

Parshas Bamidbar/
Shavuos
5779

June 7th,
2019

Candle Lighting:
Scottsdale 7:17
Henderson 7:37
San Diego 7:36
Las Vegas 7:38
Los Angeles 7:44
Tarzana 7:46
Reno/Tahoe 8:06

have a Nageela Shabbos

A Kid Friendly Weekly Publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences

Season 3
Episode 35

Pop U Late by Rabbi Dani Locker



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
@NAGEELAWEST

Sixty two thousand, seven hundred.
That's the number of counted people in the tribe of Dan.

A little background: Our torah portion, Bamidbar, is also known as "Numbers." It goes through the population of the Jewish people as we traveled through the desert. Our nation was subdivided into thirteen sections, known as the twelve 'tribes' and a separate section for the children of Levi, the spiritual leaders of the Jewish people. The total population of the twelve tribes was a little over 603,000, which should leave the average size of each tribe at around 50,000.

The tribe of Dan, with 62,700 was (at the time) the second largest. Ok, big deal. Why am I telling you this?

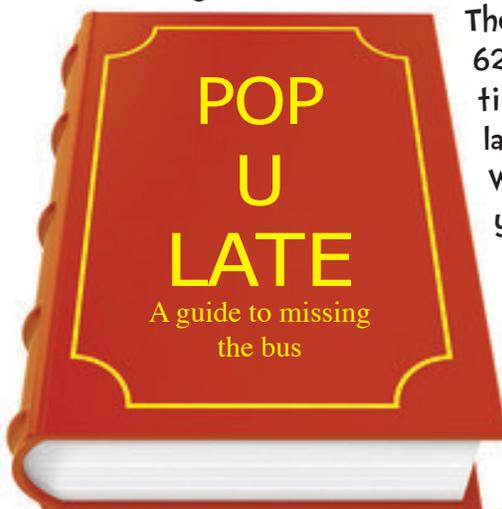
Because Benjamin, the youngest of Jacob's children, had ten sons. His

tribe, when counted in the desert, numbered just 35,400, one of the smallest. Dan had only one son, Chushim, who was deaf, a condition which, before modern advances was quite debilitating. How did this tiny tribe of one man nearly double the size of Benjamin's ten sons' tribe?

One answer is provided by a Midrash that tells us of a private conversation between Dan and his father, Jacob. Dan knew he had only one son, and he was concerned about the future survival of his line and his tribe. So he did what Jews do when we're worried. He prayed, and he asked the greatest person he knew, his saintly father Jacob to pray for him as well.

I don't know who had how many children, or when, in the couple hundred years between this conversation and the counting, Dan's population exploded. But we know that Jacob prayed. And we know that Dan thrived.

We think our brains, muscles, skills or charisma determine our success in life. Look around at the world. That's not the way it works. I may not know the exact way someone without the right physical tools can be successful, but we do know that prayer works. Turn to God. Do your best and leave the rest in His all-capable hands.



What tastes better than cheesecake?
Sponsoring an episode of Nageela Shabbos!!

to sponsor an episode of Nageela Shabbos, please contact dlocker@nageelawest.org

Interesting

Hi Rabbi,

I've been hearing lots of talk about Jewish stereotypes, including the 'greedy moneylender' and loan shark. I know enough not to take stereotypes too seriously, but I was wondering if there's any real background to this one. Do Jews have a history of banking and moneylending? Is there like a Jewish opinion on it (I've also learned that there's a Jewish opinion for pretty much everything)? I'm also confused as to why this is considered a negative stereotype. Is lending money a bad thing? Even if people charge interest; I mean, people charge for all kinds of services, so why not for lending money?

Thanks,

Shylee Look



**stump the
rabbi**

Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can 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.

Dear ShyLook,

Is lending money a good thing or a bad thing? The answer is yes.

Oh, gee, thanks for the clarification, Rabbi.

Here we go. The Torah praises lending money, and we are told that if a person is in financial need, then lending money is one of the best ways we can help. It's less embarrassing for someone to borrow money than to take a handout. However, the Torah puts a strict limitation on this. Although lending is great, the Torah outlaws charging interest. It's pretty simple, really. **The difference between an act of kind lending and greedy grabbing can be a matter of interest.** If you're asking someone to pay you back more than he received, that minimizes how helpful your loan is, and at times, can make the person worse off than they were in the first place! This explains some of the negativity people feel toward moneylenders, as there are times that people can get hurt or lose everything by borrowing money.

This doesn't mean that a person who charges interest is being cruel. There are times when the borrower is very happy with the arrangement. Still, a Jew charging another Jew straight up interest on a loan is against the Torah (we'll explain some exceptions later on). Let's explain this more, because, as you said, people make

money
doing all
kinds of
things, so
why not by
lending
money?



I think we can understand this by talking about salad dressing.

I don't like when salad dressing has sugar in it. There. I've said it. Sue me. I'm not an anti-sugar fanatic. I'm fine with people having cake and cookies, candy and soda, as long as they're using in moderation, and have a generally healthy diet. But salad is supposed to be healthy. Keep it healthy. You want to have a salad and donut, go right ahead. Just don't put the donut IN the salad. Maybe it's just me, but I like my salad to be salad, and not a vegetable based dessert.

God understands that people have to make money, and that you can make a business out of selling pickles, building computers or making cool designs in people's lattes. **But kindness should be kindness, not a business.** The one thing that should stay free of profit is helping people. So go ahead and make your money

sewing fluffy socks, but don't make your money giving charity. Just give charity and help people for the sake of helping them. Am I making sense?

That is how God wants us to act. Historically speaking, though, there was a problem. People just weren't lending money! A rich fellow with money to lend might not want to risk his wealth without getting something back. So there are ways some clever Rabbis and investors devised to allow people to make some money lending money. It's complicated, and I'm not going to go into detail, but if you do want to lend or borrow, contact a competent Rabbi (or an awesome one; your choice) to find out what to do.

What about the stereotype? For hundreds of years in European countries, Jews were not allowed to own land, so we could not usually be farmers, and we were banned in many places from universities and government jobs. Jews had to get creative to earn money, so buying and selling

became popular, and so did banking and money lending. Some Jews became very good at it, and made a lot of money. Even as early as Shakespeare's era, there was a stereotype of the Jewish banker.

If the Jews control all the World's money, I haven't gotten any of it yet, so I must be missing something. But it is true that there have been an extremely high number of Jews in banking and finance during the past thousand years or so.

Speaking of which, I have a really terrible joke about money: A Jewish kid in the desert goes to his father and says, "Dad, can I eat some of that delicious Manna we have?" The father answers, "What do you think, that Manna grows on trees?"

Have-A Nageela Shabbat,

the Rabbi

CHOSEN CHEESECAKE

TORAH STUDY AND DELICIOUS DAIRY TREATS

NEXT
SUNDAY, first
day of Shavuot,
June 9th, at
4pm at the
Smiths.
5204 Etiwanda
Ave., Tarzana



SPONSOR A CAMPER AT NAGEELA WEST. PLEASE CONTACT DLOCKER@NAGEELAWEST.ORG TO LEARN HOW!

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST AND GET NAGEELA SHABBOS IN YOUR INBOX EACH FRIDAY! EMAIL US TO JOIN!



CONGRATS TO SYDNEY
on winning the iPad!
Honorable mention to Talia, Julian
and Ethan, our top 3 point earners!

LIVE WITH RABBI LOCKER

For all kids and teens.
First NIGHT of Shavuot
(June 8th)

STARTING @
MIDNIGHT!
LOADS OF SNACKS AND
TREATS!

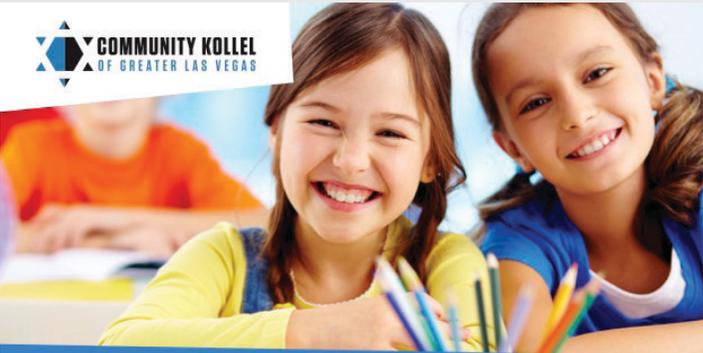
**stump the
rabbi**

@ LAS VEGAS KOLLEL

TH @ 7

Locker Live

Instagram @lockerroom
youtube: selfietorah



Join Kollel's Sunday Morning HEBREW SCHOOL

Registration for the
2019-2020 school-year is now open!
Schedule your enrollment meeting today!
office@lasvegaskollel.org
702-487-3133

Kollel's Hebrew School is the right choice!

Dedicated to engaging our students in a positive Jewish learning experience!

Our students are instilled with Jewish pride. They are given the opportunity to explore and identify with the practices and traditions of Judaism and Jewish values.

Your child belongs at Kollel's Hebrew School!

- ✓ No temple membership required
- ✓ Meets 10:00 - 11:15 Sunday mornings at Kollel
- ✓ Breakfast at 9:45
- ✓ K through 8th grade
- ✓ Warm and knowledgeable staff
- ✓ Tuition \$475

Kollel's Hebrew School is for:

- Jewish children who need beginner-level Jewish culture and Hebrew reading skills
- Advanced day-school students looking for Jewish enrichment
- Students looking to get a head start on a meaningful Bat or Bar Mitzvah

What your child will learn and experience:

- Hebrew reading
- Prayer
- Torah (Bible) & Jewish history
- Holidays and Shabbat
- Mitzvot & ethics
- Musical activities, crafts, and games
- Extra-curricular activities

Community Kollel of Greater Las Vegas
1755 Village Center Circle / Las Vegas, NV 89134 / 702.487.3133 / www.lasvegaskollel.org

WEST COAST ROAD TRIP CAMP FOR JEWISH KIDS AGE 9-15

OM:G!

18|41

DAYS TO CAMP
NAGEELA WEST
GIRLS SESSION

DAYS TO CAMP
NAGEELA WEST
BOYS SESSION

Find out about our Grand Tour 2019 and see photos from GT2018 at nageelawest.org

www.nageelawest.org



Claustrophobic people do their best thinking...

...outside the box

OUCH! GROAN!

got a better joke? email it to dlocker@nageelawest.org

Awesometastic birthday wishes to our friends celebrating their birthdays:



Zachary Sefia
Isaac Chapman
Elisabeth Kac
Ian Boyd
Joelle Shlasinger

HAPPY UNBIRTHDAY TO
EVERYONE ELSE!



Nageela West breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach by providing out-of-the-box social and educational programs for Jewish children across the west coast. Through afterschool activities, weekend retreats and our signature summer camp, we engage elementary and middle school children in a fun and meaningful experience.

Our "questions encouraged" mindset makes Nageela a comfortable learning and growing environment for Jewish children of all backgrounds.

844-NAGEELA
www.nageelawest.org info@nageelawest.org