# KADEISH: FOUR CUPS OF WINE

## KADEISH: MAKING KIDDUSH

### Passover Kiddush

*Passover*, like all *Jewish festivals*, is differentiated from weekdays by saying *kiddush*.

### Everyone Must Drink at Seder

At the *Passover seder*, all Jews above the age of *bar mitzva* or *bat mitzva* (including women--unlike on other *Jewish festivals*) must drink wine for *kiddush* and for the other three times in the *seder* when the *borei pri ha'gafen* blessing is said.

NOTE On the other *Jewish festivals*, only one person needs to drink the wine when *kiddush* is said, and that will cover and fulfill everyone else's requirement for that *kiddush*.

NOTE Only children and people who will get sick if they drink alcohol are permitted to drink grape juice at *seder*.

### Alcohol Content of Seder Wine

You may dilute the *seder* wine to a minimum of 4\% alcohol.

### Red Wine or White for Seder

If you have equally good red wine and white wine, the red is preferred for the four cups at the *seder*. If your white wine is better or if you prefer white wine, use that.

### Drinking More

You may drink more wine between the first and second cups, between the second and third cups, but not between the third and fourth cups.

## KADEISH: FOUR CUPS, FOUR ROLES

### Four Cups, Four Roles

Each of the four cups has a different role:

- First Cup: *Kiddush* to sanctify the holiday.
- Second Cup: Sanctifying the *hagada*.
- Third Cup: Sanctifying *Birkat ha'mazon*.
- Fourth Cup: Sanctifying *Hallel*.

## KADEISH: FOUR CUPS, FOUR EXPRESSIONS

### Four Cups, Four Expressions

The four cups of wine relate to the four expressions God used when telling what he would do to bring the Israelites out of Egypt:

- ***V'hotzeiti*** I will send them out.
- ***V'hitzalti*** I will save them.
- ***V'ga'alti*** I will redeem them.
- ***V'lakachti*** I will take them.

# KADEISH: FIFTH CUP

### Fifth Cup

The fifth cup of wine at *seder*, for *Eliyahu* (*Elijah*) the prophet, symbolizes *v'heiveiti*--"I will bring them."

REASON In the future, everyone will drink five cups of *seder* wine. (Some say the term *v'heiveiti* is not part of the redemption and some say it is a stage that has not happened yet.)

The cup of *Eliyahu* (which is not intended to be drunk by *Eliyahu*) should be used for *kiddush* the next morning. Various customs dictate when to fill *Eliyahu's* cup; it may be filled anytime from the beginning of the *seder*.

# KADEISH: HOW MUCH TO FILL AND DRINK

### Four Cups: Minimum Quantity To Fulfill Mitzva

Minimum wine to fulfill the *seder mitzva*:

- Each person must drink four cups of wine at the *seder*;
- Each cup must hold at least 4 fl. oz. (119 ml);
- For each blessing on the wine, you must drink at least 2 fl. oz. (59 ml) within 30 seconds of when you begin to drink each cup.

### Majority of the Cup/Rov Kos

The *seder* is the only time in the year that you must drink most of your cup *(rov kos)* of *kiddush* wine. (For *kiddush* on *Shabbat* and *Jewish festivals*, you need drink only 2 fl. oz., or 59 ml). So if you have a cup larger than 4 fl. oz. (119 ml), you may have to drink a lot of wine--more than half of each cup for four cups!

NOTE You may drink other liquids between the first and second cups of wine at the *seder*, but it is not recommended.

# KADEISH: LEANING TO LEFT

### Leaning To Left while Drinking Four Cups

Every male at the *seder* is required to lean to the left side while drinking each cup of wine.

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