



December 25, 2009

ה' שבט תש"ע

פרשת ויגש

Candle Lighting 5:19

Rabbi Binyomin Luban
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon

ראשי הישיבה

Inside this Issue:

Dvar Torah	1
Dvar Halacha	1
Remembering Dr. Abe Chames Z"l	2
YTC 8th Grade Shabbaton	2
Highlights in Language Arts	2

Dvar Torah - The Power of Self Control by Rabbi Mordechai Palgon

Many people "lose it" at times. We usually come to regret it, apologetically, with claims that circumstances stressed us to the point of inability to control our emotions, temper or balance. In this week's *parsha*, the dream of Yosef and his brothers reaches its crescendo. Yehuda argues for Binyomin's release. He says, "*Hayesh lanu ov o'ach*, Our Master asked us if we have a father or a brother!"

Rashi comments that Yehuda was accusing Yosef of conspiring against them. After all, were we seeking to marry your daughter, or were you seeking to marry our sister? Certainly, no *shidduchim* were taking place, so why the questions regarding our father and brother?

The *meforshim* on Rashi point out that Yehuda specifically chose the example of us marrying YOUR daughter and you marrying OUR sister. In this way, Yehuda is showing respect to Yosef, the Viceroy of Egypt. The implication of marrying his daughter would result in an additional show of respect toward Yosef, since one typically shows respect to one's father-in-law. Additionally, Yosef marrying

their sister would result in more respect towards Yosef, since one typically shows respect to their brother-in-law, in order to ensure that his sister is treated properly. Reversing the order would have resulted in Yosef having to show respect to them, a slight to the Viceroy of Egypt.

When analyzing this Rashi, let us bear in mind three points: one – the *Medrash* says that Yehuda was so angry that the hair on his chest was as hard as metal nails that pierced his clothing; two – the brothers had just agreed for each of them singlehandedly to wipe out 1/10 of *Mitzrayim*; and three – the comments were just a figure of speech; reversing who would be marrying whom seems insignificant.

This Rashi teaches us an amazing lesson. Yehuda, despite being so angry, on the brink of declaring war, and for something so seemingly insignificant, was able to show amazing poise, composure and self-control so that proper respect could be accorded to Yosef.

The next time we are about to "lose it", let us internalize the lesson of Yehuda - and exercise self-control. It will make the lives of our family and friends much happier!

*25th
Annual Dinner*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010
24 TEVES, 5770
JUNGLE ISLAND, MIAMI, FLORIDA

Dvar Halacha – Kedusha by Meir Palgon, grade 11

In addition to the standing *Kedusha* we say along with the congregation each time we repeat *Shmoneh Esrei*, we also say another *Kedusha* right before *Aleinu*. This other *Kedusha*, said in *Uva LeTzion*, is so important that we are told by *Chazal* that the world stands on its merit. In fact, the stanzas of *Kadosh Kadosh Kadosh*, *Baruch Kevod*, and *Hashem Yimloch* are not only recited in Hebrew, but are translated and recited in Aramaic as well, the language spoken by many of the Jews in exile, so that more people would fully understand this important *tefilah*.

In this Aramaic translation, the triple recitation of the word *Kadosh* is explained. The first "*Kadosh*" refers to Hashem's holiness in the heavens, the second "*Kadosh*" refers to Hashem's holiness in the physical world, and the third "*Kadosh*" refers to the fact that Hashem's holiness will last forever.

This *tefilah* was deemed so important by *Chazal* that they prohibited an individual from leaving the synagogue before its recitation, barring extenuating circumstances.

Help Get YTC Moving!

We are in great need of a 12-passenger van. If you or someone you know would be interested in donating or dedicating one, please contact our office at 305-944-5344.



Chanuka 5770!

On the seventh night of Chanuka, the Yeshiva had its annual Chagiga. Rabbi Donald Bixon, Rav of The Young Israel of Miami Beach and YTC parent, spoke about the common commitment of Aharon Hakohen and the Chashmonayim to Torah. There was great food, dancing, ruach and fun for all!



YTC Spotlight

Remembering Dr. Abe Chames Z"l

This month, the community marked the first Yahrzeit of Dr. Abe Chames - Avraham Zev ben Yaakov Z"l. A special evening of inspiration and *chizuk* was held in the Yeshiva to commemorate the occasion. The evening began with our Rosh HaYeshiva, Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman, completing Mishnayos Seder Nashim in memory of Dr. Chames. The hundreds assembled heard *divrei chizuk* from world renowned author Rabbi Hanoch Teller and Rabbi Shaya Cohen, Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivas Zichron Aryeh, Cedarhurst, New York. Rabbi Avrohom Yachnes publicized the formation of a spe-



cial chesed organization, Chesed Avraham Zev - The Dr. Abe Chames Foundation, that will support Torah education, Torah educators and a variety of chesed needs that often go undetected. At the conclusion of the program,

our Rosh HaYeshiva, Rabbi Binyomin Luban, announced that in recognition of all that the Chames family has done and continues to do for the Yeshiva, the High School division will be bear the name of Dr. Chames.

Yeshiva Hosts 8th Grade Shabbaton



Recently, on Shabbos Parshas Vayishlach, the Yeshiva hosted a special Shabbaton for prospective 9th grade students. Boys came from all over South Florida, and even a few from around the country, to spend a very special Shabbos complete with delicious meals, uplifting *zemiros*, and inspiring learning together with the Yeshiva's *talmidim*, Rabbeim and

administration. During the course of the weekend, the boys met our Roshei HaYeshiva and Principals, heard *shiurim* from both of our current ninth grade Rabbeim, and attended secular classes as well. The students had a chance not only to interact with current YTC students, but also to become acquainted with our Bais Medrash *bochurim*. Of course, the weekend wasn't all work! The boys were also treated to a special



breakfast and two exciting outings. We hope to be seeing many of these young men as freshmen in Fall 2010 and as the Graduating Class of 2014!

Highlights in Language Arts by Mr. Aaron Gillego

Our students, over the past seven years, have given me much *nachas* with their high level of achievement on AP English Exams, on the PSAT, SAT, and ACT, and in local and national writing competitions.

For the second year in a row (and third time out of four tries), one of our students has won the National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Award in Writing, an honor that's given to only 876 students nationwide. Yechiel Mandel '07 won the award in 2006; Moriel Goldberg '09 received the honor in 2008; and Yaakov Entin '10 continues the tradition in 2009. The NCTE has also given the Language Arts

program at YTC a Certificate of Recognition for such accomplishment.

This year, for the first time, our students have entered the prestigious Scholastic Writing Awards. *Mazel tov* to Yona Dudovitz '13, Yaakov Entin '10, Joseph Hostyk '13, and Yehuda Palgon '11 for becoming the inaugural batch of students to submit to the contest. Having been a judge for the contest for two years, I can say with confidence that our entries were of the highest caliber.

Language Arts students also perennially submit to the Miami-Dade County Fair and are recognized for the quality of their creative writ-

ing. Past and present students have won the Fair's highest honor, The Judges' Award, including Joseph Hostyk '13, Yosef Fried '09, Josh Tessier '08, and Nachi Levine '08.

Much of the success of the Language Arts program is owed to Mr. Aquino who provides a solid foundation for these students at the Rohr Middle School. Much thanks to Rabbi Levine and Mr. Richardson as well for allowing our program to expand from four class sections to six class sections this year, ensuring that class sizes remain small and students get more personalized instruction in Language Arts.