

# THE WEXNER FOUNDATION

## THE LEADERSHIP OF TORAH

November 4, 2021 | Erica Brown | Leadership and an Identity Crisis

- elkaabrahamson: Learning today on my dad
- elkaabrahamson: Dad's third yahrzeit
- Becca Thomas: Erica's source sheet for today is accessible here:  
[https://www.wexnerfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/11-4\\_Gen-25-Leadership-and-Identity.pdf](https://www.wexnerfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/11-4_Gen-25-Leadership-and-Identity.pdf)
- Jacqueline Shelton: A refuah shlemah for my friend Shoshana bat Galia
- Vanessa Ressler WHP Miami (she/her): Mic drop!
- Susan Rizzo: Looks like possibly the least sanitary path of egress from the womb.
- Vanessa Ressler WHP Miami (she/her): I am also frankly not totally sure where he is emerging from - and that poor woman in a huge dress doing this.
- Susan Rizzo: Also, if Rivka lets go of that towel, she's gonna face plant.
- elkaabrahamson: No men in the room
- Joan Laguatan: position of woman giving birth not customary
- Jeni Friedman: Would the artist have ever witnessed a birth?
- Orli Garti Seroussi: My Mather was a twin, so I dedicate this learning to her (ZL) and her twin sister (92)
- D & E Toizer: Who is the person with her in blue?
- Angie Atkins: The ongoing Beit Midrash document — that contains extra sources/ideas Erica mentions OR that you would like to add for the community — can be accessed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CKXtpqyYC1qxz0x65iHCzxONiPlgcMVzE9vhXk8uYHk/edit?usp=sharing>
- Angie Atkins: A reminder to everyone to have your cameras on if possible — we love to see your panim as we are learning together.
- Amy Goldberg: Elka, you mean Dr Google?
- Vanessa Ressler WHP Miami (she/her): YES! We have swung sooooo far the other way. Thank G-D for modern medicine, but sometimes we really do make it so complicated and scary.
- Michelle Anfang: Does Rivka fear she will die?
- Sheri Shapiro: I wonder if she is having a "be careful what you wish for" moment
- Jessica Semel: I came on late - is there an art piece with this
- Vanessa Ressler WHP Miami (she/her): Jessica should be in packet:  
[https://www.wexnerfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/11-4\\_Gen-25-Leadership-and-Identity.pdf](https://www.wexnerfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/11-4_Gen-25-Leadership-and-Identity.pdf)
- Judy Oberlander: why do I exist? ...in a mediation role with two nations?

Caren Hammerman: When there was no one to step in to take the reins, and I was the only one who had had any last leadership.

Orli Garti Seroussi: 10 years ago, I was in that junction in my life...

susanborison: Is this like The Art of Gathering? Should we always ask ourselves this question? Why do I exist in this moment

Angie Atkins: @Sue - love that. Also is that a way to go crazy?

Sonia: Ditto1

Amy Goldberg: Yes, sometimes organizations are disappointing

susanborison: Angie - I hope not. I think it's reflective. Why am I here at this moment?

Yaffa Epstein: If only we gave each other this bandwidth and compassion!

Lisa Lisser: A mordechai to Esther moment

susanborison: Becoming a parent made us wonder where the grownups were. We didn't think we were old enough to be responsible for this daunting task. And G-d's response is - you're up to the challenge.

elkaabrahamson: Does anyone ever have clarity from the Holy One? Is that what Paul experienced?

Angie Atkins: Was thinking the "Ze" in lama ZE anokhi, points to Simon Sinek's WHY — we must know the mission, the why to give us chizuk for the hard times

Sheri Shapiro: Is the "why do I exist" question a simultaneous self-doubt and call to action?

Lisa Lisser: Yes!

elkaabrahamson: Yashar Koach!