

Question of the Week

answer on back page

Question of the Week is adapted with permission from the book "Question of the Week" by Rabbi David Zaback

Of course, we are responsible for our own actions, and we're also responsible for damage done by our property. For example, if you own a dog and the dog bites someone, you're responsible.

In what two cases are you responsible for property that does not belong to you?

SEASON 2
EPISODE 21

February 10th, 2018

Candle Lighting:

Las Vegas 4:58
Lake Tahoe 5:11
San Diego 5:10
Los Angeles 5:13
Phoenix 5:49

have a

Nageela Shabbos

Parshas
Mishpatim
5778

A Kid Friendly Weekly Publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences

All Rise!

by Rabbi Dani Locker

"All rise for the honorable Judge Aaron!" bellowed the bailiff. Everyone in the courtroom was curious how the court case would end. The plaintiff was an extremely poor fellow, Mr. Det, and he was suing the very large and very rich corporation he worked for.

The judge listened to the litigants, the lawyers and the sounds of the court reporter tap, tap, tapping on her keyboard. He was not convinced that Det had a strong enough case. On the other hand, this poor guy had so little, and the corporate representatives had showed up wearing shoes more expensive than Det's car! Maybe, just maybe he could help a guy out with his finances...

Mishpatim is all about boundaries. How to respect people's property, the importance of honesty, It's also about kindness. It talks about lending money, and other acts of altruism. These ideas are connected. We show concern for other people by respecting their property, their space, their feelings.

There are times when they conflict, though. What if you're a judge and one of the people in your court is poor and underprivileged? Should you help him?

The Torah give us a clear answer. A judge may not give special treatment to anyone in justice. Not the rich, and not the poor. Boundaries are meant for the protection of all, and should not be crossed for kindness.

If the judge is concerned for poor people, he is strongly urged to give charity on his own, AFTER the case is decided fairly. We love justice, and we love kindness. They work hand in hand, but we need to make sure not to confuse the two.

SIGN UP TOMORROW!



4 SHABBATON

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SCAVENGER HUNT
LOADS OF FUN



BYE & GOES A LITTLE HOME

YOLO 4 SHABBATON
MARCH 2ND - 3RD
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Mazal Tov to Kenny & Cassie Alter upon the engagement of their daughter Esti to Shua Mindle

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Stump The Rabbi

The Big Ten

Dear Rabbi,

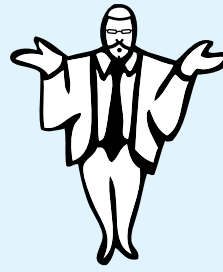
At Hebrew School this week, we learned about the Ten Commandments. We also learned that there are a lot of commandments, not just ten, but these are singled out because they're the most important. My question is, what's special about them? If I had to choose the ten most important rules for life, I don't think most of these would make my list. Can you please clarify?

Thank you,

Raoul Bouke

Dear Rule Book,

Most people would probably not put jealousy on their top ten list of rules for life. Take a minute to think about which rules YOU might put on the list. The Rabbis have been careful NOT to consider these ten commandments the MOST IMPORTANT. Every instruction God gives us should be equally important in our minds. These ten are listed for a couple of reasons. Some authorities propose that they are the main categories that all other mitzvot can be learned from. Others explain that these ten offer a summary of a guide for life in ten critical areas. I'd like to suggest how each one of the ten commandments is super important in living our lives.



Here they are...

1. There's always got to be a boss. When people are left to make up our own rules, we sometimes make horrible choices, like putting pineapple on pizza. Who's idea was that? Believe in an ultimate boss to guide you.
2. What is important to you? The second commandment is really telling us not to put our faith in the wrong things, because we make decisions based on what's important to us. What are your priorities? If you believe in God, but you also 'worship' money, celebrities, athletes or politics, your decision might be based on those ideals. Don't worship anything or anyone else.
3. Hypocrisy (which, I was relieved to find out is not a secret branch of government run by hippopotami). Don't claim to be following religion and then do things in 'the name of God' which are against His wishes. Suicide bombing in the "name of God" is using God's name falsely.
4. We get soooo busy! Whether it's schoolwork, Snapchat or the swim team, our lives are hectic. Take some time away from the grind of daily life to think about family, God and life. Remember the Shabbat because without it we're like rats in a maze. Or tributes in a Quarter Quell.
5. Gratitude may just be the most important trait in life. Living with appreciation of those who help us will enrich our lives and the lives of those around us. Honor your

parents and appreciate them and all the other blessings you have in life.

6. Do not murder. You probably had this on your list, too. Respect for the value of human life is critical for doing life right. If we're committed to preserving life we may work harder to make life itself more meaningful.
7. We're supposed to have pleasure in this world. But pleasure needs boundaries to keep it appropriate, happy and good for people. Make sure that you pursue your enjoyment in life in a way that won't hurt others, or destroy the person you want to be. Don't commit adultery or use other means of getting pleasure in the wrong ways.
8. It's not just about don't steal. A society where people can't trust each other makes it really hard to be happy or productive. Skipping school while pretending to be sick, speaking behind people's backs, cheating on tests or sneaking into the movies. These activities make the world an untrusting, frustrated place, and are directly against the pure truth of God.
9. Our words can be tools of great good or weapons of destruction. With a single story we can destroy a reputation, or make someone feel like a million bucks! Don't bear false witness. Don't hurt people or yourself with words. Use encouraging, enabling words to help others grow.
10. Just be happy with what you have! Many people think happiness is

something that 'happens' when we win the lottery, get bitten by a radioactive spider or become famous. The commandment Do not be jealous reminds us not to judge our own happiness by how much other people have compared to us. We need to make the choice to be satisfied with what we have!

How's that for ten important rules for life? Take a look at your own top 10 list and see if you want to edit any of it now. You see, the Torah is NOT just a big storybook. It really captures what it means to grow into a stronger, better person. Good luck!

Have - a- Nageela Shabbat,

the Rabbi

Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

*Have a question? Please send it in to
stump@nageelawest.org*

Questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed

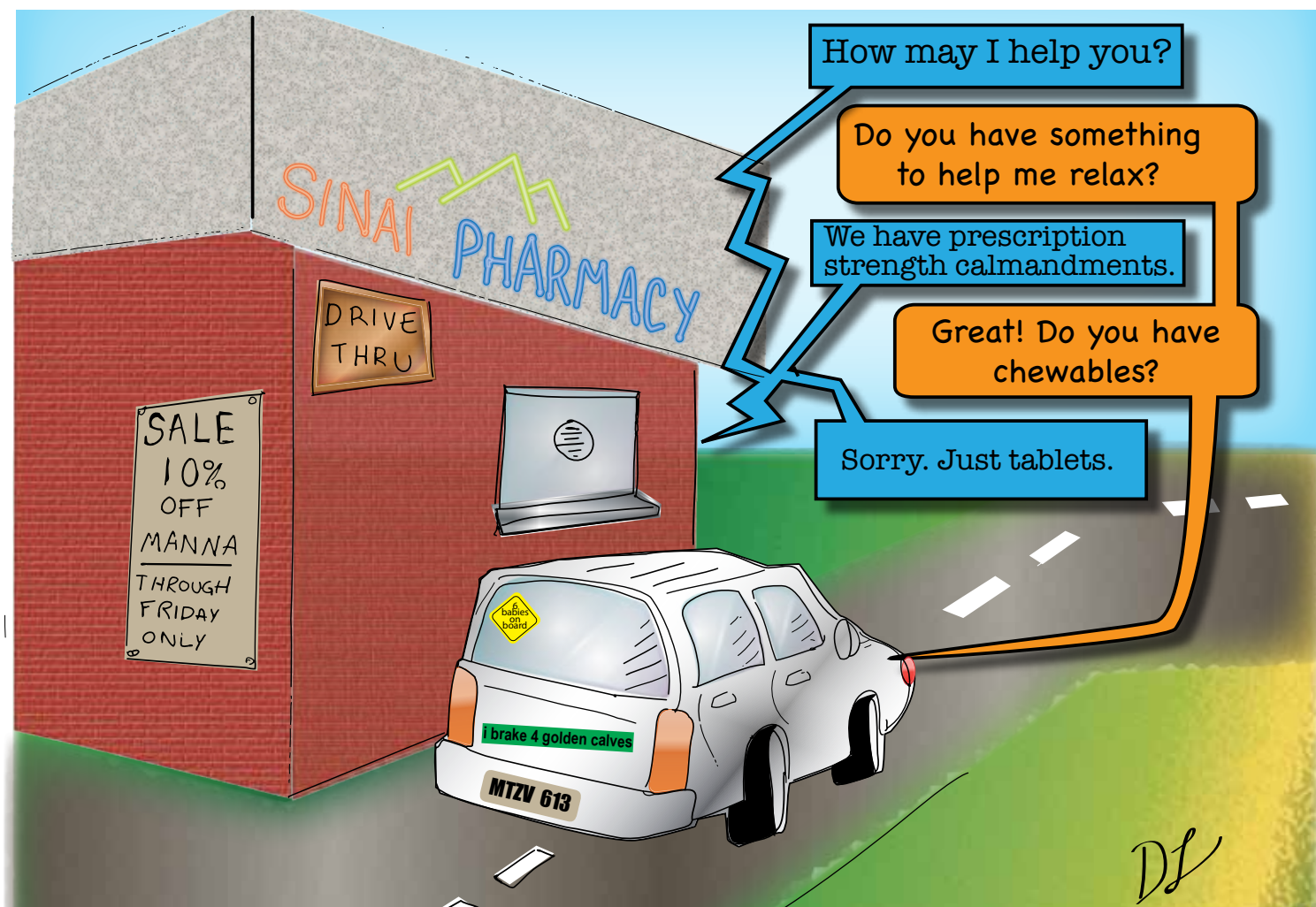
G.O.A.T.

Greatest Of All Time

Quote

*One who sustains
one life is as if he has
sustained an entire
world.*

~Mishna, Sanhedrin



Feb 13th - Pico- Robertson
Jewish Individualized
Learning

Feb. 28th -Nageela Sisters
Las Vegas Purim Feast

March 2nd - YOLO Shabbaton
March 25th - Gravady All nighter!

Answer of the Week

question on page 1

CAUTION:
Don't read this
answer until you've
read the question
on page 1!

DON'T CHEAT!

HEY, STOP

Need help understanding, or have a different answer? email dlocker@nageelawest.org

1. If you dig a hole in the ground in public property, it does not belong to you, but you're fully responsible for any damage it causes.
2. If there is bread (or any chametz) in your home on Passover, you're responsible even if you don't own it.

Thanks to all the
sponsors and
participants in our
North Tahoe Jewish
Youth initiative!
Great job on this
week's inaugural
NageeLatte!



Happy
Birthday!

to Nageela family members
celebrating their birthdays this week!

Lielle Shlasinger
McGwire Pinkus
Matan Adelson
Asher Hennes
Tehilla Gross
Gideon Peters

Nageela West breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach by providing out-of-the-box social and educational programs for Jewish children across the west coast. Our "questions encouraged" mindset makes Nageela a comfortable learning and growing environment for Jewish children of all backgrounds.

