



November 19, 2010

י"ב כסלו תשע"א

פרשת וישלח

Candle Lighting 5:12 PM

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Inside this Issue:

Dvar Torah	1
Dvar Halacha	1
Rabbi Chaim Feuerman, Ed.D. Meets with Local Mechanchim	2
YTC Introduces Hi-Tech Student Photo IDs	2

Dvar Torah - What do YOU think? by Rabbi Mordechai Palgon, Rosh HaYeshiva



Dovid Hamelech, at the end of his life, advised his son Shlomo, "V'chazakta V'hayisa L'ish - you should be strengthened and merit to be a man!" (Melachim I 2:1) The Meforshim explain that this meant that Shlomo should be *shoel aitza* - seek the advice of others.

It is mind boggling that Dovid Hamelech should need to give this type of suggestion - to seek the advice of others - to his brilliant son, Shlomo! Certainly, there could be a more meaningful last will and testament for Shlomo Hamelech, the wisest of all men!

The answer can be gleaned from this week's Parsha. The *posuk* states, "...V'yikchu Shnei bnei Yaakov Shimon v'Levi..." (34:25) - the two sons of Yaakov - Shimon and Levi - killed all the males in the city of Sh'chem for violating their sister, Dinah.

The Medrash Rabbah (80:10) states that from the extra word in the *posuk*, "Shnei - two", we learn that Shimon and Levi did not consult each other as they should have prior to carrying out this attack on the male population in Sh'chem.

The question arises; if they both came to the same decision on their own, what real benefit could they

have had in seeking each other's counsel? They would surely have reached the same ultimate conclusion to kill all the males in the city!

The answer teaches us an important lesson and a fundamental insight into human dynamics. Remarkably, had Shimon and Levi consulted each other first, they may have exited that conversation with a totally different conclusion than to kill the people of Sh'chem. Despite the fact that they each were inclined to attack, nevertheless, through open dialogue and the benefit of hearing someone else's opinion, their eyes may have been opened to a new perspective and viewpoint.

We are faced with numerous decisions and calls to action. Do we merely find people, even our spouses, who happen to agree with our positions? Or do we engage in open-minded conversation and debate, asking for advice, searching, perhaps, for a new perspective or different angle on the matter?

This is why Dovid Hamelech bequeathed this advice to Shlomo. One can only guarantee to make correct decisions when we are *shoel aitza*. Let's revisit some of our "foregone conclusions" and reanalyze their basis through healthy dialogue by meaningfully being *shoel aitza*!

Dvar Halacha - Saying the Names of Hashem

by Nechemia Gruenstein and Josh Rosenberg, Grade 9

Before one says Hashem's name, there are a few *halachos* that one needs to know. Firstly, when you say "the four-letter name of Hashem", one needs to have in mind that Hashem is the Master of All, and He was, is and always will be in existence. Secondly, when one says "Elokim" he should have in mind that Hashem controls all the powers of the universe. One should

also keep in mind when he says the rest of the *bracha*, that Hashem poured forth His kindness and gave you what you are about to make the *bracha* on, whether it be food, an experience, or a *mitzva*. Also, it is forbidden to interrupt someone when he is making a statement including Hashem's name unless he's using the name to curse someone.

Chanukah Chagiga!

Please Join Us!

The Yeshiva's Annual Chanuka Chagiga will be held Wednesday, December 1st, the first night of Chanukah at 7:30 P.M.

Food!
Music! Dancing!

The Weekly Quiz

Exactly how long is it between the Molad of one month and the next?

Answers may be submitted in writing to the Spotlight office or emailed to Quiz@ytcteam.net. The first correct answer submitted will be announced in the next Spotlight. You need not be a student to participate. Hatzlochah!

Answer to last week's question:

Q. Which Parsha in the Torah contains the highest number of named births, and how many named births are recorded in that Parsha?

A. Bereishis, with 19

YTC Spotlight

YTC Hosts Session with Rabbi Chaim Feuerman, Ed. D. for Local Mechanchim



On Shabbos Parshas Chayei Sorah, YTC invited the Rabbeim and mechanchim of the North Miami Beach to community participate in a most inspiring Shalosh Seudos. The keynote speaker was Rabbi Chaim Feuerman, Ed. D., who is the Golda Koschitzky Chair in Jewish Education, Mendheim Student Teaching and Administrative

Internship Program of the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education (Yeshiva University). He is a most sought-after instructor, mentor and lecturer on a variety of educational topics including Classroom Management, Educational Methodology, Cooperative Learning/Multiple Intelligences, Time Management, School Leadership, Supervision of Instruction and School Management.

Yeshiva Toras Chaim/Toras Emes has greatly benefited for nearly a decade from Rabbi Feuerman's depth and breadth of knowledge in his capacity as Educational

Consultant. Rabbi Feuerman facilitated an exchange of ideas on the topic, "I know you're great. Do YOU?" as those gathered explored and shared various methods of assessing, instilling and building self-esteem in their *talmidim* and themselves. Rosh HaYeshiva Rabbi Mordechai Palgon and his wife graciously hosted the event, and the beautifully prepared, delicious *seudah* was enjoyed by all.



YTC Student IDs Go Hi-Tech

by Shmuel Goodman, Grade 10

For the first time, the Yeshiva is releasing new hi-tech student photo IDs featuring an integrated microchip and barcode system. These new IDs have a myriad of planned uses to aid the students and faculty. The first use for these IDs will be to track all library books that are checked out. All library books will be bar-coded and recorded with new cataloging software. For students to check out a book, they simply scan their ID and their library book. This system will help improve our Media Center. Future planned uses for the bar-coded IDs include automated attendance records and textbook tracking.

There are also plans for the

intergraded microchip, which would be used to open locks placed on school entrances and classroom doors. Several doors

would remain combination locks for Shabbos usage. These locks will provide a safer environment for the *B'nei Yeshiva*.



The Yeshiva's Newly Remodeled Media Center