

HAVE A NAGEELA SHABBOS

KID FRIENDLY TORAH MAGAZINE
A PROJECT OF NAGEELA WEST COAST,
JOYFULLY JEWISH EXPERIENCES

.....
SEASON 9, EPISODE 35
.....

PARSHAS RE'EH 5785

Torat Scene-A-Eye

*This features an AI generated picture that has numerous hints to the weekly parsha.
This week's is about Parshas Re'eh*



Disclaimer: These AI generated images are NOT meant to portray actual people or events from the Torah. They are simply hints to get you thinking.

WHAT'S UP?

STUFF IS HAPPENING

-
- We're still coming off our summer high, so excuse us if we reminisce a bit about our 3 week girls session in Illinois, our 3 week boys session in Illinois, or our 8 day girls travel camp in Utah. I mean Jewtah.
- Plans are heavily unerway for summer 2026, and we expect to make our major summer announcements within two weeks!
- I want to make sure you were listening (can you listen to what you're reading?). We'll be announcing plans for summer 2026 in less than two weeks! So PAY ATTENTION!
- West Coast Jewnior NCSY is set to get started this week in Las Vegas with a soft opening at Bruster's Ice Cream, and next week (Sept 2) with a major Ice Skating Kickoff event!
- See the flyers for details!

*You can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one.
Help us reach more Jewish kids with interesting Torah content!*

Deep Thoughts

.....
***Is coffee techni-
cally bean soup?***



JOIN US!

.....
We have programs for Middle School kids from all over the West Coast. Please contact us for details!



**Mazel
Tov!**

Mazel Tov to Brayden Stavinsky who celebrated his Bar Mitzvah this past week!

Question of the Week

.....
Because of the way time zones work, just about all holidays start in Jerusalem well before anywhere in the United States.
Can you think of a holiday celebration that begins earlier in the US than it does in Jerusalem?



ANSWER ON PAGE 6

DVAR TORAH

WHAT THEY NEED

Charity idea: Let's buy designer jewelry for homeless people. You like?

How much charity should you give to a needy person?

You might be thinking 10%, but that's the amount a person is supposed to give in total between all his charitable endeavors. That's not my question. How much should you give to an individual needy person?

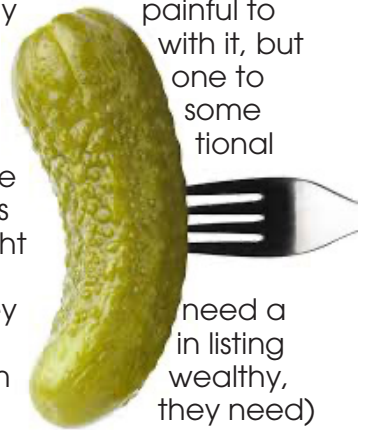
Well obviously it depends somewhat on how much they need. The Torah doesn't give a number like, "Give each needy person \$12.54, adjust for inflation when necessary." Oooo, fake Torah quotes... that's either a terrible idea or... yeah, probably just a terrible idea.

Actually the Torah says to give a person "What they are lacking." That's interesting. What they are missing. What they need. I'm pretty sure I need a Bugati, but whatever. The Torah's sensitivity reaches out and guides us to look at the individual receiving charity and give them what they need, not a cookie cutter solution where everyone gets the same thing. But we can take this even further.

The Talmud (Kesubos 67) defines, "What they are lacking" in what seems to be a contradictory manner. First the Talmud insists that we only give a person what they are missing, but our job isn't to make them wealthy. So it seems that we should only give them bare necessities (and don't try to tell me you can hear the words 'bare necessities' without singing it in your head). The Talmud then goes on to exclaim that we give "even a horse to ride upon, even a servant to run before him." The it goes on to tell of a time when the great Hillel himself provided a horse and a servant for a poor person who had come from a wealthy background. Once, the servant wasn't available so Hillel himself did the running. Essentially the Talmud seems to do a total about face, and insist that if what a person 'needs' is massive luxury, then we have to provide that as well. I don't know about you, but that doesn't sit well with too many people who give charity. "Please donate so I can update my designer shoes, because these are sooo last season!" Clearly that's not what the Talmud is suggesting, so what's the deal?

The key to charity isn't in what you're giving but in what is being received. The receiver may have very different emotional, nutritional or social needs than you do. It's easy to write a check (OK, maybe not so easy), pop it in the mailbox and be done. It's challenging, yet so much more valuable to try and understand where the receiver is coming from. What are they feeling, what are they used to? Do they have a real need that's totally different than what I can imagine? Perhaps (as in the Hillel story) they come from a very wealthy family and living without certain signs of wealth would be truly painful to them (yes, they should deal with it, but it isn't so easy for everyone to do some emotional challenges that make it more important HOW the money is given than how much? Might some people need a shoulder or a smile more than they need a slice of bread. The Talmud takes both sides (don't make them wealthy, and give them everything they need) is making us keenly aware that charity can not be a robotic, impersonal experience. It requires getting to understand people and really helping them where they are.

We are blessed with the technology to be able to help people quickly and efficiently by simply giving charitable organizations a credit card number and getting a 'subscription,' and if this causes more charity to be given, it's a great thing! At the same time it's important for every one of us to get down in the trenches from time to time. If you donate to an organization, call them to find out how the recipients are doing. Ask what is needed. Speak to people. Make it about the recipient. Give them the bread they knead.



Instagram: @nageelawest
X: @nageelawest



info@nageelawest.org
www.nageelawest.org



801-613-1539

PARSHAL PARSHA

a brief summary of the weekly
Torah porshon

PARSHAS RE'EH

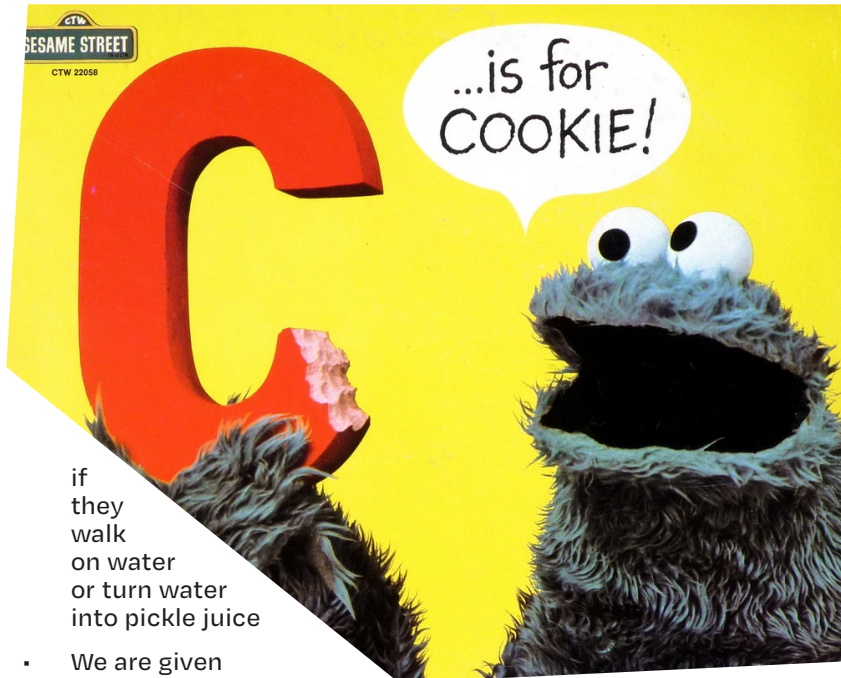
MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES

.....

- We are informed that when we would get to Israel we would receive a number of blessings and curses, and the stage for the presentation of these would be the mountains called Gerizim and Eival (which is where the word evil comes from)
- When we enter Israel we are instructed to destroy all the places where the previous inhabitants worshiped their false gods
- We are forbidden from destroying a Synagogue or holy object, or the name of God
- We are instructed to build a temple and to bring all of our offerings there
- Once the proper temple is built we will no longer be allowed to bring any offerings anywhere else, so cancel the sacrificial altar you ordered from Temu. It's probably smaller than it looked online, anyway
- We are instructed to care for the tribe of Levi, who give up the ability to own land and farm in order to be spiritual leaders. They get supported by the Jewish people so they can teach and lead
- The Torah warns us (many times) not to be influenced by the nations surrounding us, or even the nations we're conquering. Often conquering nations adopt many of the features of the nations they have overpowered
- We may not add to the commandments or diminish from them. Is that like having a bagel with two holes or with no holes?
- If someone performs miracles (ooooo, ahhhhh) and claims to speak in the name of God, yet tells us to worship in a way that's against the Torah, we can know for certain that person is a false prophet. Even

if
they
walk
on water
or turn water
into pickle juice

- We are given instructions on how to deal (very strictly) with individuals or whole cities who turn to worshipping false gods
- Because we are dear children of God, we may not self harm, including cutting our flesh, even to mourn for someone who passed away
- The Torah reviews most of the rules of kosher animals (hint, green eggs and ham is OUT)
- We're reminded about various tithes (of course I don't know what a tithe is. I thought you knew what a tithe is. Hey Siri, what's a tithe? "Tides are the rise and fall of sea levels caused by the combined effects of the gravitational forces exerted by the Moon and..." Never mind). The Torah requires us to give 10% of our stuff that grows (and some other things, too) and also about the Sabbatical year, when nobody in the Land of Israel is to farm
- We are reminded about the various holidays. This portion is used as the Torah reading for certain holidays
- When the Holy Temple stands, we are required to visit it three times a year, on the three major festival, Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot. Also when El Al has a sale



Torat Scene-A-Eye Explained

Some of the highlights of this week's portion are represented here. The mountain represents the 2 mountains of Gerizim and Eival which hosted blessings and curses. The blessings are further represented by the rising sun. The x before a domed building means to destroy and reject idolatry and to destroy places of idol worship.

The plant is the tithing for the Levites, the scales represent law and justice. Then there are the false prophets, and the prohibition to bring sacrifices outside the Holy Temple.



NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-
NA-NA-NAGEELA



How much do you love
being Jewish?

STUMP THE RABBI

StumptheRabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

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

(Most) questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed.

BE THERE OR...

A CLASSIC STUMP THE RABBI, MADE IN SEASON 3

Hi Rabbi,

What's the Jewish obsession with square stuff? Tzitzis have corners, and I know that tefillin have to be totally square or else they're not kosher. Now I also heard that in the Holy Temple, the altar had to be square with corners. Why? Is there something special about corners?

Thanks,

Angela Uma Larson

Dear Ang U. Lar,

That's an interesting angle...

There are indeed many items represented in Jewish life that need to be square or angled. The ones you mentioned are all good examples. Also in next week's Torah portion, the Choshen, the chest plate worn by the head kohein, had to be square. Why?

The Jerusalem Talmud points out something fascinating. Squares and rectangles don't exist in nature. Think of every animal you've ever seen. They don't look like they're from Minecraft. They've all got rounded edges! Even rocks which can be sharp, almost never have clear rectangular form, and given time, erosion rounds the edges. Always.



Trees, plants, clouds, insects, sea anemones... anenonies... amenones... anemones ... all these have different forms of curves and twists, but none are square. The Torah gives us instructions to make things angular and square to teach us an important lesson. God gave us an amazing world, but we need to be active participants in changing that world. We humans are not able to just rely on staying the way we were made; rather, we work hard to become better, more complete beings. As an example, every human is born selfish. Show me a selfless baby, and I'll show you a well-rested mother. Neither exists. As we grow, we learn to think about others. We shape ourselves into thinking, caring biped quadrilaterals. Tefillin are square, as well as many of these other Jewish themes that involve angles (at least in part) to help us remember that it's our job as people to make choices, change ourselves, and change the world, rather than letting the world change us. Forgetting this would just be square.

Have-a Nageela Shabbos

The Rabbi



COMPLETED
DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



COMPLETED
DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

PICKLE JEWS



LAS VEGAS JEWNIOR NCSY

KICKOFF PARTY!

Skating + Pizza

🕒 TUES, SEPT 2,
7:00-9:00

📍 CITY NATIONAL ARENA
1550 S PAVILION CENTER

★ \$15 IN ADVANCE
\$20 DAY OF

☎ LOCKERD@NCSY.ORG
917.613.1037

4-8 GRADERS INVITED | PRIZES & MERCH | BRING A NEW FRIEND AND GET A \$10 STARBUCKS GIFT CARD!

FOLLOW "I ONLY MAKE UP TRUE STORIES" POD-
CAST, AVAILABLE ON ALL MAJOR PLATFORMS





**WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS
RISKING THEIR LIVES TO FIGHT FOR OUR SAFETY**



QUESTION ON PAGE 1

Answer of the Week

.....
Purim of course! It's a full day later in Jerusalem, so even though the day starts earlier in Jerusalem, the celebration is later.



LOLZ

.....
I'm giving away all my dead batteries...

Free of charge



Happy Birthdays!

Shylee Braner
Sidney Ghenassia
Chaya (Leiter) Greenfield
Gaylie Kaplowitz
Brody Beery
Naamah Rose

Julian Weiss
Sasha Weiss
Naamah Rose
Michael Morgenstern
Joseph Greenfield



Nageela Shabbos is a weekly publication of Nageela West Coast, Joyfully Jewish Experiences.



Instagram: @nageelawest
X: @nageelawest



info@nageelawest.org
www.nageelawest.org



801-613-1539