

לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה תִּכְתְּבוּ

May y'all be inscribed for a good year

Water reminds us of creation

- reminds us that we were created good and can turn back to good
- Creation reminds us that we are partners w/ G-d. We think of all the ways we fell short in our part of the partnership
- We know that part of being in partnership w/G-d is the infinite potential for forgiveness on G-d's part and the infinite potential for תשובה on our part

We see this body of water and although the pond may stay the same, the waters are always moving and changing. Like the waters, we can change.

We look at fish and ducks in our water and we are reminded of our responsibility to take care of the world and everything in it.

- with each crumb we toss we acknowledge how we have fallen short in these responsibilities

We look at the fish and realize that they do not close their eyes, and we acknowledge that G-d's eyes are always open to watch over us.

אָבִינוּ מִלְּפָנֶיךָ חַנּוּן וְעֲנּוּן, כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים,
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחַסֵּד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ.

*Our Father, Our King, be gracious to us and answer us, for we have little merit.
Treat us generously and with kindness and be our help.*

Before we begin to cast our sins, we listen to the words of the Scriptures:

Who is like You, God, who removes iniquity and overlooks transgression of the remainder of God's inheritance. God doesn't remain angry forever because God desires kindness. God will return and be merciful to us, and God will help us conquer our iniquities, and will cast them into the depths of the seas.

Out of the depths I call to You, O God. Hear my voice; let your ears be attentive to my supplicating voice. If you, O God, kept strict account of iniquities, who could live on? But with You there is forgiveness. I look for You. My whole being hopes; I wait for Your word. My soul waits for You, more eagerly than watchers for the dawn. O Israel, put your hope in Adonai for with God there is kindness; with God there is great saving power. It is Adonai who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities. (Psalm 130)

ה' ה', אֵל רַחוּם וְחַנוּן אֶרֶךְ אַפַּיִם וְרַב־חַסֵּד וְאֱמֶת.
נִצֵּר חַסֵּד לְאַלְפִים נִשְׂא עוֹן וּפְשָׁע וְחַטָּאָה וְנִקְיָה.

The Eternal! The Eternal! God, Compassionate and Gracious, Slow to anger and Abundant in Kindness and Truth, Preserver of kindness for thousands of generations, Forgiver of iniquity, willful sin, and error, and One Who Cleanses

We have come to *this* body of water to perform the Tashlich ceremony, seeking symbolically to "cast away" our sins and transgressions so that we may purify our hearts and our souls, as the new year begins.

Repeat each confession after me, pausing to consider how it may affect our life, and then tossing "crumbs*" (or animal healthy alternatives) into the water for each one:

Let us cast away the sin of deception.

Let us cast away the sin of vain ambition.

Let us cast away the sin of stubbornness.

Let us cast away the sin of envy.

Let us cast away the sin of selfishness.

Let us cast away the sin of indifference.

Let us cast away the sin of pride and arrogance.

Let us cast away the sin of Lashon Hara using our words to make others uncomfortable

Let us cast away the sin of laziness.

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנָשׁוּבָה, חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקִדְמוֹת.

Turn us back to You and we shall return.