allows us to (1) meet many of the congregational rabbis in town, (2) allows us to meet with other Jews-by-Choice and develop friendships with them, regardless of movement affiliation; (3) presumably takes some of the burden off the sponsoring rabbis who can focus on issues that they (or the convert) find particularly meaningful without having to sacrifice the time needed to get a convert familiar with the fundamentals of Judaism." J

"I have learned so much and love the discussion and questions everyone brings up. It also allows us to learn and see things from different points of view in a non biased environment where we can grow and then make our own decisions about where we belong." B

"The people involved are a great support system and I would not go any where else." B

"I had no clue what to expect when I began the course. I'm glad to say that if I had any remote expectation – those expectations were exceeded."

"I have never experienced celebrating the holiday of Sukkot in a Sukkah before and would not have had the opportunity without the class."

"Class truly exceeded my expectations and I would highly recommend it."

"The faculty was very impressive in their knowledge and insight. The class on Jewish history was tremendously helpful; the class on Torah had a big effect on my understanding of Judaism."

"I think it is a wonderful program and a rare opportunity to learn from so many different points of view."

"I really enjoyed the format of the class. Having different rabbis teach the class was a great way to learn."

"This experience has changed my life and the way I view the world."

"I am grateful for all the thought and consideration that went into the conversion class. It was obvious how much was planned in advance, and how well we were welcomed and helped throughout the entire process. Wherever I went, every effort was made to help me better understand and discover as much as I could. The more I learned, the more I realized that there is to learn. The conversion classes exposed me to many resources, people and places that will be my reference points in life as I continue to pursue my faith. The best part was knowing that someone always cared and was interested in seeing me through this process of converting from beginning to end."

“The topics covered the spectrum of Jewish content and by holding classes in several local synagogues; we were able to become familiar with our local Jewish institutions. The class coordinator did an excellent job and helped to foster a real sense of community and inquisitiveness.”