

NAGEELA SHABBOS

Have-a

Ki Sisa 5782
February 18th 2022

SEASON 6 EPISODE 19

a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



Halves & Halve Nots

by Rabbi Dani Locker

“Ok everyone, we need a count.”

The buses had just reached the museum’s front gate for their annual field trip on prehistoric pickle fossils (what do you mean that’s not a thing? It must be a thing). The whole school was there and the ticket office wanted an exact count of students before letting anyone in (you can’t just let anyone in to see pickle fossils; they’re in high demand).

“Alright students. Everyone hold up your textbook. Good. Now rip it in half. Yes, in half. Now hand in half your book. The museum will count whole books and double the number to know how many of you there are.”

Does that sound as silly to you as it sounds to me?

No, not the part about fossilized pickles. Everyone knows pickles rock... I mean the

part about ripping the books in half. If you want to count people by using objects, why use HALF an object? It seems so much easier and more efficient to use a whole item.

This seems to be what Moses did. It was time for a census, for a counting of the Jewish people. We’re not allowed to count the Jewish people directly (for more on that, take a look at Nageela Shabbos, Season 5, Episode 20), so Moses collected coins and counted them. Specifically, he collected a half-shekel coin from everyone, and then doubled the number to know how many people there were. Maybe it’s just a coincidental amount, but knowing the Torah and how careful and specific every detail is, there must be a reason. Why make it half a shekel, why not a whole shekel? Or a whole other coin? For that matter, why a coin at all, why not a piece of paper, or a ballot that can



Candle lighting

- Henderson 5:06
- Las Vegas 5:07
- Reno 5:21
- San Diego 5:18
- Irvine 5:20
- Los Angeles 5:22
- Oakland 5:33
- Park City 5:46
- Scottsdale 5:57
- Honolulu 6:13

Exactly how much is an oodle? I dunno, but sponsoring an episode of NS will earn you oodles and oodles of blessings! Contact dlocker@nageelawest.org for details

continued on next page

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

This week's Parsha is rather unbalanced. The first two aliyos (sections) combine for 92 pesukim (sentences). The other FIVE combined aliyos are only 47 pesukim. Why is it skewed in this way?

WAIT! STOP!

It is no fun and no challenge if you just skip to the answer on page 5. Think, crack open a book. LMK if you figure it out!

be automatically counted by a vote counting machine?

We need each other to become completed people

It's no coincidence. The money given in the counting was used for communal projects. Counting the Jews shows us how important we are to God, and it is (I repeat myself, I know) NO coincidence that being generous, charitable and giving is THE WAY the Jewish people display our significance. The Torah is telling us that our kindness is one of the most telling traits of why God continues to love and protect us.

Why half? This, too is a message for us. We should never think that we can live our lives separate from and ignorant of other people and their needs. Each person is only a partial person. Moses could not count a full shekel per person, because no person is complete alone. We need each other to become completed people. We thrive when we collaborate. We grow when we share. We don't just want to be great... we have to be great!

continued from page 1



Did you hear that the machine at the coin factory just stopped working for no reason?

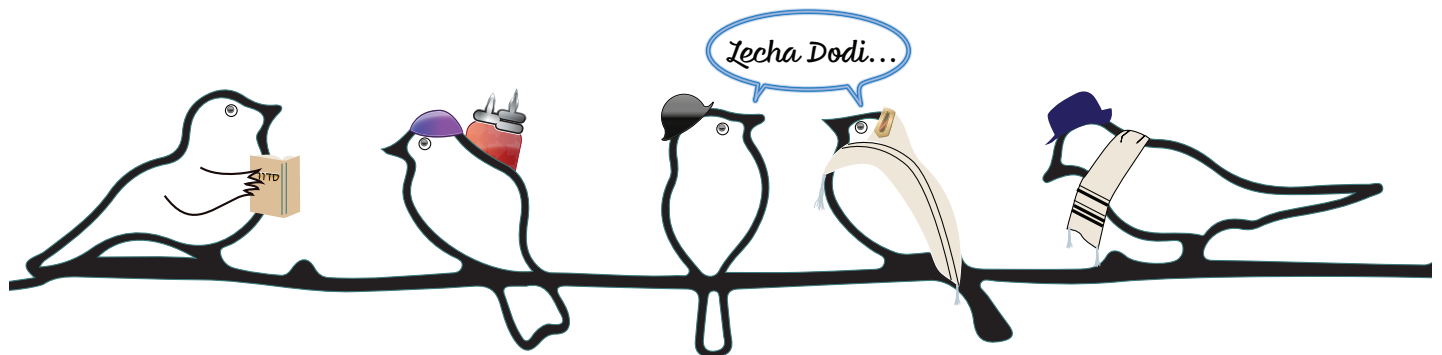
I know! It doesn't make any cents!

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

PICKLE JEWS

GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED
COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2022



Birds of Pray

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.

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.

Stump the Rabbi



#197 Party Bus

Hi Rabbi,

I was told that when I pray I'm supposed to ask God for what I need. Specifically, when I wasn't feeling well, I prayed to get better. Then I opened my brain. This doesn't make sense to me. Doesn't God already know what I need? If God knows I need something and hasn't given it to me, how will whining about it help?

Thanks,

Owen M. Niscent

Dear OMniscient,

"Hey Stan, sorry for calling you so late, but I need a favor and it's really quite urgent."

"No problem, Liam. That's what friends are for. What do you need?"

"I'm kind of embarrassed to even ask this, and I wouldn't if it wasn't super important. I need to borrow \$20,000."

"Wow. Umm, that's a lot of cheese. It won't be easy for me, but I can probably get it together in a day or two."

"Thank you thank you Thank you thank you Thank you thank you Thank you thank you Thank you thank you! You're the best friend a guy could have!"

Well now, are you curious what Liam needed with twenty grand so urgently? Stan was certainly curious, but he valued his friendship. He gave Liam the money, and didn't ask any questions.

Fast forward about a month, Stan is sitting at home when he hears the resonant 'thump, thump' of heavy bass rattling his window frames (and his dental work). Looking out the window, he sees a party bus outside, neon lights and LEDs pulsing to rhythmic music. Then to his great shock, Liam steps out of the party bus! He shouts something to Stan, but the music is too loud and Stan can't hear a word. Eventually, realizing his (soon to be former) friend can't hear, Liam turns the music down to a mild roar.

"Thank you Stan!" Liam shouts.

"For what?" Stan mumbles confusedly.

"Thank you for my awesome 'Liam's Lavish Loud Mobile Party HQ!'" Without your 20K I could never have gotten the lights and the ultra subwoofers! And just wait till you



This is part two in a three week series about prayer. Season 2, episodes 7-9 is a good place to start as well. Here we go.

REGISTRATION HAS OPENED FOR CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2022!

DATES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR 3 CAMP SESSION OPTIONS!

1. UTAH CAMPUS FEATURING SPORTS, NATURE, FRIENDSHIPS & CREATIVE SPECIALTIES,
2. TRAVEL CAMP OPTION, OR
3. FULL NAGEELA HYBRID EXPERIENCE!

1 2 8 1 4 2

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

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

see the hot tub inside!"

Stan fainted.

When he was revived he could still barely talk. "That's what you needed my money so urgently for? That's why I had to push off the dental work I needed? So that you could chill in a hot tub with a million watts of amplified noise? You are..."

Fortunately, the rest of Stan's words were drowned out by the music starting up again.

Liam shook his head. "I just wanted to say thank you. Besides, you can't CHILL in a HOT tub. That's a contradiction." And he drove away.

What does Liam's story have to do with us? Liam asked for a favor. A big one. In this true story that I made up (I ONLY make up true stories), Liam didn't think about WHY he wanted the money. Or more accurately, he didn't do a good job thinking about whether his reasons were justified. For most people, assuming you don't want to blow up friendships (especially with a friend as kind and sensitive as Stan), you make sure you have a good reason before you ask for a favor. Examples:

If you're going to ask your teacher for a make-up test, it probably shouldn't be because you skipped school to go to a concert.

Asking your mom for a ride to the mall is fine, but maybe not if you're going to a movie she doesn't want you to see anyway.



If you borrow your grandparents' car, don't take it

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

Ami Lipkind
Leah (Friedler)
Rauch
Bennett Warnick
Mitzzy Wasser
Gideon-Peters
Tehilla Gross
Abigail Rivera
Sam Hodara
Ori Yaron
Ofri Yaron



...continued

street racing.

We don't want to be like Liam. When we pray, we ask God for stuff. Doing that doesn't help God know what we need (as you said, God already knows). BUT it helps US think about why we need it. This quiz may help.

Please select the better answer:

"God, please give me financial success:"

- A. So I can pay my mortgage and feed my children.
- B. So I can take a three month vacation to Fiji.

"I ask for good health."

- A. So I can be super buff and beat people up.
- B. So that I can have energy to do acts of kindness.

"Please make me smart."

- A. So I can come up with awesome pranks to mess with my teachers.
- B. So I may become a knowledgeable person and help the world.

So you see, one of the great benefits of asking for things in prayer is to help US focus on the reasons we want things, which in turn will help us live better, more meaningful lives. In fact the Hebrew word for prayer is 'tefilah'. The Hebrew root for that word is 'pilel' which means judgment. Prayer is a method of self-judgment, when we get a better feel for what we actually want and why. By doing this we can do a better job of wanting the right things, and knowing if we really do.

This is just one small angle to understanding how prayer works. Stay tuned next week for something even better than an awesome party bus!

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

the Rabbi

ASK MORE QUESTIONS AT STUMP@NAGEELAWEST.ORG

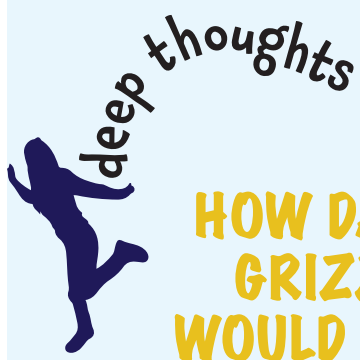
PURIM TREATS FOR TROOPS



SCOTTSDALE... Feb 23rd
LAS VEGAS... Feb 28th
PORTLAND... Feb 27th
LOS ANGELES... March 1st

**Sending meaningful Purim Packages to
 Jewish American soldiers serving overseas.**

**For questions or sponsorship opportunities, please contact
 Rabbi Locker at 917-613-1037 or lockerd@ncsy.org**



**CAN YOU
 IMAGINE
 HOW DANGEROUS
 GRIZZLY BEARS
 WOULD BE IF THEY
 HAD KARATE
 SCHOOLS?**

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!

The beginning of the parsha describes the horrific (and embarrassing) incident of the Jewish people kidnapping the golden calf. It would be terrible to call a Jew for this allyah talking about what his own ancestors did! With the unbalanced arrangement, the sin of the golden calf is read during the Levi allyah. Since the tribe of Levi did not take part in the sin, nobody will be embarrassed! It's pretty cool how careful Jewish law is to avoid embarrassing anyone.

MAZEL TOV!
 to CNW counselor
 LA Brenner
 upon her engagement!

QUIK FIX

The beginning of our Torah portion, Ki Sisa, describes the GIVING of the half-shekel. Each person had to contribute.

Interestingly, the word the Torah uses for giving is “Vinasnu”, which written in Hebrew is a palindrome, spelled the same forward and backwards. As seen below:

ונתנו

This teaches us that giving charity works in two directions. When you give generously God blesses you with success!

NAGEELA

HAYDALLAH

& VIRTUAL DANISH

WITH NAGEELA
STAFF & RABBI LOCKER



FEBRUARY 19TH
7:30PM
GIRLS ID: 580-485 3200
BOYS ID: 317-427-7225

YUP. THERE WILL BE PRIZES!

CAMP NAGEELA INFO SESSION

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT
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PASSWORD: NAGEELA

www.nageelawest.org
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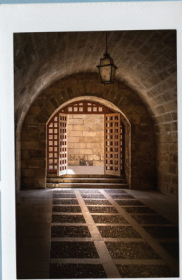
Want to stay in the
loop? Text the word
NAGEELAWEST to
22828



CHAPTER WARS PHOTO CHALLENGE



thursday



feb 24



7-8:30PM



secret
zoom id

How quick are you?

How good is your memory?

How much do you like pickles?

5-8 GRADERS

ANYWHERE ON THE WEST COAST
WIN A FREE TRIP FOR YOUR WHOLE CHAPTER!
SIGN UP @ [TINYURL.COM/CHAPTERWARS22](https://tinyurl.com/chapterwars22)

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

Nageela West Coast

breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach
by providing out-of-the-box social and
educational programs for Jewish children
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afterschool activities, weekend
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and growing environment for Jewish
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