



# VERY PUNNY

Someone tried putting fake cheese on my macaroni.

I could tell it was an impasta.

Ouch.

Have a better pun? Send it in to [dlocker@nageelawest.org](mailto:dlocker@nageelawest.org)

**UP N' COMIN**

**MONDAY, OCT. 30TH  
SAN DIEGO  
NAGLEEDA**

**4:30-5:30PM  
MENCHIES -  
MISSION VALLEY**

**NEW YEAR'S  
WEEKEND  
ANNUAL  
LEADERSHIP  
RETREAT**

SEASON 2  
EPISODE 6  
OCT 28, 2017

Candle Lighting:

Phoenix 5:22  
Las Vegas 5:31  
San Diego 5:44  
Los Angeles 5:47

have a

# Nageela Shabbos

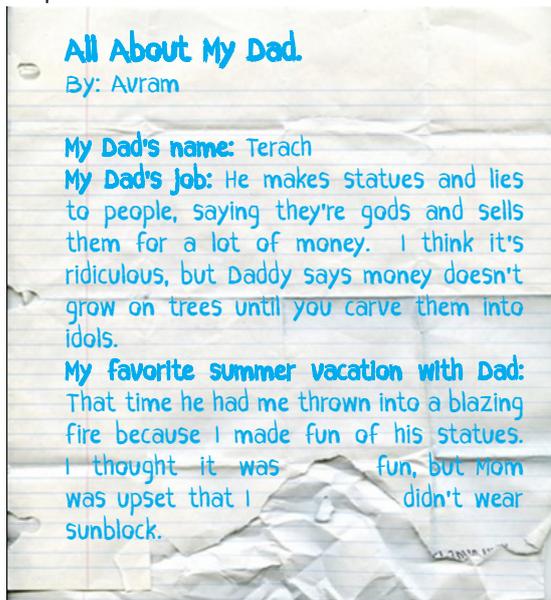
Parshas  
Lech Lecha  
5778

*A Weekly Publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences*

## Hop on Pop

by Rabbi Dani Locker

Fathers' Day might not have been the highlight of the year for the young man named Avram, who later became the originator of the Jewish nation. I can imagine the report at school:



Avram's father was no great guy. In fact, when the Torah says Terach died, the Midrash tells us that he hadn't really died yet, but he was such a rotten dude that it was like he was dead already (spoiler alert, he eventually repented and died a better person).

Why does the Torah have to say he died before he actually did? It was so that people wouldn't blame Avram for ditching his father and running off to a new country.

Ditching?

First of all, doesn't Avram get a free pass after his father tried to like, have him executed? That's a pretty big OOPS.

Second of all, why did Avram leave his land, his birthplace, his father's house...? On direct orders of God Himself! Should Avram have said, "Sorry, O Master of the Universe. I know you gave me explicit instructions to leave, but my Dad said no?" That just can't be! We have clear rules that we listen to God if there's a conflict between God and parent. So what was Avram worried about?

If you examine the words of the Midrash

carefully (trust me, I did), Avram's concern was not that he would consider ignoring God's instruction, but that leaving his father would look bad, and desecrate God's name. People might think that it was wrong of Avram to leave his father. Even though Avram knew he would be doing the right thing, he wanted to make sure nobody else made such a mistake. "What do you want from me, I'm doing the right thing!" When we make decisions in life, of course we must make sure we're always doing what's right. Sometimes that's not enough. It's important to be concerned about what other people will think. If it looks bad, we may have to think of a way to change the image.

Once a Jew who was living in Rome found that his air conditioner had turned off on Shabbat, and he wasn't able to turn it back on. The pope happened to be passing by, so the Jew hinted to him to help with his Shabbat problem. The pope answered, "I'm happy to help you celebrate your holy day!" The Jew smiled and said, "Thanks, but please take off your yarmulka first..."

By the way, I only make up true stories.

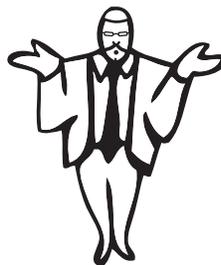
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# Stump The Rabbi



## Enjoy the Party

Dear Rabbi,

I have two problems. First of all, everyone calls me omelette. It's really annoying. What should I do to get my friends to call me by my real first name? Second of all, I have a question about Shabbat. I understand that Shabbat is an important spiritual day recognizing God's creation of the world. What I don't understand is why that involves eating and drinking. Shouldn't we spend all day on Shabbat praying and studying and maybe even fasting? Why all the feasting, singing and fancy clothes?

Sincerely,

Oscar N. Egg

Dear O. N. Egg

I'll answer your second question first. Many years ago there was a prince who did not obey his father's wishes. The king was very disappointed with his son who had committed serious crimes and decided to have this son banished to a faraway land. The prince was devastated and went to live in a country filled with simple, uneducated peasants. The farmers

who lived in this country had never heard of the king and did not know that their new neighbor was a prince. He quickly adapted to life as a farmer and became one of them. He lived like this for many years until one day a letter arrived in the mail.

The prince immediately noticed the Royal emblem on the envelope and knew that his father, the king, had written him a letter for the first time in many many years. The prince was overjoyed! He wanted to dance and sing and maybe even dab once or twice, but he couldn't bring himself to act joyful when all his friends were going about their everyday business. He tried explaining to some of his friends that he was excited because he had received a letter from the king. But they just didn't get it. "King Shming!" they said. "Who really cares? It's just a piece of paper. Can we use it to wrap some vegetables?"

Finally this prince had a plan. He told his friends that he was throwing a party. He served great food, including lots of candy and pickles, and of course lots of wine. His friends started eating and drinking and though they didn't understand the significance of the King's letter, they were happy

partying and singing. The prince opened the letter and read the note from the king in a jubilant frame of mind among happy, singing friends.

Sure, Shabbat is about connecting to God, our father and King. But the truth is that most of us don't fully understand how important that is. Our bodies certainly don't get any enjoyment from praying (unless you count aching feet) or spiritual connection. So we spend our day on Shabbat eating, drinking, relaxing and doing things to make our bodies happy. We sing songs, we wear nice clothes and we have special treats. Once we're in that positive frame of mind, we can actually enjoy and appreciate the special connection we have with God on the day of Shabbat.

The mitzvah of enjoying Shabbat is called Oneg Shabbat.

O- What?

O-Neg.

As for your other question... It was an eggcellent question, but man, you're cracked!

Wishing you a joy and oneg filled Shabbat.

Have - a- Nageela Shabbat

*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](mailto:stump@nageelawest.org)*

Questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed

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**Shabaton**

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WEEKEND 2017

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