

## Going Down To See

אֶל־גִּנַּת אֶגּוֹז יֵרְדְּתִי לְרֹאֹת בְּאֵבִי הַנַּחַל

*El-ginnat egoz yarad'ti lirot b'ibay hanachal* (Song of Songs 6:11)

I went down to the nut grove,  
To see the new green by the brook.

We usually go up to a higher place to see... but sometimes we need to go down. We need to descend into our own depths and use a different kind of vision to penetrate the complexities within. We enter the nut grove with an eye toward cracking that nut whose hard exterior hides a delicious treasure. And our inner journey takes us to the *nachal*, which is a kind of stream that flows intermittently. (The Arabic word would be a *wadi*; the Spanish word, an *arroyo*.) The “new green” that sprouts up in that *nachal* is mysterious and miraculous.... found only by those who have the insight and courage to “go down” and explore the hidden places.