

*Preface from the Publisher*

*The Hebrew title, Pirkei Avot, meaning Chapters of the Fathers, is one of the works of the Mishnah and deals with ethical and moral principles. The reader will find each passage of this siddur as meaningful in today's world as the day they were written.*

*Commentary is not provided for any Mishnah. The six chapters of the Ethics of the Fathers are traditionally studied every Sabbath afternoon during the period from Passover to Rosh HaShana.*

*Each Mishnah in the HPLS Ethics of the Fathers is presented in the HPLS Phonetic-Transliterated 3-tier format. As with all HPLS publications, the 3-tier format provides a literal word for word English translation above the Hebrew word and the transliteration. In addition, a flowing-English translation is located on the opposite page(s); the flowing-English translation uses wording that is more relevant or evocative in order to enhance understanding.*

*The numbering of the Mishnahs varies slightly between the numerous editions of the Ethics of the Fathers. The differences occur because of the combining of some Mishnahs. The numbering scheme used in HPLS Ethics of the Fathers is the one most commonly used among all the editions. Most editions of the Ethics of the fathers usually vary by no more than one or two Mishnahs per Chapter, and are relatively easy to follow between versions.*

*The Chabad Lubavitch siddur, however, combines many more verses of Mishnah. I provide a cross-reference so that anyone following the Chabad version can easily find the corresponding verse in the HPLS edition. I have referenced the latest version (2002 copyright, 2010 edition) of the Chabad Hebrew-English Tehillat Hashem Nusach Ha-Ari Zal Siddur.*

*I would like to thank my darling wife, Rebecca Linker, for her patient proofreading of the flowing-English text and her valuable suggestions and comments.*

*F. Ephraim Linker, February 7, 2011*