



## Give to the Needy (*Matanot La'evyonim*)

Concern for the needy is a year-round responsibility; but on Purim it is a special mitzvah to remember the poor. **Give charity to at least two**, (but preferably more) **needy individuals on Purim day, February 28, 2010.**

The mitzvah is best fulfilled by giving directly to the needy. If, however, you cannot find a poor person, place at least two coins into a Tzedakah box. You can also choose to give the coins to your Congregation's Designated Charity for Purim. **We encourage you to send your gift to Eshav Books for it's Funds for the Poor & Needy. Eshav supports the poor in a variety of ways to fulfill this mitzvah.**

As with the other mitzvahs of Purim, even small children should fulfill this mitzvah. This can be fulfilled through any type of gift: money, food, drink, or clothing. Optimally, the gift should be substantial. If the gift is money, the amount should enable the poor person to purchase bread sufficient for at least one meal. However, the recipient may use these gifts in any way that he sees fit. We do not attempt to determine whether the recipient is indeed poor, whoever stretches out his hand is to be given a gift. God treats us as we treat others. On Purim, if we give others the "benefit of the doubt" and don't check their worthiness, then God doesn't "check us for worthiness" either. Purim, therefore, is an auspicious time to ask God to bestow gifts of health, unity and a speedy redemption for the all people.

*They are to observe these as days of feasting and gladness, and for sending delicacies to one another, and giving gifts to the poor. (Esther 9:22)*

## Kids Craft Idea: Make a Tzedakah Box!

### Supplies

Empty, Clean Nut Container  
Silver Paint and Foam Brush  
Blue or any color Sequins  
Tacky Glue and Toothpick  
Small piece of Shiny Blue Wrapping Paper  
Craft Knife and Scissors

### Instructions

Remove lid. Remove label from container and paint it with silver paint. Let dry. Use dabs of tacky glue to attach blue sequins in rows along the top and bottom. Cut two stars of David out of blue wrapping paper and glue them on each side of the box. Have an adult help cut a slit in the plastic lid for coins.

