

Throughout the month of Elul that precedes the High Holidays I have been sharing with you thoughts and meditations from "Jewels of Elul", a collection distributed by Craig Taubman, and I hope that you find them meaningful. I am looking forward to seeing you on Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur and throughout the year. Here's hoping it will be a new year of health and happiness.

This thought comes from Rabbi Michael Lerner, Editor of *Tikkun*:

*As Americans have become increasingly psychologically sophisticated, it becomes much easier for people, Jews and non-Jews, to say, "I'm sorry." But Teshuva requires more than recognizing that we may have hurt someone - it requires an actual change in behavior, not just as individuals but as a community. The brilliance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is that we can challenge the individualism of American society with the Jewish focus on our collective responsibility for each other. Hence, we repent not just for our personal sins but for the sins of the entire community of which we are part...*

*The challenge...to return to our mission of healing and repair (Tikkun), make this season not only personally important, but important to the future of humanity.*