

Pesach 5782  
April 15<sup>th</sup> 2022



a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



## Pass-Under-Standing

by Rabbi Dani Locker

We love Passover! We love the seder! With all the excitement surrounding the various items at the seder, it's easy to forget the main purpose. We lean, dip, bite, crunch, sip, drip, roast, grind, hide, seek eat, sing, speak, laugh, and sometimes even fall asleep. Why do we spend all this time and effort? What's it all about? Of course, it's our way of remembering that during a really dark period in our history, we almost disappeared as a nation, and thanks to some pretty spectacular miracles (fire inside ice? wicked!), we were transformed into a free, independent nation of 'Hebrews' committed to G-d and following His instructions. Well, that was a pretty long sentence, excuse me while I take a sip of water (yes, even I drink water upon occasion).

Anyway, the main point of the haggadah is telling the story. Actually, the word haggadah means "telling". (Come to think of it, saying something like "telling the Haggadah story" is kind of like "using the ATM machine"...

Think about that one.)

Something doesn't fit. In the process of talking about the great things that happened way back then, the Haggadah takes a little break to praise G-d for talking about four different kind of kids. One is wise, one is wicked, then comes a simple son and one that is unable to ask. Why are they randomly mentioned here, and why do we praise G-d for it?

The Torah is unbelievably cool. It can be understood by a pre-schooler on a simple level, and can also be studied by the most brilliant minds. When it comes to the Haggadah, this is especially important. The Passover seder is the



Candle lighting

- Honolulu 6:32
- Scottsdale 6:40
- Henderson 6:56
- Las Vegas 6:57
- San Diego 7:00
- Irvine 7:04
- Los Angeles 7:06
- Reno 7:19
- Oakland 7:26
- Park City 7:47

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continued on next page

# CAMP NAGEELA INFO SESSION

**THERE WILL BE NO INFO SESSIONS ON  
SUNDAY THE 17TH OR 24TH.  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO RESUMING ON MAY  
1ST.**

method we use to transmit our convictions to our children; that only works if we have the tools to talk to all different types of students, wise and simple. We praise G-d during the Haggadah for the ability He gave us to communicate Torah ideas to multiple levels. More on the topic in the second Dvar Torah on page 3.

*continued from page 1*



**IF THE GRASS  
IS GREENER ON THE  
OTHER SIDE, YOU CAN  
BET THE WATER BILL  
IS HIGHER**

**GIVE YOURSELF  
AND YOUR CHILD  
AN AFIKOMAN  
PRESENT.  
SIGN UP FOR CAMP  
NAGEELA WEST  
BEFORE THE END  
OF PASSOVER AND  
YOU GET \$200 OFF.  
THEN YOU CAN  
CLIP THE GRAPHIC  
TO THE RIGHT  
AND PUT IT IN THE  
AFIKOMAN BAG!**

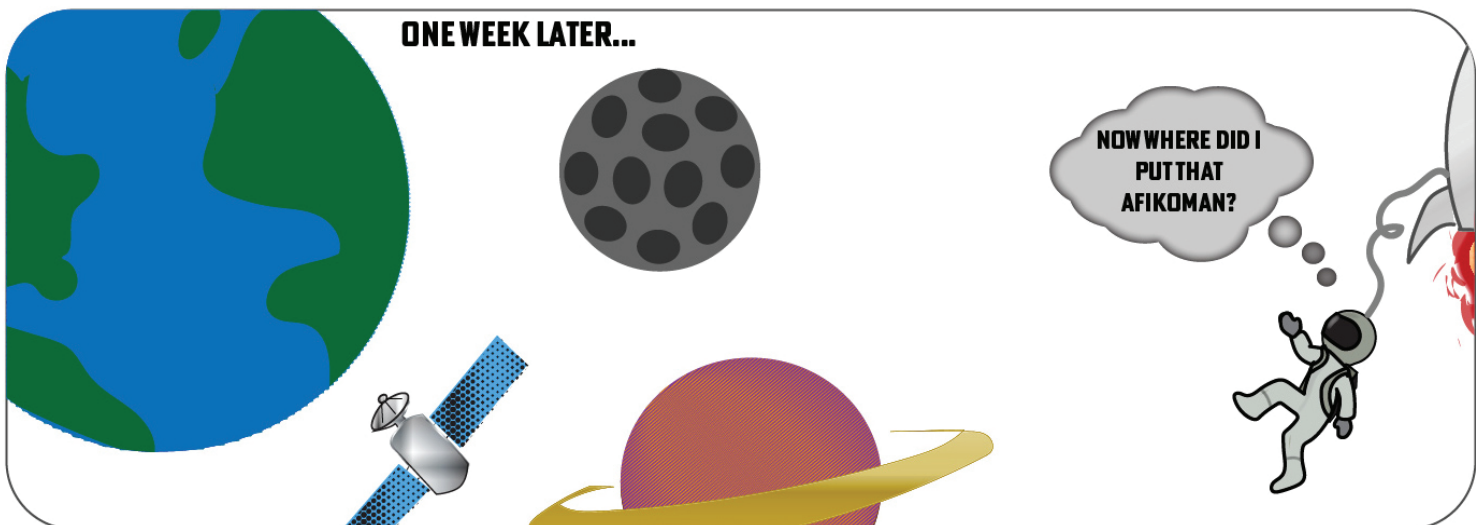
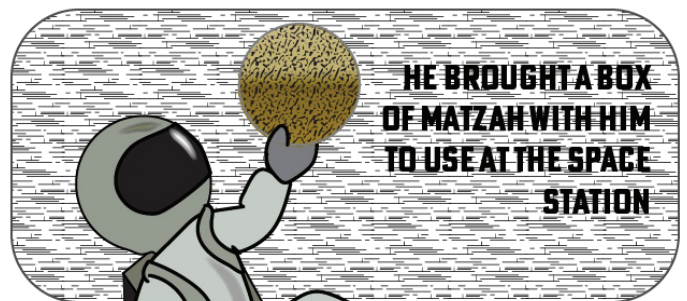


**DO YOU KNOW A JEWISH MIDDLE SCHOOLER ANYWHERE ON THE WEST COAST WHO WANTS TO BE INVOLVED IN JEWISH LEADERSHIP? WE HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES. PLEASE CONTACT US!**

# PICKLE JEW

## GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2022



Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

Have a question? Please send it in to [stump@nageelawest.org](mailto: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.



#00#S☆≈0

## I Don't Wanna Play(g) Anymore!

Hi Rabbi,

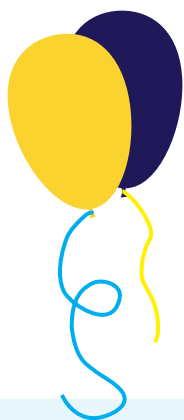
I am itchy all over, I can't sleep because the frogs are making so much noise, and I'm severely dehydrated. The animals and the hail are both battering my palace, and I can't even see what's going on! How do I make it all stop?

Thanks,

Ramses

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Logan Kraft  
Ezra Arovas  
Yehuda Leiter  
Alex Sefia  
Anne Musser  
Daniel Lerner  
Elimelech Gross



Dear Ramses,

Oooo. That sounds terrrrrible! Lice are not nice, but neither are you. Perhaps you shoulda thought of all that before you mistreated the Jewish residents of your country! I'm rather confident in saying that you're getting exactly what is coming to you for doing the same things to Jewish slaves. Your dehydra-

tion is because you wouldn't allow the Jews to drink enough while they worked, and so on...You should really let them go, for your own good. Really, really. Also, maybe think about a wardrobe change. Those skirts you wear?

Sincerely,

*the Rabbi*

p.s. Do you have a lifejacket? You're gonna need one.



How many Haggadahs does it take to change a lightbulb?

Who knows, one?

OUCH! GROAN!  
Why do bad jokes happen to good people? Find a better joke. Send it to [dlocker@nageelawest.org](mailto:dlocker@nageelawest.org)

**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!

7

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION

2

8

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

6

Find out about our summer 2022 and see photos from 2021 at [nageelawest.org](http://nageelawest.org)



# DVAR TORAH

## Handy Dandy Guide

by Rabbi Dani Locker

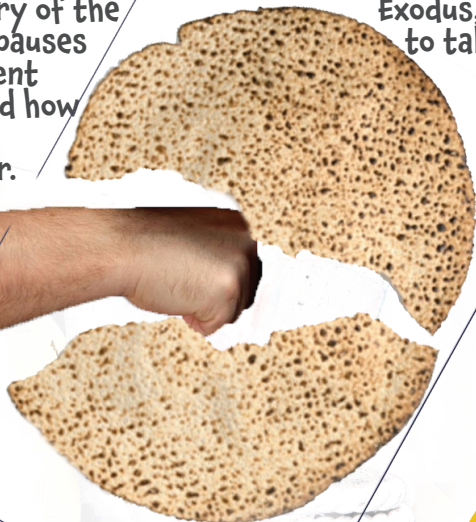
**GET \$500 RE-FERRAL CREDIT WHEN YOU BRING A FRIEND TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST!**

I was very impressed recently when we got a new board game (we do that pretty often). All games come with instructions, but this game had a separate pamphlet explaining how to get the most enjoyment out of the game by using certain strategies. I appreciated that. It's the same with books. Some books are like, "here's some information that might interest you." Other books are more like,

"Here's a practical and handy guide on how to best use the information in this book to build a rocket ship at home."

I'm always amazed at how the Passover Haggadah does this so well. Offhand, I'll mention a few places it does this.

1. The 4 sons. Near the beginning of the section telling the story of the Exodus, the Haggadah pauses to talk about 4 different kind of kids and how to teach them about Passover.



This is not an accident. This is "A guide to using the Haggadah's information for the best results".

2. After mentioning the ten plagues (which for kids is one of funnest parts of the haggadah-dipping fingers into our drinks, yeah!), we abbreviate the ten into a three part phrase: D'Tzach, Adash B'achav. Why? I know there are many deep explanations of why we abbreviate and why this type of mnemonic. Yet there's a simpler explanation. Mnemonic devices are meant to make it easier for us to learn and remember. Yet another example of the collaborative authorship of the haggadah doing more than just telling the story, but giving us instructions on how to get the best experience from it.

3. Random, seemingly unrelated pop-up actions. Sometimes when I'm giving a presentation to a group of students and it's going long, I'll suddenly ask everyone to stand up and lead them through a series of stretches. With one family, we use a multi-sided rubber die with names of exercises on it. Once or twice per lesson we roll the die, stop learning and do the exercise (my knees do not appreciate the burpees). Many times during the haggadah, we pause our normal telling to do something unusual (cover the matzah, uncover the matzah, remove seder plate, dip veggies in salt water, search for broken matzah), at least partially just to break the monotony and keep the children interested. This is brilliant, and is yet another example of the haggadah providing a full-service immersive learning experience.

4. Then of course there are the actions we do, like leaning, spilling the drops of wine, and so many more symbolic actions that act as visual and sensory aids to help us truly feel the reality of the Passover story.

### Nageela West Coast

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.

[www.nageelawest.org](http://www.nageelawest.org)  
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