

honoring my father by saying *Kaddish* for him weekly for 12 months allowed me to move beyond the immediate emotions of my loss to a place where I could consider the role my father might play in guiding me in the days to come. While I am certain that I would never have forgotten my father's place in my life regardless of whether I observed my modified version of *Kaddish*, those weekly dialogues gave me a sense of continuity that remains to this day.

Sharon Madnek
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

God & Us

Despite a lifetime of wavering between agnosticism and atheism—on May 29, 2009 I am reaching the age of 90!—after reading Rabbi Jack H Bloom's essay ("What God Can Learn from Us," Winter 2008) I am ready to say, "Yes, on the basis of this rabbi's vision of G-d, based on his depiction and characterization of G-d, I believe!"

Shirley Ann Newman
Bakersfield, California >

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*If you often feel tired,
it could be anemia.*



*If you're Jewish,
it could be Gaucher Disease.*

You may never have heard of Gaucher Disease (pronounced "Go-Shay"). But it is found primarily in Jewish people of Ashkenazi descent. In fact, about one out of every 15 people within this group carries the Gaucher gene, a ratio far higher than Tay Sachs. *It is not age or gender specific, and can affect anyone.*

Gaucher warning signs include:

- Fatigue
- Nosebleeds and other bleeding problems
- Easy bruising
- Enlarged abdomen
- Bone pain and easily fractured bones
- Distended stomach due to enlarged liver or spleen
- Low platelet count
- Anemia
- Bone deterioration and osteoporosis

Gaucher can be diagnosed early with a blood test. Carrier status can be detected through blood or saliva. Fortunately, effective treatments are available. The consequences of the disease can be debilitating, so don't wait and wonder, get the facts now.



National Gaucher Foundation

Celebrating 25 years of service to the Gaucher Community

For additional information, testing and treatment, call toll-free: **877-788-0865**

www.gaucherdisease.org/rj

Ask your doctor about testing.

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