

nageela

Shabbos

SEASON 7, EPISODE 27

Registration is open for Camp Nageela West 2023 nageelawest.org/summer

A Kid Friendly Torah Magazine by Nageela West Coast

Have A

DVAR TORAH

Burst Your Bubble

by Rabbi Dani Locker

Have you ever played bubble soccer? It's when you run around in an inflatable bubble, and pretend that you can actually see the ball, the goal or any of the other players, then bounce off of goals, people, or cattle (you can tell I've spent too many summers on a ranch). You are pretty safe and totally disconnected from everyone else. Unless you're texting while you're bubbling. Don't text and bubble. You might swallow your phone.

In another place, the Torah says that God is trustworthy, and does not do injustice (in case you're wondering, it's in Deuteronomy 32:4). What does that mean? If God is trustworthy, then it means he's not ripping anyone off. So why does it say specifically that God doesn't do injustice? That's like saying teenagers with phones have poor social skills. Super obvious!

"All the Jewish people should mourn the burning..."
In our weekly Torah reading, the two elder sons of Aaron pass away in a rather unusual manner. In tendering an unsanctioned offering, they violated the sanctity of the sanctuary. Or in normal language, they did some stuff in the temple that they weren't allowed to. They got burned. Literally. From the inside out. The Torah then instructs the entire nation to mourn the burning.
Why should they care? Well, OK, they should care. But why mourn? Mourning is usually reserved for close relatives, or NBA stars. What is the Torah teaching us by telling everyone to mourn for Aaron's sons?

The great Chofetz Chaim (no, that isn't a person's name- it's the nickname of a great Rabbi because it's the title of his most popular book) explains the concept beautifully. When a human judge passes judgment, they do their best to be truthful and accurate. So if someone commits a serious crime and the judge sentences him to, say, 20 years in prison; that may be an appropriate sentence for

that criminal. But the truth is, it isn't fair.

Sure, it may be fair to the criminal. But it isn't fair for his 7 year old kid who won't have a dad around for his



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Would YOU consider sponsoring an episode?

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

WHICH CREATURE HAS MEAT WHICH IS NOT KOSHER, BUT MILK WHICH IS?

NO CHEATING

ANSWER ON PAGE 4

childhood. It isn't even fair for the people who have to wait on a longer line at the supermarket he was working at, now that they're understaffed. In truth, we all affect SO MANY people in our lives that there is no possibility that human justice can take it all into account. A judge can't worry about that too much. There's just no way he can accomplish complete, broad based justice. But God's justice is perrrrfect. If God determines a person must make money, lose money, leave this world, live longer or any verdict, He also makes sure that every single person who is affected by that decision also is best served by that decision. In other words, God is really, really good at math. That's what the Torah means when it says God does not do injustice. Even passive, ripple- effect injustice.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

11TH PLAGUE CHALLENGE!
WE CHALLENGED KIDS TO COME UP WITH AN 11TH PLAGUE IDEA. HERE ARE SOME OF THE BEST:

NO 11TH PLAGUE, BECAUSE OBV GOD DIDN'T THINK THEY NEEDED ONE!- MS
ALL OF THEIR MEAN THINGS SHOULD TURN INTO KINDNESS- XM
WHEN THEY TRY TO GO TO SLEEP, A YODELING PICKLE GOES OFF FOR 5 MINUTES!- IA

Aaron's two sons died, and the entire people mourned, because it affected them. We don't live in little bubbles. I realize this might be triggering for people who do live in bubbles, and for that I apologize, but please don't blow this up more than you have to. Anyway, most of us don't live in bubbles. Our lives affect others and their lives affect us.

PICKLE JEWS

GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2022

There's no real way to separate 'JEWISH FOOD' and 'KOSHER FOOD'. Thank God for that!

Here's what some typical Jewish foods might look like if Kosher wasn't a thing.

Bacon and Lox



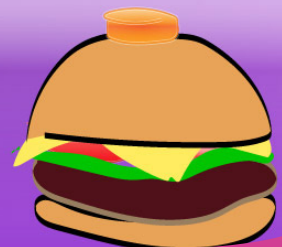
Pickled Shark



Lobster Cholent



Gefilte Cheeseburger



Peanut Butter and Clam



LOCKER

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

(Most) questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed.

Note & Disclaimer: 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. The answers here should not be taken as halachic decisions. You should always ask a competent Rabbi personally.

Hi Rabbi,

#236

On Porpoise

Dear Carapace, I noticed that most of my answers recently haven't been quoting primary sources, so today I'll make sure to quote sources. Specifically, I'll quote a wise spider named Charlotte, "If I can fool a bug... I can surely fool a man. People are not as smart as bugs." [Source: Charlottes, Veb, Perek Hay] It's been a while since I've read Charlotte's Web, but if I recall correctly, Wilbur asks Charlotte a very similar question. In this case, specifically why spiders exist. Charlotte explains that without spiders, insects would get into your instant noodle soup, your bathtub and your shoes (I may have paraphrased slightly). They would overrun the world. In other words, each creature does have a purpose and play a role in the universe.

In the Jerusalem Talmud, Wilbur's question is asked, by the prophet Elijah no less, to Rabbi Nehorai. "Why did God create creepy crawly things in His universe?" Rabbi Nehorai's answer, interestingly enough, is that their purpose is that they have no specific purpose. When a person messes up and God can invoke tough justice, He looks to the insects and thinks, "Well, if I created these for no real purpose, I certainly

BUGS! What is the point of bugs? They don't seem to add anything to the world, so why, if God is so perfect did He make bugs?

Thanks

Cara Pace

should maintain this human who has a purpose!"

Elijah added that insects do actually have a purpose. Many insects carry diseases or cures for diseases (both of which can serve God's purposes). As we learned from Charlotte and as we can see easily in science, there are many subtle and complex ways each creature interacts to make the totality of the world we live in.

I may not be able to describe exactly how a universe without gnats would be different, but there's something they add. During the creation narrative, the Torah says that God saw EVERYTHING He created and behold it was VERY good! That means EVERYTHING, even those things that don't seem to give us any direct benefit (source, Zohar- see, sources!). Why did God create dolphins?

I'm sure He had a porpoise! I can go on about this topic, but THAT might actually have no purpose.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi



72

DAYS UNTIL
CNW GIRLS
2023

93

DAYS UNTIL
CNW BOYS
2023

DEEP THOUGHTS

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE MILKY WAY DEVELOPED A DAIRY ALLERGY?



BRAIN FREEZE & MICROGOLF*

@ BRUSTERS
Monday, April 17

5-6PM FOR GRADES 4-6
6-7PM FROM GRADES 7-8

RSVP preferred. Rabbi Locker 917-613-1037

*MICROGOLF is like mini golf, just smaller. Yes, we made it up.. I think.

CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2023

PREMIER JEWISH TRAVEL CAMP- AGES 9-15
*MAP REPRESENTS APPROXIMATE ITINERARY. SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

SESSION 1: JUNE 26- JULY 13 [GIRLS]
SESSION 2: JULY 17- AUGUST 3 [BOYS]



- GRAND CANYON
- LAKE POWELL
- LAS VEGAS
- WHITewater RAFTING
- ARCHES NAT'L PARK
- SPORTS
- DENVER
- HIGH ENERGY JUDAISM
- CAMPING
- PHOENIX
- SIGHTSEEING
- SEDONA
- CRAFTS
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Camp Nageela West

IF YOU LIVE IN NORTHERN NEVADA, PLEASE JOIN US AT THE JEWISH CAMP FAIR THIS SUNDAY. EMAIL US FOR MORE INFO!

HBD

We'd like to wish a happy birthday to:

- AARON GOLDKLANG
- YAAKOV KLEIN-WEBERMAN
- RABBI DEREK GORMIN
- GABRIEL KIBRIT
- SARA SFADIA
- MOLLY GOLDSCHMIDT
- IAN WISE
- EZRA AROVAS
- YEHUDA LEITER
- ANNE MUSSER
- ALEX SEFIA

FIND MORE INFO ON OUR YEAR-ROUND EVENTS BY SCANNING THE CODE BELOW



READ OVER 250 EPISODES IN OUR ARCHIVES BY SCANNING THE CODE BELOW



ANSWER OF THE WEEK

QUESTION ON PAGE 2

HEY! STOP! THINK FIRST. NO PEEKING!

A HUMAN BEING

LOLZ

WHAT DO YOU CALL A BIG RIG THAT HAULS KOSHER FOOD CROSS COUNTRY?

A SEMITE TRUCK!

THINK YOU CAN DO BETTER? YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. SEND YOUR JOKES IN TO DLOCKER@NAGEELAWEST.ORG



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