

Tashlich Service

To prepare for Tashlich, gather some rocks, pebbles or shells. Don't use bread because it harms the fish and birds that eat it. Go to the edge of the water with your rocks or shells and recite the following passages.

מִי־אֵל כְּמוֹךָ נִשְׂא עֵוֹן וְעִבֵּר עַל־פֶּשַׁע לְשֹׂאֲרֵית נַחֲלָתוֹ לֹא־הֶחְזִיק לְעַד אָפוּ כִּי־חֶפֶץ חֶסֶד הוּא: יָשׁוּב
יִרְחַמְנוּ וְיִכְבֹּשׁ עֲוֹנוֹתֵינוּ וְתִשְׁלִיךְ בְּמַצְלוֹת יָם כָּל־חַטָּאתָם:

*Me El Kamochah, Nosay Avone V'Ovayr Al Peshah LiSh'ayreet Nachalato Lo Hechezeek La'ad Apo
Kee Chafetz Chesed Hu. Yashuv Y'rachamaynu Yeechbosh Avonotayanu V'Tashlich Beemtzulot
Yam Kol Chatotam.*

*Who is like You, O Holy One, forgiving iniquity and pardoning the transgressions of
Your people? You don't stay angry forever, but You delight in lovingkindness. You
have compassion upon us, casting all our sins into the depths of the sea. – Micah
7:18-19*

הַשְׁלִיכוּ מֵעַלְיֵכֶם אֶת־כָּל־פְּשָׁעֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר פָּשַׁעְתֶּם בָּם וַעֲשׂוּ לָכֶם לֵב חָדָשׁ וְרוּחַ חָדָשׁ

*Hashlichu Mayalaychem Et Kol Peesaychem Asher P'Shatem Bam VaAsu Lachem Lev Chadash
V'Ruach Chadashah.*

*Cast away from yourselves all your negativity, and create within you a new heart
and a new spirit. – Ezekiel 18:31*

Take your rocks or shells, look at them and think about the negative traits or habits that are a part of you or have crept into your life over the past year. Visualize the negativity of those habits that you want to remove, and place them in the stones or shells. One by one, say to yourself what is the negativity you want to remove, "put" it into the stone or shell, and throw it into the water. The Water is a cleansing agent. Let go of the negativity. Be done with it. And remove the negativity from your life. Take a few minutes to let it sink in, and begin the New Year with new hope, direction and purpose.

Now... Reverse It!



Repair the Sea
תיקון הים

Reverse Tashlich

לֹא-יִרְעוּ וְלֹא-יִשְׁחִיתוּ בְּכָל-הָר קֹדְשִׁי בִּי-מְלָאָה הָאָרֶץ יָדְעָה אֶת-ה' בַּמַּיִם לַיָּם מִכַּסִּים:

Lo Yarayu V'Lo Yashchitu B'Chol Har Kodshee Kee Malah HaAretz Dayah Et Adonai KaMayyim LaYam M'chasim.

None shall hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, for the knowledge of that which is truly Divine shall fill the earth, as the water fills the sea. – Isaiah 11:9

We have cast our personal sins into the water. Now let's take out the "sins" created by humans. As we have entered the new year with pure hearts and good intentions, let's look at the other "sins" in the water* and fulfill the Mitzvah of Bal Tashchit, the prohibition against needless waste and destruction. [*For those not at a waterfront location replace this with "let's look at the other sins that could make their way to the water."]

After your team leader has explained everything about the Reverse Tashlich Cleanup, start removing the human sins that are polluting the water and, just as we cast off our own negativity, continue to do so as you remove the sins of humanity.

With each plastic bottle you collect, ask yourself: How many plastic bottles have I used in the past year? Resolve to use a reusable bottle.

With each plastic fork, knife or spoon that you collect, ask yourself: How many pieces of single-use plastic cutlery have I used in the past year? Resolve to utilize reusable cutlery.

With each plastic shopping bag you find, ask yourself: How many single-use plastic shopping bags have I taken in the past year? Resolve to use reusable shopping bags.

With every snack bag you find, ask yourself: How many snacks have I eaten from bags like these during the past year? Resolve to start eating healthier for you and the Planet. Choose fresh fruits that aren't wrapped in plastic.



Repair the Sea
תיקון הים

With every cigarette butt, every piece of styrofoam, every piece of microplastic that you find, resolve to raise your voice to promote change within your community. [Microplastics are the tiny plastic fragments you'll see almost everywhere you look. They are the most dangerous of all plastic pollution.]

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ: וְהָאָרֶץ הָיְתָה תוֹהוּ וָבוֹהוּ וְרוּחַ אֱלֹהִים מְרַחֶפֶת עַל־פְּנֵי הַמַּיִם:

Bereshit Bara Elohim Et HaShamayim V'Et HaAretz. V'HaAretz Haitah Tohu VaVohu, V'Choshech Al P'nai Tahom, V'Ruach Elohim Mirachefet Al P'nai HaMayyim.

In the Beginning, God created the Heaven and the Earth. And the Earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep... and the Spirit of God hovers on the water. – Genesis 1:1-2

The Spirit of God is on the Water.



Repair the Sea
תיקון הים