

HAVE A NAGEELA SHABBOS

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

.....
SEASON 10, EPISODE 32
.....

KI SAVO
5786

Torat Scene-A-Eye

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



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

So, what has been going on?
Where to start?

If you're reading this, you may have noticed that Nageela Shabbos hasn't made any serious appearances for over two months. While we did have shortened versions during camp, we're back now for real.

4 Nageela sessions: Over the course of this summer, Nageela West has participated in 4 camp sessions, 2 full camp experiences with Nageela Midwest and 2 week-long road trips. I'll try to highlight one or two of these sessions each week and share some photos so that so you can get a better idea of the amazing Nageela summer that 220 campers experienced.

Nageela West boys Adventure week kicked off in Las Vegas, and swung up through Utah and Kolob Canyon before stopping in Idaho for white water tubing, Idaho Falls and experiencing the magic of Grand Teton National Park. The boys spent Shabbos at the unbelievable Wind River reservation, and then had some more urban experiences as they swung through Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin, finally ending with great Kosher pizza in Chicago!

It was a truly uplifting and bonding experience, with the kids and staff experiencing amazing 'chill' and most of them continuing on to three weeks at Nageela Midwest!

This week kicks off our Jewnior NCSY programs in Las Vegas, Phoenix and Tucson. Laser Tag in LV, Bowling and arcades in Scottsdale and Slick City in Tucson. Let the fun begin!

*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

.....
*When people say someone is
'armed to the teeth,' do they
just mean he has braces?*



JOIN US!

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



LEADERSHIP

.....
*Information: A leadership
cohort of committed,
responsible 7-8 graders who
want to help Jewish kids their
age. Please contact us!*



LOLZ

.....
*Why are skunks never
completely broke?*

*Because they always have
at least one scent.*

TAKE THE TIME IT TAKES

"Hi Bob!"

"Hi Bob."

"Do you think God is actually in charge of stuff in the world, Bob?"

"I think so, Bob."

"Can you prove it, Bob?"

"I think I can, Bob."

"How, Bob?"

"By making magical bread fall from the sky, Bob."

"OK, Bob."

"Are you convinced, Bob?"

"I dunno, can I see it again, Bob?"

"OK, Bob. How about now?"

"I am not sure. Can I see it again, Bob?"

"Ok, Bob. How about now?"

"I think I need to see it again, Bob."

"WHAT? ARE YOU KIDDING ME? HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU NEED TO SEE THE SAME THING? ARE YOU INSANE???"

Bob?"

"Give me about forty years to answer that, Bob."

What exactly is wrong with Bob? No, not that one, the other Bob. The one spelled backwards. Yeah, him. If he sees the manna, God's miraculous bread, falling from the heavens every day, he should get the picture. Maybe it'll take him a week? But surely (don't call me Shirley) by the time this next oil change is due, he will have fully processed his full faith and understanding of God.

Let me start with another question: How long does High School take? If you answered 5 years, you might have

to re-take math. In which case you're right.

In which

case, you might not have to retake math. Ummm... let's move on.

Why does High School take as long as it does? It is at least partially because that's about how long it takes to learn the stuff you need to learn. It might also be partially because we don't want to unleash a bunch of 15 year-olds on the world. Meaning, school is much longer than you really need to learn the stuff, because it takes time to mature. A really smart kid might be able to learn all the stuff he needs by the time he's 9. That doesn't mean he's ready to be done with school.

Now, why did the Jews spend 40 years in the desert? We know one of the reasons, which has to do with spies and stuff. But there is more to it. Moses reminds the people in this week's portion, that they didn't have "a heart to know, eyes to see, ears to hear until this day." That could mean (according to the comment of the Rambam) that they needed 40 years in the desert to properly process God's greatness, control, love and justice. This means that, just like Bob, seeing the Manna rain down from heaven had an effect on them, just not right away. Not after a



week or a decade, either. It took 40 years of learning, repetition, processing, rinsing and repeating until they genuinely understood what they saw the very first day. Learning and growth is seldom one- and-done. We can see something, know something, believe something, yet not really absorb it for an extremely long time. The Talmud (based on this very passage in our portion) concludes that it takes a student 40 years to understand their teacher. That doesn't mean you hear a lecture, ignore it, and then 40 years later, POP, the explanation explodes into your brain. It means that listening, reviewing, practicing, studying can feel unnecessary, but truly make a big difference. "But I already know that!" Isn't enough. Even smart people with great lessons can benefit from massive

amounts of repetition.

So as we head into another year learning the Torah cycle again, another High Holiday season and more things in life that we think we already know, it can help us to realize just how much we stand to gain from learning it again.

And again.

And again.

And again.

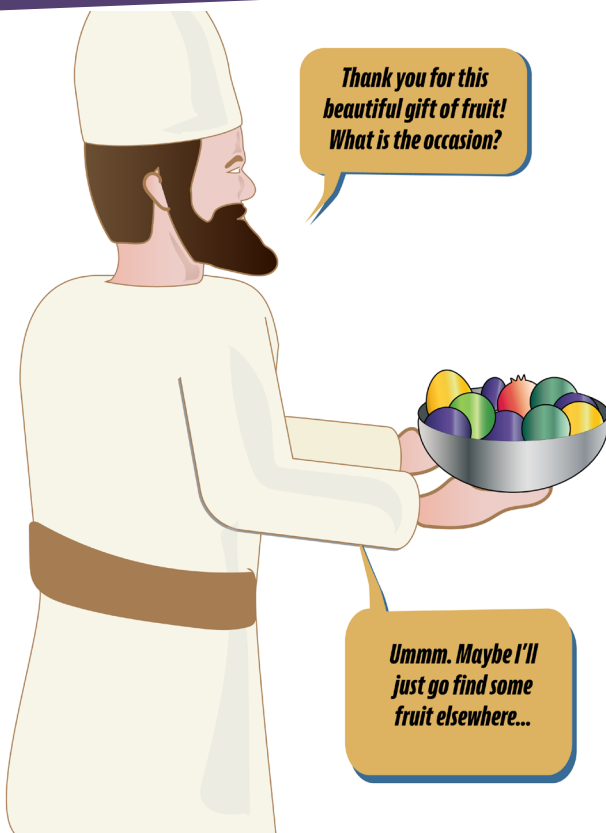


ANSWER ON PAGE 6

Question of the Week

On Rosh Hashana (coming up soon) we eat interesting symbolic foods. Where is there a hint to one of those in this week's parsha?

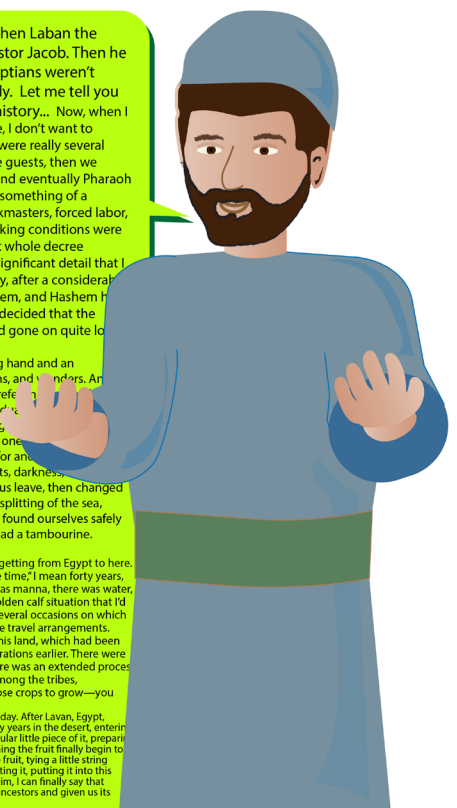
PICKLE JEWS



Well, it all started a long time ago, when Laban the Aramean tried to eradicate my ancestor Jacob. Then he traveled down to Egypt, but the Egyptians weren't particularly nice to him and his family. Let me tell you about that short episode in Jewish history... Now, when I say the Egyptians weren't particularly nice, I don't want to oversimplify the situation, because there were really several stages to the whole thing. At first we were guests, then we became a rather substantial population, and eventually Pharaoh began to view that population growth as something of a national-security concern. There were taskmasters, forced labor, bricks, mortar, cities being built—the working conditions were frankly not ideal—and there was also that whole decree involving the baby boys, which is a fairly significant detail that I probably shouldn't just gloss over. Anyway, after a considerable amount of suffering, we cried out to Hashem, and Hashem remembered what was going on, and decided that the Egyptian phase of our national history had gone on quite long enough.

So Hashem took us out of Egypt with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, with tremendous awe, signs, and wonders. And when I say signs and wonders, obviously I'm referring to things which really deserve some explanation individually. Frogs—and the frogs are actually a fascinating topic with many different opinions about whether it began as one of the plagues, or many frogs, but that's probably a discussion for another time. Lice, wild animals, pestilence, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, the plague of the firstborn. Then Pharaoh let us leave, then changed his mind, then chased us, then there was the splitting of the sea, which was quite dramatic, and eventually we found ourselves safely on the other side. There was a song. Miriam had a tambourine. Apparently she had thought ahead.

Now, there was still the relatively small matter of getting from Egypt to here. We spent some time in the desert—and by "some time," I mean forty years, so perhaps "some time" is underselling it. There was manna, there was water, there were clouds, there was Sinai, there was a golden calf situation that I'd rather not get bogged down in, and there were several occasions on which our ancestors expressed some concerns about the travel arrangements. Eventually, though, Hashem brought us toward this land, which had been promised to Abraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov generations earlier. There were battles, there was a Jordan River to cross, and there was an extended process of conquering and settling the land, dividing it among the tribes, establishing farms, planting crops, waiting for those crops to grow—you know how agriculture is. Which, actually, brings me to why I'm standing here today. After Lavan, Egypt, slavery, Pharaoh, ten plagues, the Exodus, the sea, forty years in the desert, entering the Land, conquering it, settling it, receiving my particular little piece of it, preparing the soil, planting this tree, waiting several years, watching the fruit finally begin to grow, going out to the field, noticing the very first ripe fruit, tying a little string around it so I wouldn't forget which one it was, harvesting it, putting it into this basket, and traveling all the way up here to Yerushalayim, I can finally say that Hashem has brought us to the land He promised our ancestors and given us its produce.



PARSHAL PARSHA

*a brief summary of the weekly
Torah porshon*

KI SAVO

KEEP IT BLESSED, PEOPLE!

- A number of commandments are commanded (as commandments tend to be) that apply only when the Jewish people enter the Land of Israel
- When we produce our new crop of one of the seven species that Israel is known for, we bring the very first of those fruits to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. The giver then says a paragraph which you might recognize as part of the Passover Haggadah. It gives the history of the Jewish people from Jacob, through the Egyptian exile, culminating in these fruits being produced in Israel. Yay!
- On the third and sixth year of each seven year 'shemita' cycle, 10% of our produce goes to the poor
- When the Jewish people enter the Land of Israel, they are to erect ginormous stones with the entire Torah written on them in seventy languages
- There are a series of blessings and curses that would be given to the people in the vicinity of two mountains, Mount Gerizim and Mount Eival. Six of the twelve tribes would stand on each mountain to accept these divine promises
- The Torah specifies what these curses and blessings are. Stick with the blessings, trust me
- The Torah then details a long, long list of terrible tragedies that would (and have) befall the Jewish people over history
- Moses reminds the people of the many miracles they have personally seen, from the plagues brought upon Egypt, to their miraculous survival through the desert for 40 years. He specifies that their clothing and shoes did not wear out, and the defeat of the mighty kings Sichon and Og

Torat Scene-A-Eye Explained

Did you find these things?

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Basket of bikkurim | • Figs |
| • Kohen | • Pomegranate |
| • Beis Hamikdash / Temple | • Olives |
| • Farmer bringing his offering | • Dates |
| • Ribbon tied on the first fruit | • Wheat stalks |
| • Grapes | • Tambourine |
| | • Donkey carrying baskets of produce |

Did Jew Know?

.....

What's the longest Amida (silent prayer) of the year?

It's a little bit of a trick question. You might be thinking Yom Kippur, or better yet Rosh Hashana Mussaf.

But in terms of number of blessings, a weekday Amida has 19, much, much longer than any holiday or holy day.

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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.

BASHFUL BREAD

A CLASSIC STUMP THE RABBI, FROM WAY BACK IN SEASON 1

Dear Rabbi,

Is it true that we're not allowed to embarrass challah? I heard that's why we cover it on Friday night. Is that a thing? Last I checked, bread doesn't have feelings. Can you please explain?

Thanks,

Braden L. Oaf

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

Hey Braden,

First, let me propose a toast to the bread. Oy, that was terrible. Let's start again.

Does bread have feelings? Well, Sometimes it gets this hallah, empty feeling inside... OK, OK. I'd better stop. These jokes are getting stale.

There are three reasons given (that I know of, anyway) for covering the challah at all Shabbat meals.

Our challah reminds us of the special bread, called Mannah which our great, great... grandparents ate while wandering the desert looking for a GPS signal. This special bread had a covering on top and on bottom, so we keep our challah covered on both sides as well.

When eating bread and drinking wine, the blessing for bread is supposed to come first. We don't follow that rule on Shabbat, because Kiddush is the kickoff, so we cover the challah so



we're not making blessings in a seemingly inappropriate order (I know that one's a little technical, sorry).

Because the bread is being passed over (I know, usually Passover involves matzah... stop confusing me) as we just mentioned in point 2, it's insensitive to the bread to rub it in that it's being skipped. It's like putting salt on a cut (oh, wait, we do that) so we cover the challah to be more sensitive.

This last reason is the troubling one because, as you so expertly pointed out, bread has no emotion. Here's an example that may help.

As a boy, I took karate for a bunch of years. I enjoyed it, but I hated practicing. Once I'd learned a new move or kata, I'd practice until I remembered all the steps, and then go play around or talk to my friends (there were no smart phones back then, so I talked to people. Weird). The most annoying part of practicing was the slow-motion kicking. We'd do the exact same kick, but painfully slow, so the only person you could possibly hurt was yourself, by falling down. The reason, my sensei explained, is something called muscle memory. If you do the exact motion hundreds, thousands of times, then when you're in a situation when you need to defend yourself, your kick will come out perfect, because your body knows exactly what to do. The kids who practiced this often, became really



DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION



STUMP THE RABBI

CONTINUED...

good (some went on to successful careers as ninja turtles).

Back to our doughy problem. Of course bread can't get embarrassed, happy, sad or feel the need to quack like a duck. The tradition of covering the challah is to train

our emotional 'muscle memory' not to ever embarrass or hurt anyone. If we act toward an inanimate object with sensitivity, it's likely to have an effect on how we act toward our younger sister, or the janitor, or the dentist. Maybe even toward ourselves.

If you want to know more, it's on a knead to know basis...

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi

*Answer of
the Week*

.....

There's a custom on Rosh Hashana to eat the head of a ram (or for us wimps, the head of a fish) with the prayer that we should be 'the head and not the tail.' In the parsha, we are promised (28:13) that we will be the head and not the tail.

QUESTION ON PAGE 3



Find over 200 interesting an educational videos at the Rabbi Locker YouTube Channel.
youtube.com/@rabbi-locker



Happy Birthdays!

This is our first week back in full circulation after a long break, so here are some June birthdays

Zachary Sefia
Liana Shamoil
Eitan Bitton
David Saul
Isaac Chapman
Ian Boyd
Elisabeth Kac

Joelle Shlasinger
Zvi Sudranski
Timothy Wheeler
Tehila David
Ahnyela Williams
Leedor Boblil
Ranit Stockman
Meira Borsody

Abigail Boyd
Ben Pheibush
Aliza Roth
Aviel Ben yehuda
Bar'el Gazala
Joe Perry
Harrison Clayton

**WE WOULD
LIKE TO WISH
A VERY, VERY
HAPPY UN-
BIRTHDAY TO
APPROXIMATE-
LY 99.73% OF
THE WORLD!**



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



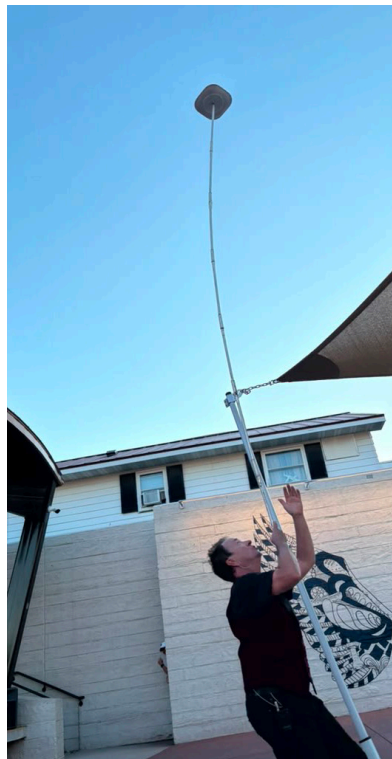
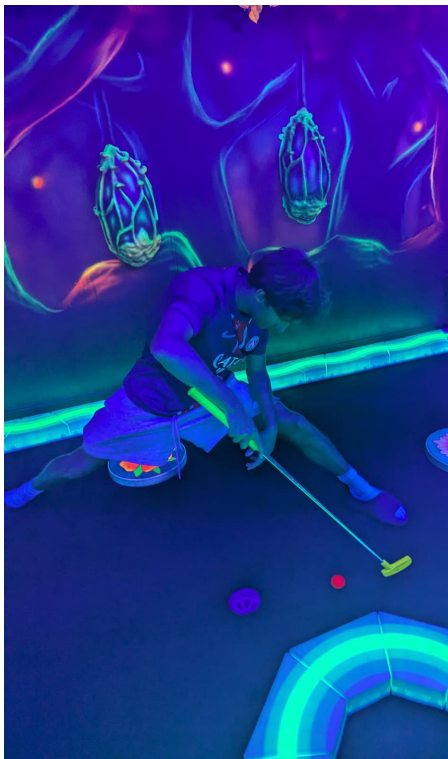
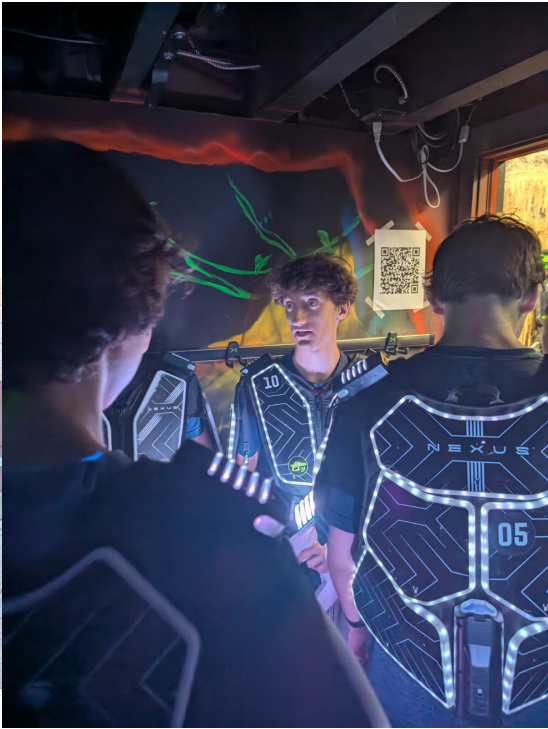
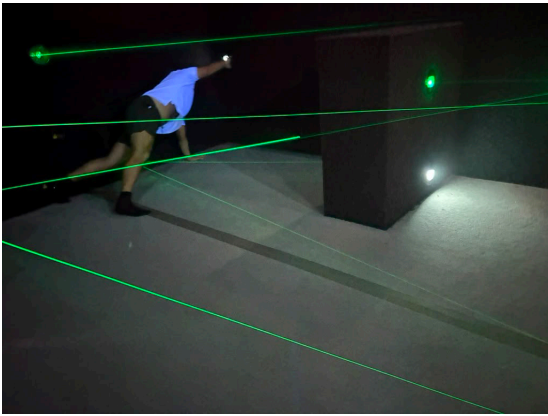
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