

Nasso 5782
June 3rd 2022

HAVE-A NAGEELA SHABBOS

SEASON 6 EPISODE 33

a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



Golf Buddies

by Rabbi Dani Locker

“I’m so lucky to have such good friends!”

Ben was enjoying a great game of golf with his three best friends. The truth is, he’d invited all three of them to join his foursome, and they WERE all friends, but there are friends and there are friends. Luke was a pretty friendly guy, and they had shared some good times. Leia was a much better friend. They had gone to school together, had worked together and their kids were on the same team in their tackle tic-tac-toe league (TTTT was a very competitive sport in their town). But Han... Ben and Han were absolute BFFs. They did everything together. For years and years they had been a team and spent most of their free time together. Ben always had the feel-

that if he was with Han, all was good.

Then the email came. Ben checked his phone and found out that his distant cousin (who may or may not have been a prince in Nigeria) had passed away and left him 12.4 million dollars. Yet he knew that in order to receive the money, he would have to travel deep into the Nigerian tundra (yes, I know there’s no tundra in Nigeria. But I only make up true stories). It would be months away from home, and difficult trials to earn his right to the inheritance (because there are always difficult trials). Ben turned to Han, his guy. “Han, you’re coming with, right?”

“Ummm, well, you seeeee Ben... I... No. I can’t come. I can’t go away with you for a few months. How will I make sure my cat is fed? Also, I’m winning my fantasy football league. I’m sorry Ben. You know I’ve got your back, but I can’t



Candle lighting

- Honolulu 6:55
- Scottsdale 7:19
- Henderson 7:38
- San Diego 7:38
- Las Vegas 7:39
- Irvine 7:43
- Los Angeles 7:46
- Reno 8:08
- Oakland 8:12
- Park City 8:38



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do this.”

Ben was crestfallen. Literally. His toothpaste tube had fallen out of his bag, and it was Crest. He picked it up, but it didn't diminish his disappointment. He turned to his next best friend. "Leia, how about you?"

"Actually, I'd really like to join you Ben. Let me check my calendar." Leia pulled out her phone and swiped through the next couple of months. "Oooo. I don't think I can. Tell you what though... I'll give you a ride to the airport."

Ben gritted his teeth, now certain that he would have no friend to accompany him.

"I'll come."

Ben whipped his head around so fast he nearly dislocated his spleen (can you do that? I have no idea). It was Luke, his kinda-good-but-definitely-not-best friend.

"Luke? Really? You'll come?"

"Yeah. You're my friend. You need help. I'm

with you."

Ben smiled to himself and thought, "Maybe I should have paid a little more attention to my friendship with Luke."

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Fun story, now let's break down what it means. Han in the story is money and success. Many people (most people?) consider success in business to be their best

The only things we keep are the deposits in our mitzvah account.

friend. We spend MOST of our time working either on a job or on schooling directly related to getting a better job. We tend to

feel like if our bank account is happy, all will be good. Leia represents our family and close friends. Family is a massive priority in life and we spend a lot of time and emotion on connecting to our family. Luke represents the good deeds we've done in our lives. The mitzvos we've accumulated. They're not always our favorite thing to do, but hopefully we appreciate them and at least invite them to join our golf foursome.

Then, eventually, we go the same direction as all living things and we shift into a new life in the next world. As wonderful a relationship as we have with our money, property, cars and tech (all the different manifestations of Han), it will not accompany us to get our inheritance. Its friendship and service is of zero value where we're going. Our family and

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What is the connection between this week's parsha and Chanukah?

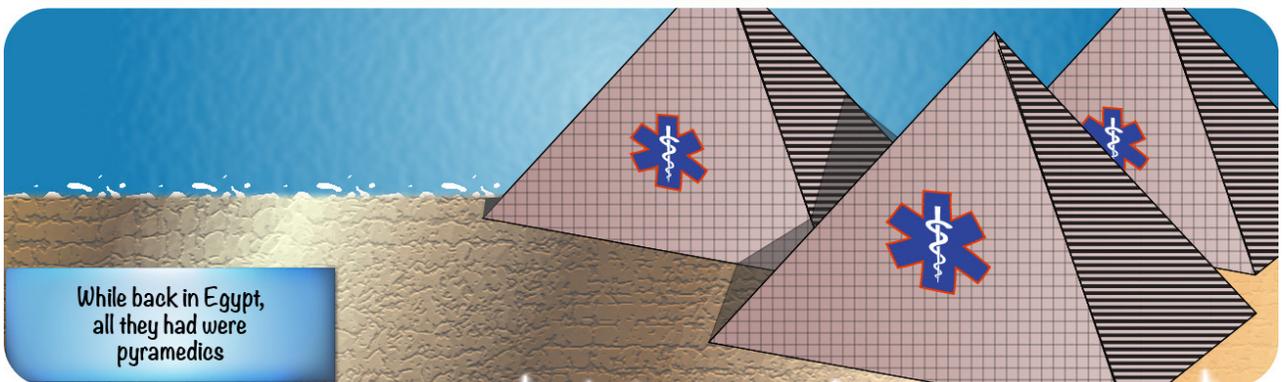
NO CHEATING!

Please do try to think of the answer before flipping to the answer on page 4.

PICKLE JEWS



The Jews traveling through the desert used camels to care for anyone who got injured.



While back in Egypt, all they had were pyramids

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.



#207 The Tablet Tableau

Hi Rabbi,

I hope you had a great Shavuot and didn't eat too much cheesecake! I am a little confused. I keep hearing about the Jews receiving the Torah on Shavuot, yet all I can find reading through the Torah is that God gave Moses the tablets which contained the ten commandments. That certainly isn't the whole Torah! Also, what about, like, the things that happened after Sinai. Like all the stuff in the desert for 40 years. That couldn't be given at Sinai, could it?

Thanks,

Colleen M. Plete



Dear Co M Plete,

What is cheesecake? Don't know what you're talking about there. I can help you with the Torah topic though. There's a pretty common misunderstanding that God only presented the Jewish people with the ten commandments at Mount Sinai. True that the ten commandments are what was announced clearly out loud. Not true that it was the totality of what was presented.

Here are a few things to chew on:

1. Na'aseh V'nishma. When the Jewish nation arrived at Mount Sinai, Moses asked them (us) if we wanted the Torah. We exclaimed, "We will do and we will listen!" That clearly means that we were committing to accept all of God's instructions, even the ones we hadn't heard yet. Even if you propose that not all of the Torah was directly given to us at Sinai, we certainly committed to it all at Sinai. That was when

the deal closed.

2. The very first statement in the Mishnaic book of Avos states that Moses received the Torah from Sinai, transmitted it to Joshua, then on to the elders, the prophets, etc. It then goes on in the same paragraph to detail obscure moral guidelines- certainly not things that are listed on the tablets. This mishna is telling us that everything in the Torah and even in the Talmud is a product of the revelation at Sinai.

3. The Torah itself says of the Sinai experience, "I have given the tablets of stone and the Torah and the commandments." That seems a little extra wordy, if God only gave us what's written on the tablets. Maimonides explains (in his intro): It means that the written Torah AND the explanations (oral Torah) were all given to us at Sinai.

4. Rav Saadia Gaon tells us that all 613 commandments are hinted at in the ten commandments.

From all these sources, it's pretty clear that all 613 commandments (plus more) were commanded at

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1

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION

6

3

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

0

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

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!

Parshas Nasso lists the 'dedication' donations made by the tribal chiefs. All the tribes participated, but the tribe of Levi was not included. Aaron was upset about this, so God reassured him. "You descend from a member of Levi) adopts (the Hosameon Family, AKA the Maccabees) will play the main part in a future 'dedication'.

DVAR TORAH

continued from page 2

friends at least drive us to the airport. They accompany us on the final journey, but that's where they have to stop.

We might not truly understand the value of our mitzvos while we're here. Sure,

we know it's important to do good things. Yet our deeds are the ONLY things that truly last for eternity. If a person dies with a billion dollars in their bank account, it's the few dollars (if they have a billion, then hopefully more than a few dollars) they've given to charity that counts in their permanent bank account. This week's Torah portion states, "Each person's holy acts will be for him." One explanation of that line is exactly what we've learned from Ben and his golf buddies. The only thing that is truly "for him" in the long run is the mitzvah bank account. In Nigeria.

YEAR-END EVENTS THIS WEEK IN PARK CITY, LAS VEGAS, LA CITY & VALLEY. CONTACT US FOR DETAILS

Stump the Rabbi

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Mount Sinai on the 50th day after Passover (AKA Shavuot). Not all of them were put up in neon lights. Ten core statements were chosen for that. The rest was taught by Moses over time.

In terms of the later historic events, there's actually a Talmudic disagreement about whether Moses wrote all those immediately, prophetically knowing exactly what would happen, or whether he wrote them a bit at a time, as they occurred.

Either way, when you hear people talking about getting the Torah at Sinai, it's true. We did. All of it. Oh, and I suppose we got cheesecake, too.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

the Rabbi

ASK MORE QUESTIONS AT STUMP@NAGEELAWEST.ORG



EMOJIS REPRESENT OUR SOCIETY'S REGRESSION BACK TO HIEROGLYPHICS

What do you call a bunch of people waiting for a haircut?

A barbercue

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Solomon Peters
Aharon Semel
Zachary Sefia
Liana Shamoil
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