have- a
Nageela Shabbos

Weekly Kid Friendly Torah Magazine

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TORAT SCENE- A- EYE

An AI generated image representing Abraham and Isaac journeying toward the Akeida. What interesting details can you find?

DEEP THOUGHTS

How are unicorns fake but giraffes are real?

LOLZ

What do you call a funny sandwich?

A punini

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DVAR TORAH

A LOT OF SOUP



I am fascinated by Lot as a biblical character. His journey and his story are so unique. He's a complicated man, neither pure good nor pure evil (I know, almost nobody is pure good or pure evil, but most biblical characters are presented in a pretty binary light). He travels with Abraham and exhibits some of Abraham's traits, particularly when it comes to hospitality. But he's not all that. Le'ts take a look at one example:

Two men visit Lot in Sodom, and in a complete departure from the norms of his city, he invites these men in. He gives them food. He gives them a place to stay. He provides them with true hospitality.

Sodom was notoriously anti-hospitality. Just thinking out loud here. It's kind of funny that Sodom was the ancient Sin City, and was totally against hospitality. Las Vegas is currently called Sin City and it specializes in hospitality. I had no point with that musing. Just spacing out. Anyway... Sodom wasn't just sinful. They hated guests, and they would violently oppose any kind of hospitality

So Lot invites these guys in, despite it being fairly dangerous for him. Then, the townspeople come with pitchforks and demand that he release these guests into their custody so they can be dealt with. Instead of giving in, Lot steps outside, braves the crowd, and refuses to give them up!

{PAUSE}

What a hero! What a legend! Lot for president!

Right? I mean, if you stop here, Lot has sacrificed so much for the amazing mitzvah of hospitality. He seems to be the bomb! Well, let's look further at what tools Lot uses to try rescuing his guests. He actually offers the mob a trade. He will give them... his two daughters.

WHAAAT? I mean actually WWHHHHAAAATTTTT????

Lot says, I will give you- the violent mob- my two daughters. Just leave these two men alone, because they are under my protection. I hope we all realize that this is quite... off. I think sick might be a better adjective.

Hospitality is amazing, but who would think that it is more important than the basic responsibility of protecting your own children?

> A PERSON WITH THE BEST VALUES CAN STILL BE IMMORAL IF HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO BALANCE THEM.

continued on next page

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DVAR TORAH

A LOT OF SOUP... CONTINUED

Lot was soup. Value soup.

Lot had learned hospitality from his uncle Abraham, the GOAT of hospitality. Abraham offered food, shelter, solace, and guidance to strangers and travelers. Lot learned this, and he knew the awesomeness of hospitality. He put it in his soup, but without understanding how to BALANCE different values, he wasn't able to separate which value to use. We grow up reading books, hearing stories, experiencing lessons in values. We learn from George Washington the value of always telling the truth. From Nathan Hale the value of sacrifice for your country. From Franklin, Edison and Wright(s) we learn about creativity, commitment and never giving up. From our own history, we have absorbed so many wonderful values of generosity, justice, thirst for knowledge, charity, dedication, self sacrifice, focus and truth. If we put all these values that we've picked up over the years into the pot of our own lives, we will have a wonderfully gooey soup of values, and with those values we can make absolutely catastrophic choices. With a value soup, we can create an absolute Frankenstein's monster of immorality. A person can be composed of the best and most amazing component values and use it to be completely immoral if he doesn't know how to balance them.

Lot had the value of kindness. He didn't understand the balance well enough to know that his responsibility to his family's safety and care is a way higher value. It's just not what came up in that spoonful of soup.

One of the main benefits of studying Torah isn't just the great values it teaches us. It's the hierarchy of value that it provides. It's the balance where we see, primarily from reading the stories of our ancestors and studying them, when to use these values and when not to. Which values come before others? When to be generous and when to hold back? When we need to tell the truth (most of the time, BTW), and when altering the truth might be the right move, which sometimes is the right thing to do. When you're listening to the Torah being read, or you're at a class, or you're studying something, instead of just thinking, "What values can I learn from the Torah?" try instead to learn: "Where do these values fit in? When should or shouldn't I use them?" If we do that, we'll be able to become people who are not just value-filled soup, but people who are well-balanced, healthy, godly human beings. .





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PARSHAL PARSHA

VAYEIRA
Sodom Omelette

- Abraham is recovering from surgery. He has a doctor's note to miss school and everything, but he spends his time looking for guests to host.
- 3 guys come along, and they seem to be travelers. Abraham even asks them to wash their feet because he suspects they worship sand. Is it just me or is that a really strange thing to worship?
- Abraham gives them tongue with mustard, among other things. Gordon Ramsey has a tantrum.
- It turns out these guys are angels. Don't blink.
- They promise Abraham and Sarah that they would have a son, even though they were like, super old.
- You know how cool it is when someone flips an omelet in a pan? God decides to do that to Sedom, because the people were not eggcellent.
- Abraham begs God to save Sedom (and the surrounding cities) if there would be even a small number of good people. It turns out there weren't even 10 good people in the entire region. Scary.
- Two of the angels, still disguised as people, pay a visit to Lot who is kind of a big deal in Sedom. He breaks the local laws by hosting them, and gets condemned by the UN for creating unrest in the region.
- The angles rescue Lot, his wife and two daughters, as Sedom gets deep fried. Lot's wife had a bad attitude... she was salty about the whole thing.
- Sarah gets kidnapped by a Philistine king named Avimelech. Seriously, what is with these people and kidnapping? Not cool! He and his whole family get sick and he lets her go.
- Sarah gives birth to a boy who they name Isaac, and he gets circumcised at 8 days old.
- Ishmael, Abraham's older son is a bad influence on his little brother, so he and his mother get an all- expense paid vacation to the desert, where Ishmael grows up to be a pirate. Minus the water, the parrot, the peg- leg, the eye patch, the gold teeth, and the hook. He might've had a beard though.
- Abraham spends many years living in the land of the Philistines, who by the way have no relationship to the current group of people with a similar name.
- God tests Abraham's commitment by commanding him to bring Isaac as an offering.
- Abraham is about to do it, when God commands him to stop. Instead, he sacrifices a ram, which was stuck by its curly horns.



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!

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WHAT'S UP?

Alrighty! Our year is just starting to get heated up. Here we go!

Our first Shabbaton of the year is coming up next week! It will take place locally in Las Vegas and feature a trip to Adventuredome! We were excited that a number of out- of- town participants expressed interest in coming. Next time, guys! But it's important to know that registrationofor this Shabbaton will close on Saturday night at midnight. So Make sure you sign up!

Activate was amazing! 50 kids, high energy fun, good food... can't wait for the next exciting program, which leads me to...

Challah bake! This Monday, Jr NCSY will be baking Challah, in preparation for the Shabbaton. But don't worry, you can make some even if you're not Shabbatoning.

SAVE THE DATES:

Nov 4th- Phoenix/ Scottsdale programs
Nov 5th, Tucson event at Roadies!
Nov 8th San Diego!
The week after it's LA's turn, followed by San Francisco and Oakland. It's a West Coast JR NCSY takeover!
Save the dates: Dec 18- AZ Shabbaton
Jan 22- JR Regional Shabbaton
Camp Nageela has closed Early bird registration with a record 131 registered campers, blasting last year's number out of the water. But don't worry, we still have spots open! Contact me to sign up!

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

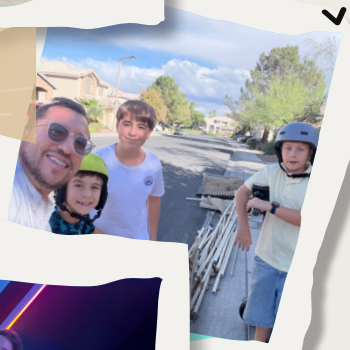


Teaching magical spells. Don't believe me? It's true!



JR NCSY THIS WEEK

Student Board meeting at Mini Grand Prix





Always great to bump into JR NCSYers!

Best. Night. Ever. at Activate!

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HBD!

Halle Hirshman
Rachel (Nahum) Anvar
Neeka Peyman
Sari Shakhman
Michal Fuks
Noah Zaff
Esther Hershcopf
Robbie Zeligman
Talia Zargari
Maor Kohen
Myles Marks





NAGEELA HIGHLIGHTS



The best of friends!



WHAT A SUMMER!

Life's about balance





Did someone say PICKLES???

A BLAST AT SIX FLAGS!

STUMP THE RABBI

WINGSTOP



Hi Rabbi,

When Abraham is visited by 3 angels he feeds them a big meal. If I'm reading it right, it seems like he served them milk and meat. Is that because they weren't Jewish? Why is this OK?
Thanks,
` ` Dara E Burger

Dear Darae Burger,

When you walk into a fast food joint, and order a burger and fries, how long does it take? Like a minute, maybe. Because they have stuff ready to go. They scoop some fries out of the fryer, put the ready made rubber pattie on the bun and voila! Hey, wait, is that why they call it fast food? Cuz it's fast? Wild!
What about a nicer restaurant? You walk in and sit down. You order a steak. It's made to order, with your exact specifications, and so, it takes a whole lot of time. While you're waiting, your stomach starts to grumble. It could be half an hour until your food comes out. Hey, wait, is that why they call it fast food? Cuz you have to fast while you're waiting for it? Wild!
Many restaurants, in an attempt to solve this problem, and also because your stomach is rumbling so loud the neighbors are starting to complain, will give you some food while you wait. In some places it might be chips or a bread basket. Some more unusual options are pickles, Brazilian cheese puffs, or pappadums which are some sort of Indian lentil crackers. The point is, giving some food while you wait makes sense, and that's even with a team of chefs, a modern kitchen and most of the ingredients ready to go.
Let's look at Abraham's meal prep. What's the fastest you think you could go from live cow (3 of them) to 'dinner served?' Slaughtering the cow properly, removing the skin, blood and veins, gathering ingredients, building a fire, cooking or roasting... I mean that could take hours. So of course, Abraham wanted to give these guests something to eat while they waited and scrolled through Angelgram.
The Talmud insists that Abraham (as well as the other patriarchs) kept the Torah fully with very few exceptions, so let's look at the practical side of this 'meal.' The Torah mentions butter, then milk, then cow. If that was the order he served them in, we're good! According to Kosher rules, one may eat dairy before meat as long as there's a proper separation in between. Considering that it may have taken an hour or two to get the main course ready, there would be absolutely no problem serving them a dairy appetizer. You may notice that bread was not actually served (even though it was made, different convo though) which also helps with dairy and meat not being eaten in the same meal.

STUMP THE RABBI

CONTINUED

If you had angels visiting your restaurant, what appetizer would you serve them?

FYI there is also an opinion in the Midrash that Abraham was 48. I guess I'm not quite there yet. I'll let you know in a couple of years.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Which two biblical figures, one great and one evil had mothers with the same names?

See the answer on page 10

DID JEW KNOW?

The city of Be'ersheva in Israel has a double meaning. Abraham named it after a deal he made involving an oath and seven sheep (as a gift), after a dispute over a well.

Be'er means well. Sheva can mean seven and can also mean oath. So it's the well of seven and also the well of the oath.

PICKLE JEWS



I'M PUZZLED

TORAT SCENE- A-EYE EXPLAINED

DID YOU FIND...

1. The giant ram hidden in the mountain
2. The ram caught in the thicket
3. Abraham
4. Isaac carrying the wood
5. The stone altar
6. The knife
7. The donkey
8. The two attendants
9. The winding mountain path
10. The heavenly messenger

CAN YOU FIGURE OUT THE REBUS?

STAY CONNECTED

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- 801-613-1-JEW
- @NAGEELAWEST
- YOUTUBE.COM/NAGEELAWEST
- FACEBOOK.COM/NAGEELAWEST

Check out the IOMUTS Podcast on all the platforms!

Hundreds of educational videos at youtube.com/@rabbilocker

UPCOMING EVENTS



REGISTRATION CLOSES THIS SATURDAY NIGHT!



234
DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION

257
DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

ANSWER OF THE WEEK

Question on page 8

Abraham and Haman!
Abraham's mother was Amaslai bas Karnevo
Haman's mother was Amaslai bas Orbasi

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