

SEASON 8, EPISODE 3
LECH LECHA 5784

HAVE A

NAGEELA SHABBOS

A Kid Friendly Torah Magazine by Nageela West Coast

DVAR TORAH

Real estate agents must love



Lech Lecha. Them and moving companies. It's full of people moving from one country to another, then moving again, and carrying loads of possessions.

First, Abraham leaves his homeland and journeys to the land that would later be known as Israel (during that journey, he may have made some stops and spent several years in a different land as well, see Rashi). Then he moved to Egypt. Then he moved back. We're really racking up the miles here. Then Lot leaves. This is what I want to speak about. Abraham and his nephew Lot had been through many travels together, and when it was time for them to part ways, Lot chose his preferred area to live, a place called Sedom. Not a place known for its inspirational Torah lectures.

What made Abraham choose his home, and what made Lot choose his? Well, what motivates any of us to choose the places we live? When we do, are we following Abraham's example, or Lot's?

If you ask people or even search online for reasons

Even as we mark 3 weeks since the tragic events in Israel, 3 weeks since many of our men and women fight daily for all of our lives, 3 weeks of captivity for more than 200 of our family members, we hope that any inspiration or education gained from reading this publication will serve as a merit for their continued safety!

Realer Estate
by Rabbi Dani Locker

people choose the places they live, you'll see a combination of factors. Most people choose their home based on how close it is to where they work, how close it is to attractions they like (restaurants, etc) or they want a larger or more affordable home. If Lot was around in 2023, those would probably be his criteria. "Have you tasted the sushi in this town? It's Uh- mAZing!" And they have this art installation downtown that is just so beautiful. And my house! The block is so stylish, and the designer put in custom garage doors, so everyone can see my cars even when they're inside!" The Torah does NOT say Lot chose Sedom because it was an evil place (which it was). It indicates he chose it because it was beautiful and lush. Lot just wanted nice stuff. That was his mistake. When you choose to live in a place for unimportant reasons, you face the danger of getting influenced by the worst parts. Even those that were not originally a part of your plans.

Abraham chose Canaan. Or God chose it for him, but why was Canaan chosen? Because the people of Canaan were (believe it or not) less corrupted at that time than the people of Aram. He went to Canaan because it would be the best place for his own and

continued on two, too.

won from page one

his family's spiritual growth. I don't know if Canaan had better tacos than Aram, or how good their sports teams were. But Abraham went there to be a better person, and so he succeeded.

Whether you're choosing where to live, or simply which seat to choose in the classroom or on the bus, this is something to consider as well. Am I choosing my spot because it's comfortable and fun, or am I choosing it because it will have be a positive human experience, one that uplifts me and those around me.

Tower of Babel model built by our Hebrew School students in Las Vegas last week



WHAT'S THE DILL? WEIRD THINGS JEWS DO

WHY IS THE CIRCUMCISION DONE ON THE 8TH DAY OF A BABY'S LIFE?

ONE OF THE REASONS GIVEN IS BECAUSE A BABY NEEDS TO HAVE HAD A SHABBAT IN THEIR LIVES BEFORE ENTERING THE COVENANT. 8TH DAY BRIS GUARANTEES AT LEAST ONE SHABBAT.



PICKLE JEWS

**GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED
COMIC STRIP**

by Dani Locker, 2023



LOCKER

#253

What's the Dill



stump the rabbi

StumptheRabbi

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,

I recently learned that the word 'bris' means deal or covenant. I learned the weekly parsha and it seems that there was another deal- bris- that involved pieces of animals. Is there a reason God had to make a deal with Abraham twice, or are they just different names for the same covenant?

Thanks,

DL

Dear DL,

What's the deal? You know Jews are always looking for deals. If we Jews would have had a famous criminal, his name might have been Al Coupon. Truly, I find this topic so fascinating. We're talking about the start of our nation. God's first message to the father of the Jewish people, Abraham. You'd certainly expect that the message would be about our obligations- the mitzvos. Demands for how we must live. But that's not how it goes down. We're talking about deals. Agreements. God starts speaking about HIS promises to US! We are so fortunate to have a Creator who cares so much about us that He committed Himself to His obligations to us, well before we had even accepted the Torah.

But you're right that the Torah seems to repeat itself with more than one deal. In the very same Torah portion, Lech Lecha, God first promises (when Abraham leaves his homeland for Israel) that Abraham will be blessed and have children. Later, there's what we call the 'Bris Bein Habesarim' - the Treaty between the Pieces. In this deal, God puts Abraham to sleep, and tells him about the future of the Jewish people. He tells Abraham about the oppression in a foreign land (Egypt) and that the fourth generation would return to Israel. He promises that Abraham's children would

be 'like the stars' (or luminous spheres of hot gaseous plasma).

At the very end of the portion, God commands Abraham to make a permanent sign on his body and that of all his male descendants. This bris- this treaty- is a little more personal. God changes Abram's name to Abraham, and Sarai's name to Sarah. He also specifically talks about them having a child. The promise of the land of Israel is repeated, but it seems stronger now, because Abraham and his family are doing their part in this deal as well.



A few ideas:

Sometimes deals can be made in stages. 2 companies entering a partnership might do it in a few steps. First, they'll be 'in talks', then 'partnered companies' then a complete merger takes place. Although some of the same things are promised more than one time, it took several stages for the Jewish people and God to truly become one.

When Abraham got the first deal, none of his children had yet been born. Once Ishmael came into the picture, a second deal was necessary to include Sarah and clarify that Isaac is the subject of the deal.

Once Abraham's name was changed, it was necessary to resign the agreement (in a manner of speaking) with his new identity.

turn for page four

242

DAYS UNTIL
CNW GIRLS
2024

264

DAYS UNTIL
CNW BOYS
2024

The first deal was more national (great nation, slavery, getting Israel), and the second deal was more personal (name change, having a child).

So, to make a long story short, God promised many things to the Jewish people, and this happened in a few stages, each one slightly different than the one before it.

And I can't resist a joke about a bad deal.

A pickle salesman has a sign that says, "Pickles make you smarter." \$2 each. A guy comes up to him

and asks, "Will pickles really make me smarter? I will take ten!"

He comes back the next day, and says. "You cheated me! You charged me \$20 for ten pickles, but I could've bought the whole jar for \$6."

"See?" Says the salesman. "You're smarter already!"

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Who became a father at age eight, and how do you know?

NO CHEATING!
Think before you look at the answer on page 6!

PARTIAL PARTIA

The Torah is the Jewish book of everything. For thousands of years, we've been dividing the Torah into smaller bitesized portions, each called a 'Sidra' or 'Parsha' and reading a portion or two each Shabbos. Most of our Dvar Torah articles are based on the weekly Parsha, so we're thinking about including this as a weekly segment, giving bullet points of what happens in the Parsha of the week. With some side comments thrown in. Please give us feedback!

- Abram leaves his hometown
- As soon as Abram gets to Israel, he finds out there's no food, so he needs to go to Egypt. They must have had good kosher restaraunts.
- In Egypt, Sarai gets 'recruited' against her will, to the King's palace.
- Abram and his nephew, Lot have some problems. OK. A Lot of problems. They decide to split up, and Lot chooses to live in Sin City.
- There's a war and Lot is taken captive. Bad guys always take hostages. Abram basically beats down the enemy armies on his own, possibly with a few hundred helpers. He doesn't take hostages. He doesn't even take any spoils of war. Maybe he doesn't want to get spoiled.
- God promises Abram all kinds of good stuff.
- Since Sarai hasn't been able to have any children, Abram marries Hagar, and they have a son who likes to say, "Call me Ishmael."
- Abram gets his name changed to Abraham, but the barista still writes Abram.
- Abraham enters a deal with God, sealed with Abraham and all his male descendants getting circumeised.

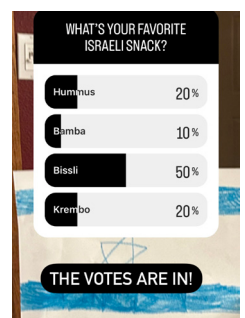
Special Shout out to the students on th OLAMI LAUNCH Utah Shabbaton this weekend!

WOULD JEW RATHER?

This week on Instagram, we asked people to vote on which Israeli snack food they prefer. At the time of publishing, here are the results:

Bissli with the clear win, but strong showings from Krembo and Hummus.

Next week's question:
How many times have you been to Israel?
Never, Once or twice, I go often, or I live there.



A MONTHLY JEWISH THING

THE JEWNIOR CHALLENGE

FOR AWESOMETASTIC 4-8 GRADERS

Jewish Calendar

Kahoot!

1. Watch the video
2. Play the kahoot
3. Upload your screenshot
4. Get a chance to win...

Apple AirPods Pro

VIDEO

ENTER

KAHOOT

PARK CITY, UTAH

JEWISH TEEN EMPOWERMENT

CONNECT WITH YOURSELF, CONNECT WITH OTHER JEWISH TEENS, CONNECT WITH ISRAEL

WITH JOSH GOLDBERG, RABBI DANI LOCKER, & JODI BERRIS

KRAV MAGA GRADES 6-12

ISRAELI MARTIAL ARTS LOCATION PROVIDED UPON RSVP

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NOV 1, NOV 15, NOV 29, DEC 13

\$36 | INCLUDES ALL 4 SESSIONS

RSVP to Jodi Berris | jodiberris@aol.com | 248.760.0743

JSU NSU PJE

CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2024

OUR 15TH SUMMER!

NEW FOR '24:

- NAGEELA TASTE TEST- 6 DAY CAMP FOR 2-3 GRADERS
- NAGEELA VIP OPTION

LAKE TAHOE CALIFORNIA GOLD MINES SAN DIEGO RENO YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK BIG BEAR LAKE

PREMIER JEWISH TRAVEL CAMP- AGES 9-15

*MAP REPRESENTS APPROXIMATE ITINERARY. SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

SESSION 1: JUNE 26- JULY 16 [GIRLS]

SESSION 2: JULY 18- AUG 7 [BOYS]

**DEEP
DEEP
THOUGHTS**

If you hit yourself and it hurts,
does that make you weak or
strong?

LOLZ

**MY HOUSE GOT REALLY COLD THE
OTHER DAY, SO I WENT TO STAND IN THE
CORNER.**

IT'S USUALLY ABOUT 90 DEGREES.

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

**ANSWER
OF THE WEEK**

Haran. Rashi tells us that Haran was the father of Sarah (who was also named Yiscah). We know that Sarah was 10 years younger than Abraham, and the Talmud tells us that Haran was two years younger than Abraham. Putting them together, Haran must have only been 8 when Sarah was born!

Upcoming programs, events and as-sorted other stuff you should know about:

SUNDAY, Oct 29: CHAPTER WARS part 2
ONGOING: Monthly Jewnior Challenge. Watch the vid, take the Kahoot!

WEDNESDAY, Nov 1: Park City Jewish Teen Empowerment, Krav Maga- Part 1

NOV 3-4: Nageela Girls Shabbaton, Las Vegas

THURSDAY, Nov 8: AZ Jewniors program

WEDNESDAY, Nov 15: Park City Jewish Teen Empowerment, Krav Maga- Part 2

THURSDAY, Nov 30: Ice Skating Los Angeles

THURSDAY, Nov 30: Early Bird ends for Nageela West

CHAPTER WARS #2
SUNDAY OCT 29, 8PM
ZOOM ID: 317 427 7225

MAZAL TOV!!!

**TO NAGEELA STAFF ALUMNA
ESTHER GLAZER
ON HER MARRIAGE THIS WEEK TO ARYEH
ZEY KITAINIK!**

HBD

Happy Birthday wishes to the following Nageela family members:

**Moriel Shabtai
Jacob Chapman
Benjamin Cohen
Aviv Nahumzon
Maytar Neev
Rhome Hirsh
Halle Hirshman**

**Rachel (Nahum) An-
var
Neeka Peyman
Sari Shakhman
Robbie Zeligman
Laili Schnitzer**



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