



December 23, 2011

כ"ז כסלו תשע"ב

פרשת מקץ

Candle Lighting 5:16PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon
ראשי הישיבה

Issue 7



Dvar Torah - Brotherhood by Design by Rabbi Zev Pam

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כלל ישראל is comprised of diverse groups. Yet, with all of our diversity, we remain one unit, part of one כלל. Our variety and our unity can be traced back to the שבטי קה - the twelve sons of

יעקב who were each uniquely individualistic and yet unified as one group. However, their unity was not happenstance; they made specific efforts to develop their אהדות.

When the brothers arrive in מצרים to purchase food, they are taken in front of יוסף. יוסף harshly accuses them of being spies and the brothers are forced to defend themselves. The רמב"ן explains that יוסף's accusation was founded upon the fact that such distinguished and wealthy individuals came in person to buy food when they could have easily sent their servants.

Why else would they come themselves if they didn't come to spy? The brother's defended themselves by relating "כלנו בני איש אחד". We came together because our father יעקב wanted us to come together as brothers. Certainly one brother could have come with servants, but by coming together, the brothers would foster a sense of אהדות. Even for a mundane task of traveling to buy food, the brothers felt the need to remain unified and not to separate from one another. However, the task was still dangerous. יעקב refused to send בנימין since traveling to מצרים was dangerous. Yet יעקב seemingly put ten of his sons in danger unnecessarily, solely to promote their sense of אהדות. Apparently, יעקב felt that to feel this love and togetherness was so important that it was worth putting the brothers into danger. Developing true אהדות doesn't happen by itself; we have to appreciate its importance and look for opportunities to develop it!

Dvar Halacha - Brocha on Food Mixtures by Yechiel Niman, 9th Grade

When consuming a mixture, one has to keep in mind the halachos of עיקר (the main food ingredient) and טפל (the secondary food ingredient) in order to determine which ברכה to make. The definition of a mixture is when the pieces in a food are small and all ingredients usually come in a single spoonful. This is true even when the pieces are able to be distinguished as different substances. These halachos apply either when one item (the טפל) enhances the other (the עיקר), or when all items are equally עיקר.

One would make the ברכה on what he

considers to be the עיקר (unless there is a מזונות, which is generally the עיקר). For example, when eating cereal and milk, since the cereal is the עיקר and the milk is the טפל, the only ברכה to be made is on the cereal. If the cereal is finished and some milk still remains in the bowl, it can be drunk with no additional ברכה. However, if one wishes to drink more milk in a cup after finishing the cereal, then a second, separate ברכה must be made (שהכל). The ברכה אחרונה is then made on the עיקר; no ברכה אחרונה is needed on the טפל.

The Weekly Quiz

Q: How many times a day should one say “Amen”?

Answers or ideas for future questions may be submitted in writing to the Spotlight office or emailed to Quiz@ytcteam.org

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. What is the longest Pasuk in Tanach?

A. Esther 8:9

Project Achim - 2nd Year Running

On Monday, December 19, the successful project “Achim” was reintroduced to the students of Yeshiva Toras Chaim. Last year, “Achim” was started by a group of three boys and the High School Mashgiach, Rabbi Dudovitz. The name “Achim” was chosen because we all need to be brothers looking out for

one another, especially with the dangers of the internet all around us. To be a member of “Achim”, a student must have an accountability program and/or a filter installed on his computer, ipod, or cell phone. Last Monday, students gathered at an assembly to be informed of the widely successful program. Jaime Benson and Mordechai



Mordechai Anton speaks to students about the Achim initiative.

Anton addressed the students, and explained why it's important to have internet protection, and related how the toxins of the internet can destroy lives. Rabbi Palgon, Principal and Rosh HaYeshiva of the High school, commented, “This is the greatest

student venture I have [ever] seen undertaken in the world.” With the idea that there is someone always watching or protecting them, students will be safer and feel more secure using the internet. Max Baumgarten currently runs the operational side of “Achim” and is always urging students to join the initiative at any given moment. He is currently working on a website in order to bring the message of “Achim” to the public. Being a member, though, doesn't come without reward: doughnuts are given every Wednesday, as well as ice cream, BBQs, and the famous “Achim” Kiddush. All that plus a special end of the year trip.

Phone-a-thon

We have scheduled a Phone-a-Thon (in which parent volunteers make phone calls for our journal campaign from our financial office) for **Wednesday evening, December 28, 2011, 7:30 - 9:30 PM.** All ads solicited by you will be credited to your Give or Get, and will help us reach our goal. If you are available to join us and help the Yeshiva, or if you are unable to attend but are willing to make phone calls over the weekend, please contact Mrs. Ana Wulwick at [305-962-3155](tel:305-962-3155) for information. Thank you!



Next Issue:
January 6, 2011
פרשת ויחי

13 Teves, 5772 / Sunday evening, January 8, 2012

YESHIVA TORAS CHAIM / TORAS EMES

27th Annual Dinner

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