Ritual Room Labels

Breaking a glass at a wedding reminds us that even in the moments of greatest joy, there remains some “brokenness” in the world.  Take 1 minute to think of something that is broken in the world today.

During Sukkot, we shake the Lulav and Etrog is all the directions.  The Lulav (with date palm, myrtle and willow) and Etrog together remind us about the diversity of the natural world and hint at the diversity of people.

At Passover, we use our sense of taste to remind us of what it felt like when we ourselves were slaves in Egypt.  It is like an ancient Mnemonic device with your tastebuds!  Taste the Horseradish or the Salt Water.  What did it feel like when you were a slave in Egypt?

The light from the chanukkiah, reminds of the miracle that took place when the Jews went to rededicate the temple.  The word “Nes” נס literally means banner.  The miracle of long lasting oil is a banner that helps us identify another amazing thing.  In the battle between the small Jewish army and the massive Greek army, what else lasted for longer that it logically should have?

When we untie tefillin after prayer, the mark from binding the leather straps on your arm remain visible for a while. Can you think of other ways that you might feel prayer in your body?