

Parshas Shemini
5779

March 29th,
2019

have a Nageela Shabbos

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

Candle Lighting:
Scottsdale 6:27
Henderson 6:41
Las Vegas 6:42
San Diego 6:48
LA 6:53
Tarzana 6:54
N.Lake Tahoe 7:02

Season 3
Episode 26

Hair Don't by Rabbi Dani Locker



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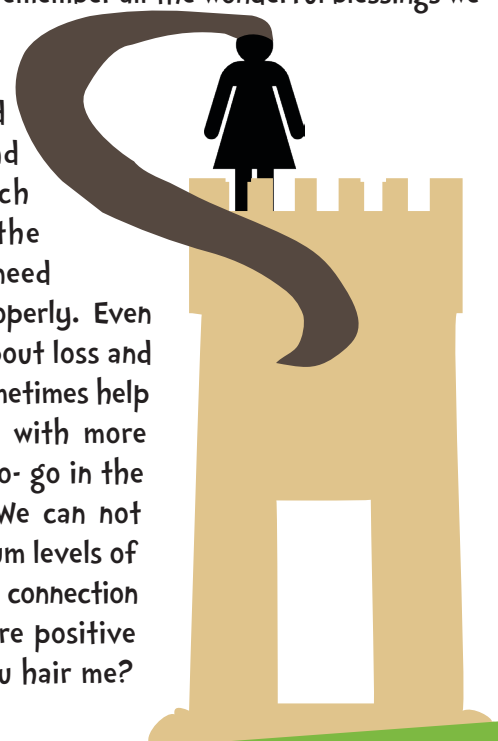
The Beis Hamikdash, our Holy Temple which stood in Jerusalem for over 800 years (with a short break for Babylonian Graffiti and Hamantaschen) was a really special place. OK, that was an understatement, it was a mega, incredible, prodigious, shockingly awesome, and Brobdignagian in its holiness and splendor. So, yeah. It was special.

There was a dress code for the people who worked there. I'm not talking about the uniform (there was an extremely cool uniform, which we're not gonna talk about now). I'm talking about the way the uniform was worn. The Torah actually uses one of the commandments to make a rule that the Kohanim who worked in the temple could not enter if their clothing was torn. Even if it was torn for an important reason, like if a close relative passed away (Jews tear their clothes when that happens), it was a no-go in the Temple. It is understandable, since the Beis Hamikdash is so special, it's inappropriate to show up in ripped jeans. This is similar to what we recently read in the Megillah of Esther, that in the Persian palace of Shushan, it was forbidden to enter in "clothing of sack."

There's a similar commandment forbidding a kohein to enter the Temple with long hair! Once again, this was not discussing long hair as a fashion statement, necessarily. The Torah was not saying, "I can't stand Rapunzel, let's ban her from our tower!" Rather

it is talking about someone who is in mourning for a close relative. In Jewish mourning, a mourner doesn't get a haircut for a while after (there are different customs; usually a month). This long hair is not allowed in the temple because it is an outward sign of sadness.

When we think about our relationship with God, it's important to remember all the wonderful blessings we have in our lives that we haven't really earned. God truly loves us and gives us so much good! That is the frame of mind we need to be in, to pray properly. Even though thinking about loss and mourning might sometimes help inspire us to pray with more emotion, that's a no-go in the Beis Hamikdash. We can not achieve the maximum levels of spiritual growth and connection to God unless we are positive and happy. Do you hair me?



**Sponsorship
Opportunity**

to sponsor an episode of Nageela Shabbos, please contact ygelb@nageelawest.org



There is a movement of people who
are against Northern California's
National Parks

They're called anti- Yo-semites

OUCH! GROAN!

got a better joke? email it to dlocker@nageelawest.org

87 | 110

DAYS TO CAMP
NAGEELA WEST
GIRLS SESSION

DAYS TO CAMP
NAGEELA WEST
BOYS SESSION

Find out about our Grand Tour 2019 and see
photos from GT2018 at nageelawest.org

Quick Fix

By

by Rabbi Dov Ber
Smith

Did you ever wonder why Jewish people keep kosher? Guess what??? This week Parsha discusses that mitzva. There is a book called Sefer Hachinuch, that very often explains the reason behind any mitzva. He writes that because God loves us and takes care of us, therefore everything that He does is made for our benefit. The same goes with the mitzva of kosher.

Remind yourself that parents make demanding rules because they love and care about you. Realize that a leader who tells you what is permitted and what is prohibited, is someone who loves you like crazy, watching your every step and giving you an awesome diet to follow. This is the kind of thinking that will guarantee a happy Life!!



Photo of the Week

Serious about our drinks

A couple of NageeLatte participants in a serious conversation about something mysterious.

April 11th, save the date for an ice cream get together for all middle school students in the Scottsdale and Phoenix area to find out about Nageela and Jr. NCSY! See flyer on back page.

May 1st, Bowling at Lake Tahoe, plus a meeting for parents addressing Anti-Semitism in School.

Locker Live is coming back!

Get ready for 7pm on Thursdays for a 20 minute Instagram Live broadcast featuring Stump the Rabbi, games and jokes! Points will be given!

If you know anyone looking for the greatest Jewish summer experience of their lives, please contact us for details.

↑ **dates**



Instagram @lookerom
youtube: selfietorah

THURS-
DAYS
@7

You Tube

Subscribe to the "Rabbi Locker" YouTube channel for weekly Selfie Torah videos, educational, entertaining and informational videos.
tinyurl.com/selfietorah

Subscribe to the Camp Nageela West YouTube channel for up to date Nageela content. www.youtube.com/nageelawest



Thanks, God!

Hi Rabbi,

My uncle was really sick, and had a bunch of big surgeries. Now, he's completely cured, and the doctors think he'll be fine for many, many years! We're really happy and relieved, of course. Is there a special way for Jews to celebrate great news, or to say thank you to God?

Thanks,

Grayson T. Full

Dear Gray T. Full,

Great news about your uncle! May he be healthy and happy for many, many years to come! When something good happens, or when a disaster is averted, there is indeed a special Jewish way to celebrate and to say "thank you." Its roots are in the Torah itself.

Way back in the good old days, before there were modern conveniences like Twitter and running water, Jews would gather a few times a year at the most special place on Earth. Ding! Ding! Ding! You guessed it; the Beis Hamikdash, also called the Holy Temple, in our eternal city, Jerusalem. When people came to this special place, they would not come with empty hands or pockets. They probably carried a few granola bars for the trip, and they also brought offerings, usually animals to donate or to sacrifice. One of the very common offerings was the Korban Todah, which literally means the "Thank You Offering." The Todah was used for specific happy events in people's lives. As part of this offering, **40 loaves of bread were included, so that the thank you message to God was not private.** The thankatologist (yes, I just made up that word) would make a party or a meal, inviting lots of people (hoping they weren't gluten free) and thank God publicly. There are the four events a Todah would be brought for:

Serious illness- not for a cold or a sprained ankle, but when someone gets better after a truly dangerous sickness, like

your uncle did, a Todah would have been brought.

Desert travel- No lions tigers and bears in the desert. There's also no water, shelter, food or WiFi. If you survive that, you've gotta give thanks.

Sea travel- Going by boat over an ocean was the most dangerous form of travel in ancient times, and even today, sea travel can ruin perfectly good shoes.

Getting out of jail- if you've ever played Monopoly, you understand the joy of getting out of jail. Especially if you roll snake eyes. This also applies to people who were captured by kidnappers or an enemy army.

Getting sent to the Principal's office- is not mentioned in the Talmud. Probably should be.

Now that we ain't got no temple no more, nor have we the privilege of endowing sacrificial offerings (wasn't that a fun sentence fragment?), there are a few things we do to replace the Korban Todah.

Thank you celebration- just as the thankatologist during TT (Temple Times) would invite lots of people to share his gratitude, it is proper to make a meal or a party and explain to the guests why you're happy. I know many people who make a celebration like this every year to mark the anniversary of a special salvation in their lives. Another

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way of publicizing the thanks would be to use social media to publicly thank God.

Blessing of Gmel- there's a special blessing that is said (usually during a Torah service) that publicly thanks God for the good He has granted. Today, many people have the custom to do this blessing after air travel, especially if it's overseas. Another appropriate time for this blessing is after the healthy birth of a baby, or surviving a car accident.

Shehechyanu and Hatov v'hameitiv- If you were not in danger, but something amazing happened in your life, there are two blessings which may be said. The blessing of shehechyanu can be said if you get a piece of exciting new clothing or a present, if you won the lottery, or got a great new job. Hatov V'hameitiv is pretty much the same, but is for good things that have happened to a group of people. For example, your family got a new house, or your dog had puppies (if you really, really, really like puppies). I would apply shehechyanu to getting a jar of pickles in my house, because I don't share.

Kiddush- many people use the opportunity to

sponsor their synagogue's kiddush in honor of something good that happened, or getting saved from one of the aforementioned life-challenges.

Charity- as a general rule, giving money to charity is always a good way to show your appreciation to God.

Saying "Thank you, God!" - Well, that was obvious (except, maybe it wasn't).

If everyone expressed how grateful they are to God when good things happened, I think the world would be a little happier. And we'd have way more Kiddush.

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.

April 11
Junior NCSY Event Taster
Grades 6th-8th

MEET AND GREET

WITH

CHELSEA ROSENBERG

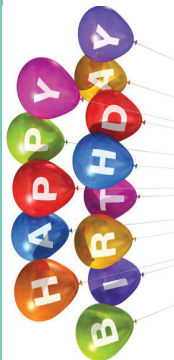
ARIZONA DIRECTOR OF NCSY AND JSU

RABBI DANI LOCKER

DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR PROGRAMMING
WEST COAST

**COME MEET NEW
FRIENDS, LEARN ABOUT
EXCITING PROGRAMMING,
AND HAVE AN ICE CREAM
ON US**

BASKIN ROBBINS
4547 E CACTUS RD
6:45 PM - 7:45 PM



**Awesometastic birthday wishes
to Nageela family members
celebrating their birthdays:**

Myles Glick

Aaron Goldklang

Rivki Cherrick

HAPPY UNBIRTHDAY TO

EVERYONE ELSE!



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. Through afterschool activities, weekend retreats and our signature summer camp, we engage elementary and middle school children in a fun and meaningful experience.

Our "questions encouraged" mindset makes Nageela a comfortable learning and growing environment for Jewish children of all backgrounds.

844-NAGEELA

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