

HAVE A

# NAGEELA SHABBOS

A Kid Friendly Torah Magazine by Nageela West Coast

## DVAR TORAH

“Should we use Waze? Google Maps? Apple?”



through the desert, the Jews spent years eating the manna

The Looong Way  
by Rabbi Dani Locker

“Let’s use whichever will give us the longest, most indirect route.”

You



know if you ever hear that from a driver, you’re in trouble. We like doing things efficiently. Nobody likes to go the longer route. Except apparently God does, sometimes. At least, when our ancestors left Egypt some millennia ago, God specifically had them take the longer route. They could have gone through the land of the Phillistines, which would have been a 12 minute drive, or 10 in the HOV lane. Instead they took the 40 year route (which amounts to about 2.5 miles in Los Angeles traffic). Why avoid the Philistines? The Torah seems to say the problem is that IT WAS CLOSER. But again, why is that a reason to avoid it? Nobody takes the longer route on purpose!

One answer given (see Daas Zekeinim) fasts forward; what would have happened had the Jews entered Israel immediately after leaving Egypt? We would have settled in our new homeland, divided up the portions of land, and then begun farming. We would have a whole country to attend to. By taking the long way

na which required no farming. What did they do all day in the desert? They probably played fortnite. But that only lasts two weeks. What did they do after that? They studied Torah. Had we entered Israel without those decades of Torah study under our belts, we would have gone straight to farming, and we would have lost our connection to Torah.

Now, wait a sec. The people who traveled through the desert weren’t even the same people as the ones who entered the land of Israel! And we spent like 1000 years in Israel before the exile. How do these 40 years of some people studying help generations of their descendants, who were mostly farmers anyway?

Which brings us to another GPS example. Sometimes the GPS gives you a few different options in the beginning of a drive. But once you start in a certain direction, you’re pretty much locked in to that route (unless you just go totally off the route, miss your turns and then you have to get rerouted- not that this has ever happened to me, mind you). The way you start a journey has a very significant impact on how it gets continued. What I’m trying to say in a long, round-about way (because I took



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continued on two, too.

won from page one

the longer way ON PURPOSE) is that spending those first 40 years studying Torah and eating the manna changed the entire way the Jews lived for centuries afterward. Sure they farmed. Without farming, where would Old McDonald live? But they also studied Torah. Had the nation entered Israel without first spending significant time studying Torah, they would

have been too busy farming to set aside time for Torah. Since they started well, Torah study became a priority, and then even the farmers set aside time for Torah, thus ensuring the future of our nation.

The lesson? Start things off right. It's wiser than making loads of mistakes and trying to do a rebuild. Or recalculation.

LOLZ

HOW DO YOU SPLIT THE OCEAN IN HALF?

WITH A SEA SAW.

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

LOLZ

MAZAL TOV!!!

TO NAGEELA ALUM  
KYLE AND ALEXIS HARRIS  
UPON THEIR MARRIAGE THIS WEEK!

# PICKLE JEWS

GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED  
COMIC STRIP

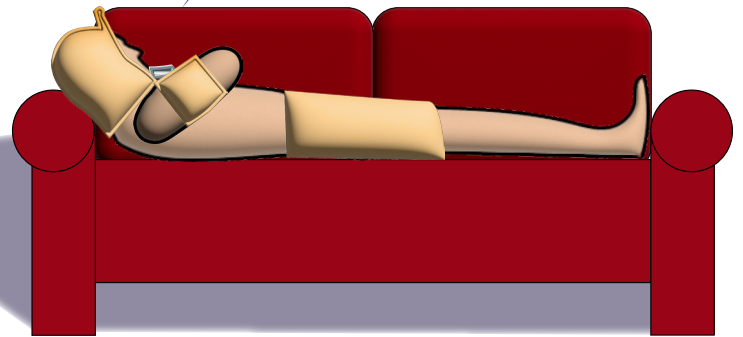
by Dani Locker, 2023

So tell me, did your symptoms start when Moses parted the sea, when your army drowned, or was it earlier, in...

Errr, no. I would never do that. Well, how would you describe your current symptoms? How did the Yam Suf make you feel?

Are you about to make a DeNile joke? Please tell me you're not going to make a DeNile joke.

I have a splitting headache.



LOCKER

151

DAYS UNTIL  
CNW GIRLS  
2024

173

DAYS UNTIL  
CNW BOYS  
2024

# 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!

## PARSHAS BESHALACH

### 4TH PORTION OF THE SECOND OF THE TORAH'S 5 BOOKS

We jump into the water and stay dry, then have a dance party.

- As the Jews run away (doo doo doo doo doodoo), run away (doo doo doo doo doodoo), run away (doo doo doo doo doodoo), run away from Egypt, they don't go the shortest route to Israel, but instead circle around to the Yam Suf (Sea of Reeds).
- Moses personally brings Joseph's bones, to fulfill the oath Joseph's brothers had taken.
- God provides a pillar of cloud to guide them during daylight hours, and a pillar of fire to guide them at night, in case their headlights wouldn't work.
- Pharaoh feels really dumb for letting his slaves go, and he gathers his army to chase them.
- The Jewish people, seeing the Egyptian army, panic and cry out to Moses, who calms them down and guarantees a great salvation.
- Moses stretches his hand over the sea. The Jewish people enter, and it splits, the water forming walls on either side. The surface is completely dry land.
- When the Egyptians attempt to follow, the ground gets muddy and their horses need to plod slowly.
- Moses again extends his hand and the sea comes crashing down on the Egyptians for an epic wipe-out.
- The Jewish people are safe at last (doo doo doo doo doodoo), safe at last (doo doo doo doo doodoo), safe at last (doo doo doo doo doodoo), safe at last (doo doo doo doo doodoo), safe at last.
- Moses and the Jewish people sing a grand song of praise to God.
- Miriam leads the women, many of whom, in anticipation of miracles had brought along percussion instruments, in their own song.
- We get to a place where the water tastes bad. I was just at a place in Death Valley called Badwater, so we'll call it that. At Badwater, Moses throws a tree into the water and it gets sweet. A sugar tree? A candy cane? Who knows.
- The people are hungry and guess what they do? Yuppo, they complain. Really? "Are we there yet? Are we theeeeeere yeeeeeet?" God literally makes it rain bread. Also quail. Quail are funny looking birds. Did you hear the one about the quail the walked into a bar?
- Moses saves one container of this Manna to last forever. I wonder what preservatives they used.
- The people again complain that they are thirsty. Moses hits a rock (he was supposed to, this time) and enough water comes out to give the entire nation.
- The nation of Amalek becomes the first group to attack the Jewish people after the miracles leaving Egypt. Those silly Amalekites. What were they thinking? Joshua leads the charge as we fight against these enemies. Moses stands (for a while, and then he sits) atop a hill holding his staff, and as long as he keeps his hands raised, the Jewish people are victorious.
- God commands us to always remember what Amalek did (and would continue to repeat throughout our history, as our nemesis), and to erase any remnant of Amalek.



# REGIONAL MEETUP

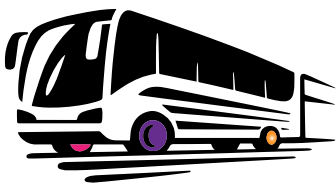
**SUN** BOARD ELECTIONS  
**JAN 28** GAME + PRIZES  
 7PM PACIFIC

## ONLINE SUMMER INFO SESSION

**@ ZOOM**  
**SUNDAY, JAN 28TH**  
**6:00PM (PST)**  
 ZOOM ID: 580 485 3200  
 PASSWORD: NAGEELA

Interested parents and children are invited to meet Camp representatives to find out about our hybrid travel camp, get questions answered and get some possible discounts! NO RSVP required. Q's may be directed to 917-613-1037

**camp nageela west**



# CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2024

**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]**



**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**

# HBD

Jason Shapiro  
 Mylan Ghenassia  
 Noa Agatstein  
 Shoshana Ostrow  
 Nava Freeman  
 Kayla Bauman

Happy Birthday wishes to the following Nageela family members:

Jet Zohar  
 Sky Zohar  
 Aurelia Zohar  
 Max Zohar  
 Matthew Hollander  
 Ariel Wexler  
 Shoshana Wexler



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