

a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



by Rabbi Dani Locker

I've been to some strange places, spoken to some odd people. For example, there was this place where... never mind. I shouldn't tell that story. Oh, and there was also... yeah, I'm not going to go there either. Well, I was talking to the director of a school we were considering renting for camp. This school was very into nature, so they were very angry when someone killed a rattlesnake, thus upsetting the very balance of nature and harming the universe. This fellow (his name was Graham, and boy was he crackers) told us their kitchen enjoyed serving bugs. He told me he really enjoyed

chewing the worms, but grasshoppers were annoying because their legs got stuck in his teeth. My first reaction was, "We are not using this kitchen!" and my second reaction was, "Thank God for Kosher!"

If you're reading this,

there's a decent chance you know that insects are quite unkosher, yet you might not know why.

Little Misha comes home one day with tears in his eyes.

"What happened Misha'ke?"

"The teacher hit me!"

"Why did she do that?"

"Because she asked me a guestion and I didn't know the answer."

"Well that makes sense. Teacher should hit children who don't know answers (DISCLAIMER: This is fictional. Misha's fictional fa-

ther's personal belief and does not represent the views of this publication). This is not a good reason to cry."

> "But she also asked other kids and they also didn't know the answer. But she only hit me!"

Misha's father stands up and shouts "KpyTo!

This is cause for continued on next page celebra-

tion!"

He



Henderson 6:38 Las Vegas 6:39 Reno 6:58 San Diego 6:45 Irvine 6:48 Los Angeles 6:51 Oakland 7:07 Park City 7:25 Scottsdale 6:25 Honolulu 6:26

Roses are red, pickles are green, sponsor Nageela Shabbos and your name will be seen. Contact dlocker@nageelawest.org for details

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

The milk of Kosher animals is kosher and the milk of forbidden animals is forbidden, except in one case.

Which animal's meat is forbidden, but its milk is permitted.

WAIT! STOP

It is no fun and no challenge if you just skip to the answer on page 4.

Think, bang your head into a wall or two (softly). LMK if you figure it out!

DO YOU KNOW A JEWISH MIDDLE SCHOOLER ANY-WHERE ON THE WEST COAST WHO WANTS TO BE INVOLVED IN JEWISH LEADERSHIP? WE HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES. PLEASE CONTACT US!

then proceeds to drink large amounts of, umm, pickle juice.

"Why are you happy, Pappa?" Misha asks, still whimpering. "I still got hit."

"My dear Misha'ke! If the teacher only hit you for not knowing, that means the teacher has higher expec-

tations for you. That is what makes me happy!"

Personally, I was annoyed when a teacher told me that

in high school, and gave me a lower grade for doing the same work as the rest of the class, because he 'expected more.' Yet I can see now that he was empowering me to try and achieve greatness. (I'm still annoyed at him).

Rashi tells us that God forbade us to eat insects (and rodents and other gross things) because He took us out of Egypt. You know what that means? That means it's fine for Graham and his crew to eat tarantulas. God took US out of Egypt. He chose US for a higher purpose, and therefore, like Misha, we have higher expectations.

So even if you don't appreciate the crunch of a beetle shell or

the tender mushiness of a cooked toad; maybe you just like to eat lettuce without checking it for bugs. Recognize that these are not random, annoying restrictions God has placed upon us, but a sign of His great esteem for us, our prestigious abilities and His hopes for our greatness. Now let's celebrate! KpyTo!

PICKLE JEWS

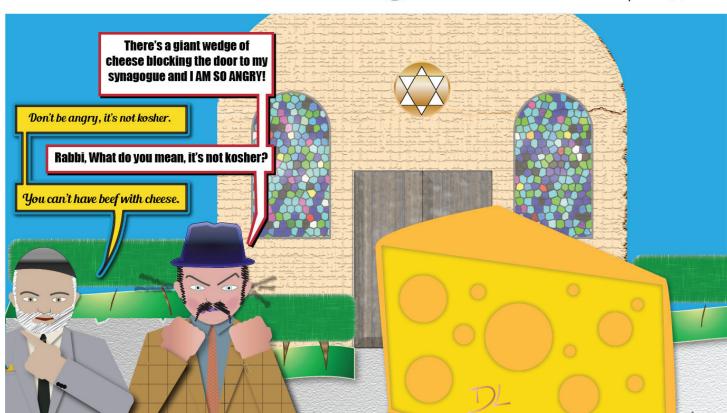
GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2022

continued from page 1

GOD chose us for a

higher purpose



Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can Stump the Rabbi 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.

Note: We call this 'Stump The Rabbi' for fun, but that's not really the point. The goal is to learn something important in an interesting way.



Sooo Much Study

Hi Rabbi,

I've heard it said (probably by you) that Torah is an instruction book, meant to show us how to live our best lives. That sounds valuable. But I don't read instruction manuals, like, ever. I don't think I've ever cracked open the instructions for my phone or car. I figure it out, and if I have a problem, then I look up the part I'm having trouble with. Yet we Tews seem to have an obsession with studying, studying, studying. Why is the studying so important?' It doesn't even seem like most of the studying is ABOUT

Thanks, Marty Books

how to live life,

but on obscure.

irrelevant laws.

Dear Books, Marty,

You've nailed it. For using your phone, you can just figure it out 95% of the time, and if you get stuck, you can google the answer. Yet, try to imagine if doctors, astronauts, nuclear scientists or airline pilots shared your attitude. Really, let's play this out:

"Nurse, scalpel, please. I'm about to remove the gall bladder."

"Ummm, doctor, a large organ just fell out. What is it, and where does it go?"

"WellIll, actually, I
don't know what all
the organs are called,
because I just watched
a YouTube video on
gallbladder removal,
and that's definitely
not the gallbladder. I
think. Probably. Hold
on, I'll look it up."

"Doctor, I think we need to finish this surgery, the vital signs..."

"Nurse, please just hold up that organ so I can do a Google reverse image search. Ahhh, I think that's the liver, or maybe the pancreas? It has those little ridges on the side. Gimme another minute..."

As you can (hopefully) see from my'less than pleasant description, some forms of knowledge aren't good enough sitting in a book, or even in an easily searchable internet database. True, if you're simply trying to figure out whether your Etrog is large enough to make a blessing, for that you can just look up the answer in a book (although to be fair, if I asked you what book to look in for that information, and which chapters, you woudn't know where to start without some background study). But the Torah is a guide to LIFE! That means that when life happens, at the speed that life happens, with all the variables and curveballs the world throws in, the only way to know how to react is to be well versed- VERY well versed in all of the guidance the Torah offers. How do I react when someone hurts my feelings? In what situations

REGISTRATION HAS OPENED FOR CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2022!

DATES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR 3
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DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION

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DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

Find out about our summer 2022 and see photos from 2021 at nageelawest.org

may I speak negatively about someone else? If there's an emergency on Shabbos, what do I do? Should I ask someone who isn't Jewish, should I break Shabbos myself, or do I wait? I'm in middle of serving dinner and I discover the dairy dishes were used for the chicken... and a gazillion other questions and challenges that come up. You've got to be the surgeon who knows every millimeter of the human anatomy and every article of medical research. You've got to aspire to be the quarterback who sees the defense and can adjust to plan B, C, D or Q in a split second before a very large gentleman presses your clothing with you inside. This is why studying Torah is such an important mitzvah. In fact, according to the Talmud, it's THE MOST important mitzvah because it is the

great enabler. Studying every aspect of God's instructions, wisdom and the stories of people who thrived and failed; they are the most effective way to succeed in following that guidance.

There's a part 2, which I think I'll have to save for next week, because this has gotten to be rather loooooong.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

the Rabbi

ASK MORE QUESTIONS AT STUMP@NAGEELAWEST.ORG



MAUFACTURED A CAR, WOULD IT STILL HAVE WINDOWS?

CAMP NAGEELA INFO SESSION

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT 8PM FOR A CAMP ANGEELA WEST INFO SESSION. ZOOM ID: 580-485-3200 PASSWORD: NAGEELA

MAZEL TOV!

to Russel Sussman who recently celebrated his Bar Mitzvah

MAZEL TOV!

to Bronson Feldman who recently celebrated his Bar Mitzvah

ANSWER OF THE WEEK

The question is on page 2. Hey, be patient. Try to figure it out without looking right away. Heyy, yeah, you!

Human meat is forbidden, but human milk is kosher!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jacob Zalk
Judah Hafter
Hailey Mischel
Meir Maryles
Darby Kankoski
Kyle Harris
Ledon Gabay
Sammy Lefkowitz
Nicole Green

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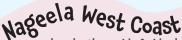
Want to stay in the loop? Text the word NAGEELAWEST to 22828



I wrote a song about tortillas.

Actually, it's more of a rap.

OUCH! GROAN! Why do bad jokes happen to good people? Find a better joke. Send it to dlocker@nageelawest.org



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