Why is this night different from all other nights?

Central to the Passover seder is the concept of liberation. As we sit together around the table, we both celebrate our ancestors’ exodus from Egypt and remind ourselves of those not yet free. Let us therefore bear in mind that in today’s world, an estimated 219 million people are infected with malaria, causing approximately 600,000 deaths each year.

It is traditional to recite the Four Questions. Together let us recite the Four Questions that raise awareness about Malaria and Malaria prevention and to remind ourselves that our joy cannot be complete until we eradicate this deadly disease:

On all other nights we are grateful for good health and health care system. Tonight we remember the health care systems in underdeveloped countries.

Malaria infection significantly burdens public health care systems. In some countries, Malaria may account for as much as 40% of public health expenditures. Malaria is both preventable and treatable. When brought under control, death, health care burdens, and lost productivity can drastically decrease.

On all other nights we are grateful for a working economy. Tonight we lament the lost workforce and productivity in affected areas.

Malaria debilitates those infected, preventing them from going to work. Each year, malaria infections hinder economic development of developing countries.

On all other nights, we are grateful for our family members. Tonight we address the scourge of preventable disease.

Malaria tears at the fabric of families through human pain and suffering. It hampers children’s schooling and social development, causes permanent neurological damages, and impacts families’ financial stability.

On all other nights we are thankful for the health of our children. Tonight we remember that Malaria is the leading cause of under-five mortality in Africa.

Every 60 seconds, a child dies from malarial infections. Tonight we bear in mind that though we sit in the comfort of our own homes or in the homes of our loved ones, there are many whose suffering remain. Tonight we remember that we are all God’s children.

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