have- a Nageela Shabbos

Weekly Kid Friendly Torah Magazine

A Project of Nageela West- Joyfully Jewish Experiences

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TORAT SCENE- A- EYE

An AI generated image representing Jacoband Esav in their epic confrontation. What details can you detect?

(answers on page 8)

DEEP THOUGHTS

How do you throw out a defective boomerang?

LOLZ

I used to read long fantasy books, but they do have a tendency to dragon...

have- a Nageela Shabbos

DVAR TORAH

HE WHO MUST NOT BE NAMED



For the past seven weeks, we've been reading stories about our ancestors in the Torah. Don't get me wrong, I love a good story, but I'm not too sure we would interrupt our Shabbat prayer services for a description of the American revolution, or a reading of Lord of the Rings. The fact that these stories are in the Torah, and we read them week, after week, after year tells me that we can learn something from each one of these stories. Not just from the story, but every detail mentioned in the Torah must teach us something, or else it would have been left out (the Torah leaves out plenty of details when they're not instructive)!

As Jacob and his family prepare for the worst family reunion possible- yes, even worse than when Aunt Mildred pinched your cheeks in front of all your friends- with his murderous brother, Esav, he stops to have a wrestling match. The Torah describes Jacob fighting with a 'man' all night, until morning. When Jacob finally puts on a submission hold and the 'man' is trying to tap out, Jacob asks the man for his name. He answers, "Why then, do you ask for my name." Who was this guy? Why wouldn't he say his name? Unless it's Voldemort or something and he must not be named. But otherwise, why the secrecy?

Hold that thought for a minute. The Jewish people value learning, right? We're called, "The People of the Book," and one of the most important (if not the most important) mitzvot is studying Torah.

Why?

Because there's pretty much nothing as dangerous and scary as ignorance. Of course we can't know everything, but we do our best to learn and to understand, and always, always ask questions. One of the sure ways to tell a philosophy is wrong is if it discourages asking. Ben Franklin said, "Being ignorant is not so much a shame, as being unwilling to learn." In other words, not trying to learn is a disaster!

THIS ANGEL'S NAME IS 'DON'T ASK MY NAME'

Now, back to our story. Many sources identify this 'man' as an angel. But not just any angel, the one in charge of Esav's nation, the enemy of the Jewish people. The great Rabbi Chaim Shmulevitz explained that names show somebody's personality and by saying, "Why do you ask for my name," the angel was actually naming himself. His name is "Don't ask my name!" This angel knows that the number one thing he's got to worry about is us knowing and understanding stuff. So he says, "Don't ask. Don't worry. Just do what you feel like doing. Don't worry about the consequences."

Our key to winning this battle is by always 'knowing the name', always understanding why

continued on next page

DVAR TORAH

HE WHO MUST... CONTINUED

we do things, and if we can't know it all, at least by trying our hardest to understand. Ask questions, challenge (respectfully) the things you're taught. Make sure you know their names and their purposes.

And if you meet a horse, make sure you find out its neighhhhm...

Oh no, I didn't.

And if it's a dyslexic horse, find out it's mane...

Yeah. I did. Have an awesomtastic Shabbat!

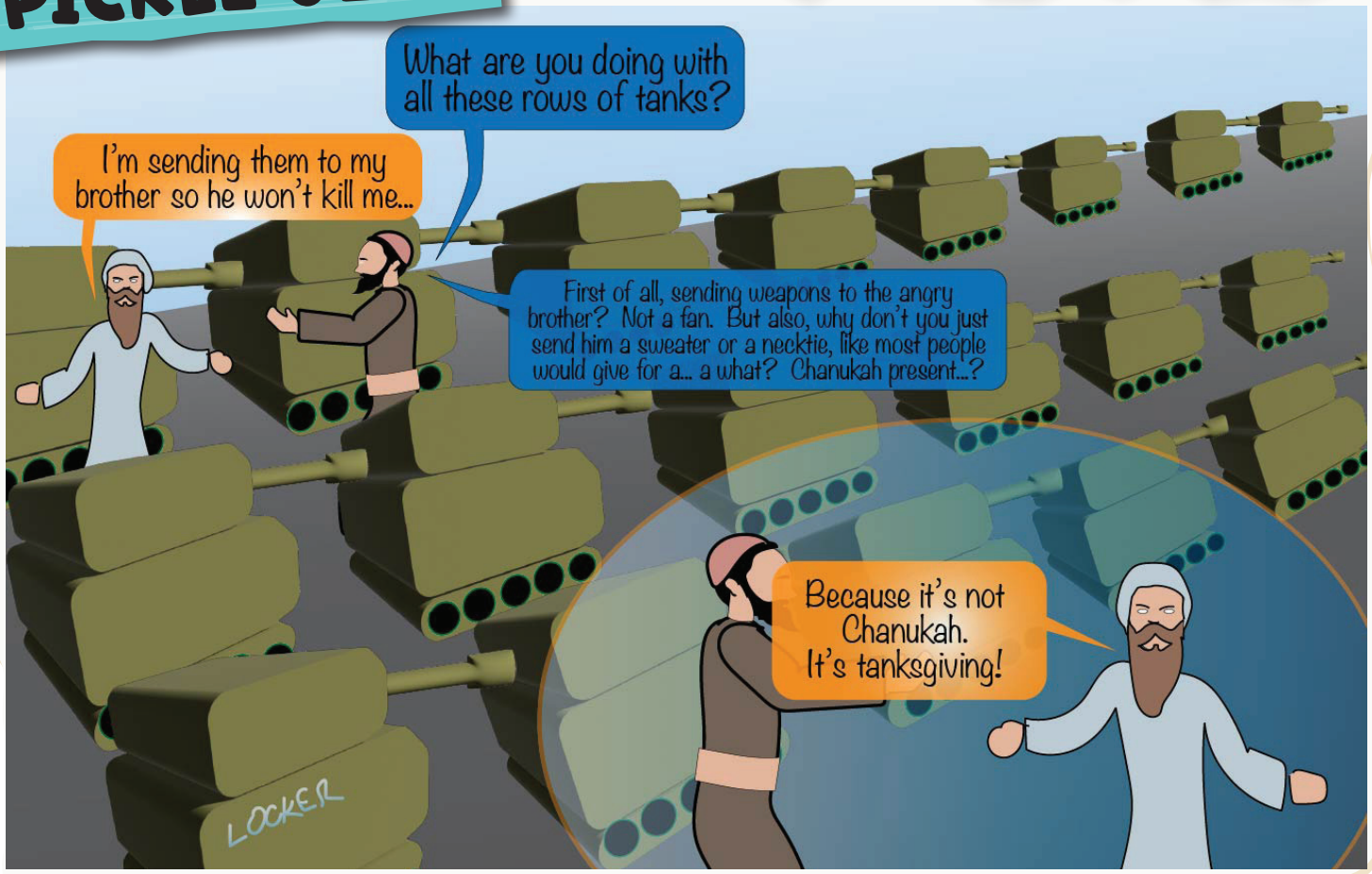
QUESTION OF THE WEEK

This is a pretty hard one, so think before you look!

What three people in the Torah share the same name? But here's the catch: One is a gentile. One is a convert, and one was (presumably) born Jewish. What's the name?

See the answer on page 8

PICKLE JEWS



have a Nageela Shabbos

WHAT'S UP?

With November ending, we're in heavy event season!

We haven't updated this page in some time, so wow, in the past few weeks we've had an amazing Las Vegas Shabbaton, a great kickoff event in Walnut Creek, California, pizza in LA, roller skating in Phoenix, Bowling in Tucson, Ice skating in Summerlin. I actually am just going to stop because we're running out of space, but there's so much more to say!

We want to meet every Jewish middle schooler on the West Coast. Have kids? Have kids' friends? Friends' kids? Wherever you put the apostrophe, let's connect!

SAVE THE DATES:

Dec 7th- LV Jr NCSY Chanukah Party
Dec 17th- Pickle Making in Scottsdale
Dec 20th- San Diego Kickoff event
Dec 23rd, Los Angeles Activate event
Jan 3rd, - Lee Canyon Ski Day

Registration is now open for the follwoing upcoming Shabbatons:

Dec 18-19 AZ Shabbaton in Tucson. This Shababton is open to 5-8 graders from Arizona only.

Jan 22-24 JR Regional Shabbaton in Big Bear California. This Shabbaton is open to 6-8 graders from evewrywhere on the West Coast!

Camp Nageela Midwest is open for summer 2027 registration. Please contact us to set up an open house in your city!

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Havdallah at City National Ice arena



JR NCSY THIS WEEK

And the grand prize winner is...





Miya did a great job on her Bat Mitzvah!

Hebrew School students thriving!



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PARSHAL PARSHA

VAYISHLACH
Road Trip

- Don't you love family reunions? I love them, especially when one brother is sworn to kill the other (unless that brother happens to be me. Then I don't like the reunions so much)
- Jacob is about to meet his brother Esav after decades, and is afraid. He prepares himself in three ways. He sends Esav a sizeable Amazon Gift Card (in the form of hundreds of animals), he prays, and he also splits his family up, getting 2 separate AirBnbs
- While moving his family, Jacob crosses over a river to grab some of his luggage that he left behind (he was flying Frontier) and he wrestles with an angel representing Esav. Jacob wins the battle, but gets injured and starts limping. The Jewish people are forver forbidden from eating the part of the animal where Jacob's injury took place
- Despite the awkward meeting, Esav decides not to kill his brother (yay) and they depart in peace
- Jacob moves to the suburbs of Shechem, because of excellent real estate prices, and easy walking distance to the supermarket and gym
- While near Shechem, Jacob's daughter, Dina, gets abducted by the local prince, a guy with the very original name of... wait for it... Shechem
- Dina's brothers, not so cool with that. When Shechem and his dad ask to marry Dina, they call the guys from Impractical Jokers and play a subtle trick on the people of Shechem. Basically, they make the whole city get circumcised and then kill them all. Like I said, subtle
- Devorah, who was Rebecca's nursemaid passes away, and commentaries say that Rebecca, too, passes away
- God changes Jacob's name to Israel, so Jacob is 'is ole name, and Israel is 'is real name
- Rachel gives birth to Benjamin, but dies in childbirth, and she's buried at the side of the road
- The Torah lists the twelve sons of Jacob, now finally complete
- Isaac passes away at the age of 180
- The Torah lists Esav's family tree, including his wives and kids, the kings who ruled, and even the Chori family whom Esav connected with, and from whom Amalek originated
- The area is called Seir, which may or may not be a reference to Esav's hairiness

בס"ד

CHAZAQ SHAPING LIVES SUNDAY PROGRAM

THE JEWISH IDENTITY CENTER זהות יהודית

SUNDAY PROGRAM IN LAS VEGAS!

For Jewish Public School Students • Ages 5–12

Sundays 10:00 - 11:45 AM

OPEN HOUSE NOVEMBER 1ST

November - May 7-Month Program



Jewish Traditions & Hebrew

Creative Activities

Caring Staff

Breakfast, Raffles & Prizes

$560

Jewish Identity Center
9590 West Sahara Ave, Las Vegas, Nevada 89117

Shapinglives@chazaq.org | Shaping Lives Office 347-507-5790 | Rabbi Locker 917-613-1037 | Rabbi Moshe Orlowek 702-358-9946

MAZAL TOV!

Mazal tov to Idan Malka upon his engagement to Jessica!

Mazal tov to Miya Kenwood upon her Bat Mitzvah!

We're so excited to be revamping our eighteen- year running Hebrew School! Through this partnership with Chazaq, this is an opportunity for elemntary school students to learn to read Hebrew, have fun learning about Jewish values and start their week out right!
Contact us to come try it out!

STUMP THE RABBI

IT STINCTS IN HERE



Hi Rabbi,

Thank you for doing this online Q&A event. My question is: Some species of animals have gone extinct. If God knew they were going to go extinct, why were they brought onto the ark?

Thanks,
Xana T. Inkth

Dear XT inkth,

Thank you! This is a really interesting question. It's rare that I get a new question that nobody has ever asked me before, but this is definitely in that category. Let me ask you a question. Does anyone live forever? Of course not. Do we value their lives, even if they may be short? Of course we do. Now, I'm not trying to compare extinct animals to people. My point is that every creature in this universe has a purpose. NOT ONLY every species, but every single ant, vulture, quail or Venezualan Poodle Moth has a purpose in creation and is here for a specific reason.

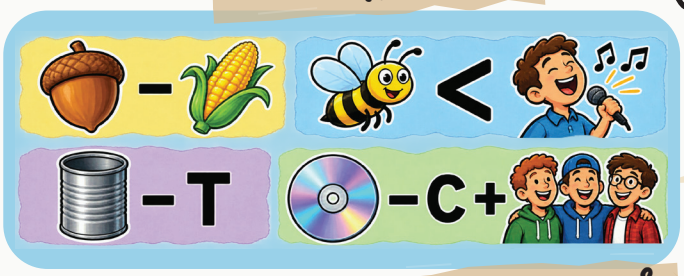
Do I know the purpose of sea pig? Real thing, BTW. Nope. But I can tell you with confidence that if a species existed for any amount of time it is because the species as a whole, AND each individual member of that species was important. A creature dying, or a species going extinct doesn't erase the value that creature had.

Even though God knew that a species would go extinct in the future, it is worth saving them even for a few generations. We believe a similar concept with humans. Let's say a person is seriously ill and they're on life support. The doctors say this person will die in a few days. Now somebody comes and kills the patient, You know what we call that? Murder. Every minute and every day of life is precious. Certainly generations are valuable, even if the species won't survive forever. So while I don't know precisely what reason the dodo had for surviving on the ark, I think it's cool that there were dodos on that ark!

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi

CAN YOU FIGURE OUT THE REBUS?



Answer on page 8

UPCOMING EVENTS









I'M PUZZLED

TORAT SCENE- A-EYE EXPLAINED

DID YOU FIND...

1. Jacob wrestling the mysterious figure at night
2. Jacob praying before meeting Eisav
3. Jacob's family camp
4. Yaakov's flocks and gifts
5. A stone well
6. The symbol of the Gid Hanasheh
7. Jacob and Eisav embracing
8. Eisav's approaching army
9. A distant city, representing Shechem
10. A deer, symbolizing Eisav the hunter

REBUS ANSER KEY

ANSWER OF THE WEEK

Question on page 3

The name is Reuel רעואל
The gentile was a son of Esav.
Reuel is also one of the names of Yisro, a convert.
One of the Jewish tribal chiefs (tribe of Gad) was Elyasaf Ben Deuel, but one mention has the name as Elyasaf ben Reuel.

HBD!

Cai Kraft
David Aguila
Jonah Arazi
Lian Meshkov
Annikah Price
Sarah Cox
Aliyah Treizman
Maytal Cohen
Avi Klein
Elian Guakil
Aviva Hafter
Moshe Rast
Bernardo Halperin
Joseph Lerner
Lucas Hoffman
Ori Roth
Michaella Gazala
Hillel Nissim

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DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION

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DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

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