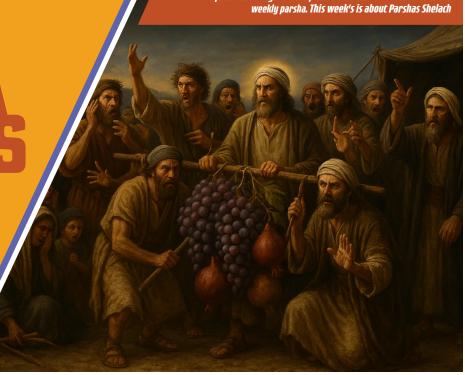
HAVE A NAGEELA SHABBUS

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

SEASON 9, EPISODE 29

PARSHAS SHELACH 5785



Torat Scene-A

This features an AI generated picture that has numerous hints to the

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.

DVAR TORAH

PICK UP STICKS

Have you ever played the game "Pick up Sticks?" I think it's an OK game, far from my fave. I probably wouldn't be willing to give up a large amount of money in order to play the game. I certainly wouldn't be willing to give up my life. But someone was. There's a man mentioned in our parsha who was executed because he picked up sticks on Shabbos. If you do a quick drive-by reading, it seems like he's just someone who really wanted sticks so bad that he risked his life to gather them, even after being warned that logging any logging on Shabbos would result in death. However, that story seems unlikely. Do you think he wood do that? I think he woodn't.

In the Talmud, Rabbi Akiva is of the opinion that this sticky guy is actually a righteous man named-Oh Gosh-I have no idea how to spell this in a logically phonetic way. Tzelafchad, Tzilaphchod, Tzjeiloughghghoutte? Let's just go with Tzelafchad. He purposely did something to get himself executed for a completely honorable and noble reason. The way Tosafos explains it, this story takes place soon after the earlier event in the parsha, when the Jewish people, through scouting hopelessness, were sentenced to wander GPS free for decades. Essentially, they had been super excited about going straight to

CONTINUED **V**

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Deep Thoughts

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DVAR TORAH

CONTINUED

Israel, and now that their plan was derailed, the people thought none of the Torah was actually binding anymore. "The plan was to get the Torah and go to Israel No Israel, so I guess no Torah. Oh well."

So let's get this straight. This man detected that the Jewish people, once they knew their flight to Israel was delayed (sound familiar?), stopped taking Torah seriously. So he decided to push the limits, get himself punished pretty seriously, so the Jewish people would realize, "Whoa, this Torah stuff is still really serious." But really? Why would the Jews, after the insanely impactful events of Sinai, after hearing God's voice, experiencing literal revelation, and learning the eternal truths of the Torah- why would they suddenly assume that it is all cancelled because of a delay of a few years? Also, wouldn't it have just been easier for him to like, put up a sign or send a tweet telling people, "Hey, Torah is still a thing!"

Had you interviewed a Jew at that time and asked, "Do you believe the Torah is still binding and important?" They would have answered, "Of course! God's word is eternal! I know we're not going into Israel which is disappointing, but that doesn't change the veracity of Torah!" Of course the people knew Torah was still binding. Yet Tzelafchad was worried that there was a weakening in people's commitment. People tend to be very affected by their expectations. We had this image in our minds of Torah, entering Israel, living the halcyon life in a utopian Torah society, and once that dream was shattered, it was natural that there was a dropoff in their excitement and commitment to Torah.

Think of someone who was hoping to get into their local college, which is really a good school and would definitely help toward their career. They're excited, and are ready to work really hard to make the most of their experience. Then, they get word that they can get a full scholarship at an amazing, top- tier university. They're super DUPER excited! Now imagine, after months of planning and dreaming, this amazing university withdraws its offer, and they have to go back to the original, less exciting, local college. Now that college seems 'meh.' Perhaps a little less



w o r k , perhaps a little resentment and complaining. Maybe the thought may exist that, "I don't really have to follow the rules here." The expectation of something better can make it hard to take advantage of actual

opportunities.

KIDS DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME! I don't recommend anyone take Tzelafchad's path toward sending this message. Just want to make that clear. Whew. Nevertheless, the lesson from his stickiness may still apply. Perhaps you had thoughts or dreams of how you wanted something to go. A perfect prayer, a great Shabbos, a year filled with Torah study, more charity given. We all bring expectations with us wherever we go, and sometimes, if we don't achieve what we'd hoped, it can be difficult to recognize the opportunity we still have. So don't be sticky- or at least don't get stuck in the ideas that you've previously had, and use the moments you have NOW to be the best you can!









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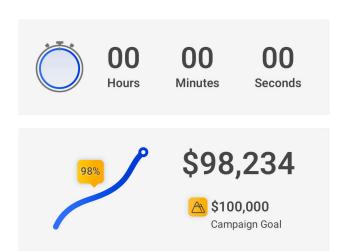
You can see the video version on Spotify or YouTube, and the audio version on Apple Podcast and Amazon.

THANKYOU

CAMP NAGEELA WEST WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO THE MORE THAN 200 PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR 2025 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 31 AMBASSADORS AND ALL THOSE WHO SHARED!

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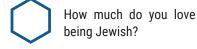
Question of the Week

The word "Ben" is usually used in the Torah when someone is mentioned with their parent. Why is Joshua called Yehoshua BIN Nun, instead of BEN Nun? He's the only one!

QUICK FIX

The Torah hints that if someone worships false gods it is considered as if they've violated ALL the commandments. Hmmm. I get that it's a very serious offense, but let's say you do lots of good deeds, don't they count?

Seforno explains that if a person worships the wrong gods, then all their good deeds aren't actually mitzvos, they're just practical 'good deeds!' If you aren't thinking about God at all, then just because you coincidentally do things that happen to be mitzvos, doesn't really count for much.



Torat Scene-A-Eye Explained

This representation of Parshas Nasso shows the twelve spies, or scouts, some of whom are screaming and agitated. You can kind of see two people trying to calm people down, presumably Caleb and Joshua (the Joshua figure if glowing, representing the divine protection from Moses' prayer. Did you notive the three giants in the background, or the person collecting sticks? Also parsha hints.





HAVE A FUN IDEA NEXT PICKLE JEWS COMIC, LOLZ OR DEEP THOUGHTS?

Please share it with us! dlocker@nageelawest.org



NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NAGEELA

ISRAEL



QUESTION ON PAGE 3

Answer of the Week

Joshua was originally named Hoshea, and Moses changed it to Yehoshua. However, the extra 'YUD' at the beginning of his name had no vowel dots! It had to borrow two dots (to form a shva) from the word BEN, making it BIN (changed from a segol to a chirik).

Happy Birthdays!



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Mozel Toy!

to Hall of Fanc staff member Tora (Locker) Burger upon her marriage, and to the entire Locker and Burger families!



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

Many organizations have cancelled or may cancel their teen Israel trips this summer. If your child is stuck without their trip, please be in touch ASAP and we'll try to do what we can to accomodate as many as we can at Nageela!





