

# HEBREW HOME OF GREATER WASHINGTON

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*A Charles E. Smith Life Community*

## ***Lessons of a Lifetime: The Ethical Will Project of the Hebrew Home***



### **22 Questions for Ethical Wills**

Feel free to change the order of the questions, skip some or add new ones, based on how the interview is going and how the narrator responds.

#### **Values and Education**

1. What values and beliefs are important to you, and to pass on to others? (Offer an example of a value: education)
2. What are your spiritual beliefs?

#### **Thoughts**

3. Do you have children? What thoughts would you like to pass down to your children and grandchildren? If no children, what thoughts would you like to pass down to others?
4. What books or films were most influential to you? What did they teach you?

#### **Words of Wisdom**

5. What advice would you offer other people about living their lives? Or, What words of wisdom do you wish to impart to the next generation?
6. Is there anything in your life that you want others to know about? This is a gift to your family.

## **Life Experiences**

7. What have you learned from your life experiences that you can share with us? Are there any particular experiences that you wish to share with your family or friends? Why did you choose these ones, out of your many memories? What have those experiences taught you?
8. Have you ever had a life-altering experience or was there an event that changed your life that you can share with us? How did this event affect you? Was this the most significant moment of your life?
9. What was the most meaningful event in your life? Was it the result of a great deal of work? Did it change the way you view the world?
10. What has made your life worth living? Was it a particular relationship, your work, a group you were a part of?

## **Life's Lessons**

11. Did you have dreams when you were young that you filled? Didn't fulfill?
12. Have you learned something from your parents or grandparents that you wish to share with your children or others?
13. Who is or was the most important person in your life, and what did you learn from that person?
14. Were there any others who greatly impacted your life? What did they do or say?

## **Regrets and Gratitude**

15. Is there something that you are grateful for?
16. Do you have regrets of something you did not do? Or something you did?
17. What are the things in your life that you are most proud of?

## **Decisions**

18. What was the hardest decision you ever made?

19. What hopes and/or dreams do you have for your loved ones?
20. Is there anything in your life that you should have done differently?

### **Change and the Future**

21. If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be? How would you change it?
22. If you only had one year left to live, what would you do?

6121 Montrose Road  
Rockville, Maryland 20852  
301.881.0300  
***www.hebrew-home.org***