

HAVE-A NAGEELA SHABBOS

Nasso 5781
May 21st, 2021

SEASON 5 EPISODE 30

a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



Is That All For Me? by Rabbi Dani Locker

Every Jewish family was assigned a portion of land in Israel, when Joshua brought us into the land. Almost every family, that is. The entire tribe of Levi (which included the Kohanim) received no land. Aha, so then how- you might ask- were these fine Levites supposed to support themselves? The answer is told in this week's Torah portion (what a coincidence)! The Levites were the employees of the Holy Temple and were the spiritual leaders of the Jewish people. They spent all their time on spiritual pursuits, and they were supported by the people who gave them 10% of their income (which is the main source for Jews giving 10% to charity). It might have been hard for people who worked really hard to give so much of it away to someone else (it's still hard). This story might be helpful.

Watt was an only child. His mother cooked his meals, and he got used to eating everything she gave him (which she insisted- he had to finish all his food).

Then he went to college. He entered a cafeteria with 5000 students, and saw a pot the size of a house! It was filled with spaghetti. He breathed deeply for a minute, then pulled out two large forks and began to work. It was hard, but Watt knew that he was expected to finish all the food put before him.



Candle lighting

Honolulu	6:47
Scottsdale	7:07
San Diego	7:26
Henderson	7:26
Las Vegas	7:27
Irvine	7:31
Los Angeles	7:29
Reno	7:54
Oakland	7:59
Park City	8:24



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People watched in amazement as he polished off the whole thing, and was soon the size of Montana!

The next day he didn't enter the cafeteria, because he hadn't been able to leave! They brought out a huge pan of latkes, the size of Lake Mead. Watt started to cry.

Watt? Someone asked.

What watt?

What Watt what?

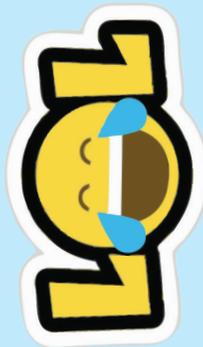
This went on for quite some time.

Eventually they managed to communicate through

the tears and the potato flakes. Someone figured out that Watt thought he had to eat everything. It took some convincing, but eventually they explained to Watt that when there's so much food, it was clearly meant for more people, and not just him.

When God blesses us with a good harvest, a fat paycheck, an abundant allowance or any other positive gain, it's hard to share. Like Watt, we tend to think it was all meant for us. It wasn't. God placed us in a system where he gives some of us more so we can help the rest. We have to realize it was never really meant to be all our own.

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Have you ever tried to eat a clock?

It's very time consuming.

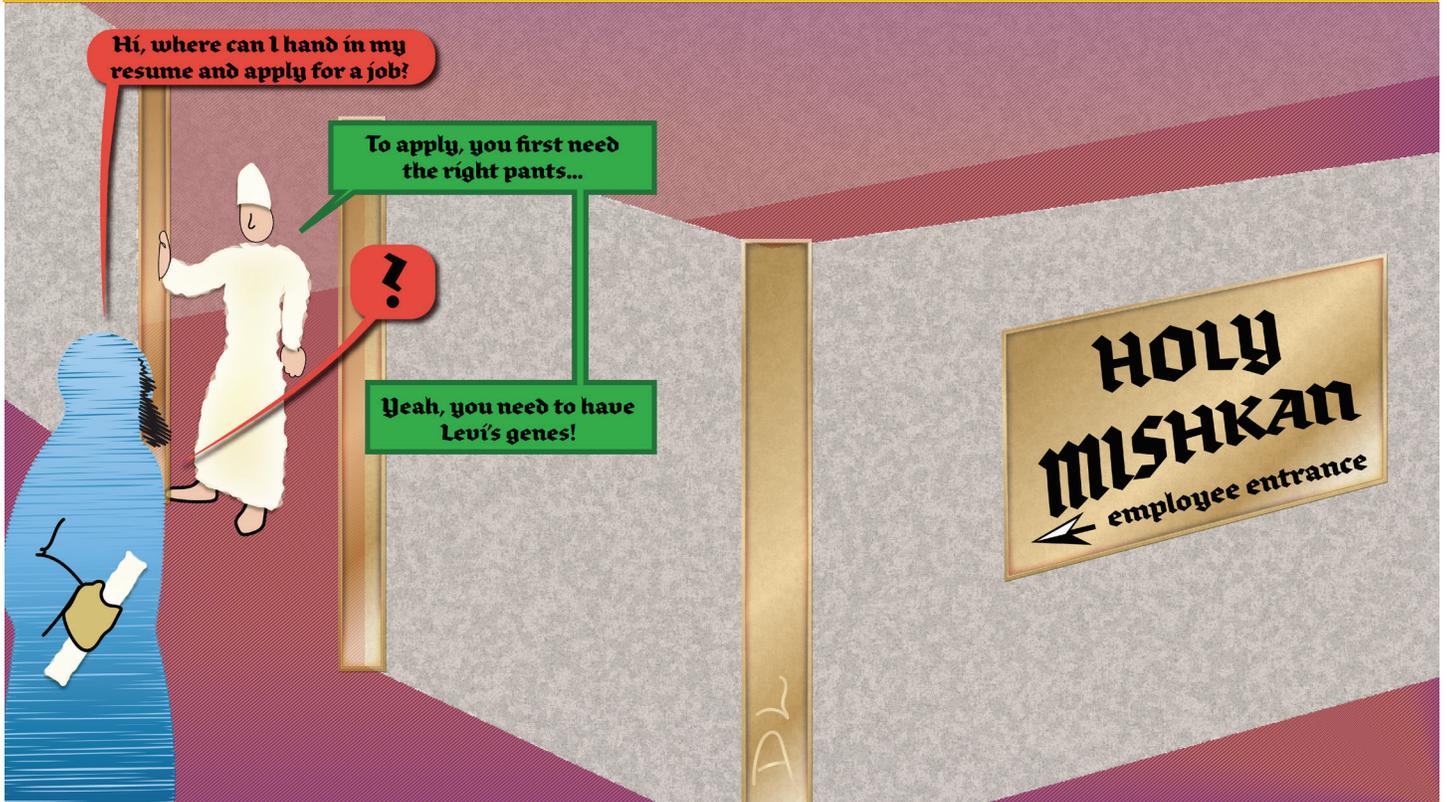
OUCH! GRRRRROOAAAAN!
Have a better joke and want a shoutout in Nageela Shabbos? Just email it to dlocker@nageelawest.org

DIDJA KNOW?

This week's Torah portion, Nasso is the longest and has 176 verses. The longest chapter in Psalms has 176 verses, and the longest tractate in Talmud, Bava Basra has 176 pages!

PICKLE JEWS

GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STRIP



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.

Stump the Rabbi



#172 Jewnity

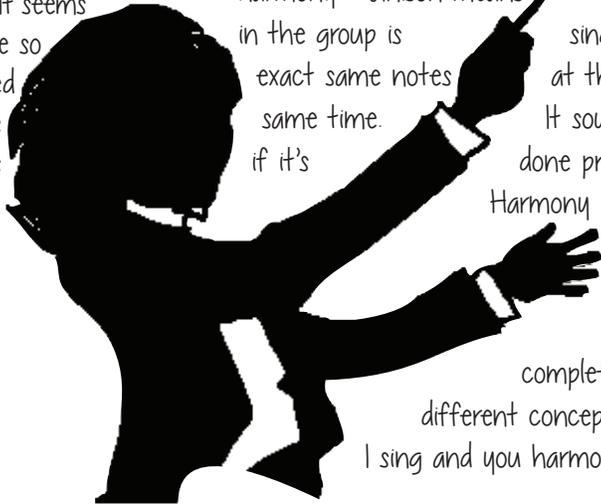
Hi Rabbi,

I think we all can agree that the world needs more unity. People have so many differences, I think the world would be a much better place if we all got along and pursued the same goals. I've always been confused why Judaism seems to promote differences and disunity. In the land of Israel, people were divided by their tribes. Why? It seems like things would be so much more unified if we deleted the arbitrary separations that divide us. I'd really appreciate it if you could clarify.

Sincerely,
Becca Yachad

Dear BeYachad,

There's so much truth in what you said! There's also a very important difference between different methods of singing (yes, I know that was out of left field, but we're not playing baseball now, we're talking about singing, right?). Do you know the difference between in unison and singing harmony? Unison means everyone in the group is singing the exact same notes at the exact same time. If it's



Harmony is a completely different concept. When I sing and you harmonize,

you're singing different notes, or singing at a slightly different time. Yet, if done right, it sounds amazing! In fact, if you ask people objectively what is the most beautiful type of music, it's clearly harmony that reverberates. All music that involves chords (which is all music that I've ever heard) uses harmony to make things sound better. By the way, what do you call a funny sounding choir? A har- har- harmony.

Let's give another example. Let's say for argument's sake that Tom Brady is the best player currently in the NFL (enter angry Patrick Mahomes fans here). If I put together a team, I want Brady on that team, and he gives me a chance to win. If I put together a team of 11 Tom Bradys, I've got a problem. Because although he might be the best at throwing deflated footballs, he's probably not the world's greatest running back

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Stump the Rabbi

continued

or receiver, and he most certainly would not make a good linebacker. If I have a team with 11 Tom Bradys, I will lose every game. Not only are different players necessary for different positions, they require different types of training. The kicker might not need quite as many arm exercises as the QB. The Offensive lineman's diet is going to be different than a corner. A tight end doesn't prepare for a game the same way as a shortstop (that would be a short and tight end stop). I just threw that in to see if you were paying attention.

You're right that God seems to encourage or emphasise differences between different groups of Jews, but it is NOT arbitrary. In order for our nation to be successful, it's necessary to have good farmers, talented businessmen, knowledgeable Torah teachers, fearless sea merchants, charismatic political leaders, mighty soldiers, fair judges, caring shepherds

and holy spiritual leaders. Each tribe brought a certain family talent to 'the table.'

For example: The tribe of Simon was aggressive. They were people who 'got stuff done.' Asher was talented at growing fruit and enjoyed life. Issachar was known for Torah scholarship and Zebulun had ports and ships, working at trade. Joseph's descendants embody thriving under difficult circumstances. Judah is where our kings came from, because he represented personal and communal responsibility.

When the Jews camped in the desert during their 40 years of travel, they camped by tribe. When we entered Israel, as you mentioned, we lived by tribe. This set up allows each group to thrive in their skill set and allow for the greatest benefit to the whole nation. I'll admit there are challenges, too. The danger of harmony is that if you're off key, it sounds really bad. The danger of recognizing people's differences is that it can possibly lead



THE FUTURE ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE...

to disunity. But the answer isn't to just lump everyone together and erase our individual strengths and skills (ever read The Giver?) Our job is to recognize that although there may be other Jews playing different positions, we're all playing on the same team and we want each other to succeed.

Have a Nageela Shabbat,

the Rabbi



Best wishes to our friends and family members celebrating this week...

Andrew Adler
Amara Branton
Jason Gloth
Ilan Cohen

Oren Stern
Yehonatan Eitan
Salomon Tibi

Nageela West Coast

EVENTS THIS WEEK!
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GRADERS

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5TH AND UP

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