



December 24, 2010

י"ז טבת תשע"א

פרשת שמות

Candle Lighting 5:18 PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban
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ראשי הישיבה

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Dvar Torah - What We Really Need Is... by Rabbi Dovid May



There are many ingredients that go into the successful development of a Jewish community. In every neighborhood, scores of people give of themselves on a daily basis to insure the success and growth of their community. All

of these *mosdos* deserve our moral and financial support. However, we see from *Chazal* that there is one *mosad* in the establishment of a community that takes primacy over the others.

At the beginning of this week's *parsha*, the Torah recounts the 12 sons of Yaakov that descended to *Mitzrayim*. The Torah had told us previously that not all of the *shevatim* accompanied Yaakov Avinu as his entourage made its way to Egypt. Yaakov had sent Yehuda to Goshen ahead of the group. *Rashi*, quoting the Medrash, explains that Yehuda was sent ahead to establish a *bais talmud*, a Yeshiva.

This seems surprising. All of the brothers were steeped in Torah. Surely, they were learning intensely on the trip down to *Mitzrayim*, and if no Yeshiva was set up before their arrival, they would continue to learn until the Yeshiva was "up and running." As we know, traveling is dangerous, and it must have been extremely important for the Yeshiva to be set before *B'nei Yisroel's* arrival for Yaakov to send Yehuda alone ahead of the group.

We see from here how integral Yeshivos are to the Jewish population. Yaakov could not conceive of a community without a Yeshiva. We too must realize how central our Yeshiva is to the South Florida Jewish Community. The Yeshiva is in the midst of its Annual Scholarship Campaign. Now is the time for all of us to participate in the building of our communal Yeshiva in a meaningful way. By doing so, we truly emulate Yaakov Avinu, assuring that there will always be a Yeshiva in our community.

Dvar Halacha – Making Brachos -

By Nechemia Gruenstein and Josh Rosenberg, Grade 9

The *Mishna Brura* brings down that the reason we say *Birchos Hashacher* is because one needs to make a *bracha* on every pleasure or benefit one receives in the world. If one fails to make a *bracha*, it is like stealing from Hashem! This is derived from a contradiction between two different *pesukim* in *Tehillim*. One *pasuk* says, "לה' - הארץ ומלואה - *everything on earth, and the earth itself, belongs to Hashem,*" while a second *pasuk* says, "הארץ נתן

לבני אדם - *And the earth was given to man.*" This paradox is resolved by explaining that the first *pasuk* is referring to items and pleasures before one makes a *bracha*, and the second *pasuk* is referring to items and pleasures after one has made a *bracha*. One who benefits from an item without a *bracha* is doing so while it is still in a status of "belonging to Hashem," and therefore it is like stealing.

YTC Spotlight

The Weekly Quiz

Where can you find 5 two-letter words in a row in the Chumash?

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:

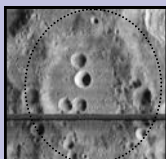
Q. Which Rishon has a crater on the moon named after him?

A. The crater Rabbi Levi is named after the *RalBag*. It can be found

at Lat: 34.7°

S, Long:

23.6°E and is 50 miles across.



Meir Palgon

and Yossi Turk were the first to submit the right answer!

V'Nikdashti: Lessons in Kiddush Hashem by Chaim Benson, Grade 11



Last Friday, on Asara B'Teves, the Yeshiva hosted a special program for *borchurim* and members of the community at large focusing on the Churban of European Jewry. The Program was entitled *V'Nikdashti*, and was made possible by Torah Umesorah's *Zechor Yemos Olam* program.

Rabbi Mordechai Palgon, Principal and Rosh HaYeshiva, began the presentation by reminding the crowd of the reasons we fast on Asara B'Teves. He recounted the many tragedies that befell Klal Yisroel on that day, and mentioned how in recent years, Asara B'Teves has also become a

day that Yeshivos worldwide have come to commemorate, mourn, and learn about the tremendous calamity that transpired less than 70 years ago. The program continued with a video presentation of several Holocaust survivors who shared stories of astonishing *Kiddush Shem Shomayim* that they had personally witnessed during those dark times. The movie stressed the *mitzva* of "*V'Nikdashti - And you will sanctify Me,*" either through one's life, or *rachmana l'tzlan* though one's dying *Al Kiddush Hashem*. One survivor, Mr. Moshe Mandelbaum, spoke about the *mesiras nefesh* he and many other Jews went through to perform *mitzvos* in the camps, sanctifying the name of Hashem. One episode he recounted involved a *succah* that he and his friends had



built, even though its construction could have cost them their lives.

The program gave those in attendance a glimpse of how we all have within us the power to sanctify the Name of Hashem.

Yeshiva Toras Chaim Toras Emes

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DR. ABE CHAMES HIGH SCHOOL
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26th Annual Dinner

4 SHEVAT, 5771 SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2011

Jungle Island Treetop Ballroom
1111 Parrot Jungle Trail • Miami, Florida

Cocktails 6:00 pm • Dinner 7:00 pm

Visit us online at ytcteam.org/dinner