"I know this already!"

when you're in class and you already know the material? You've still got to sit through the next 7.2 hours, and your head will probably either melt or explode (depending on whether it's math or science- math makes your head melt, science makes it explode). Or when your parents or your Rabbis or anyone else decide to give you a lecture on how to act, or what's right or wrong, but YOU. ALREADY. KNOW. IT.

Or when we read the same words of the Torah EVERY. YEAR. Or, perhaps most challenging of all, the incredibly long Yom Kippur Vidui prayer service, which we do twice on Yom Kippur night. And then twice again the next morning. And then again two times at Mussaf, twice at Mincha, and twice at Neila... I mean, if you haven't gotten it the first 8 times, is it really going to make a difference?

As the Jewish people got close to the end of their 40 year road trip, Moses tells them, "You didn't have the understanding of God until now." (That isn't the exact quote, but it captures the idea.) Ralbag takes this to mean that perhaps the main purpose of the Jews' journey for 40 years through the desert is because it took that long to absorb the message that God

Till You Can't Get it Wrong by Rabbi Dani Locker

is in complete control.
For 40 years, they ate bread that fell from the sky. Their clothes stayed fresh and their shoes did not wear out.
They walked through fluffy protective clouds, and had completely miraculous lives. OK, that's cool. But what did they learn about God's control in year 27 that they had missed in year 12?
After 38 years were they really like, "Is there a God taking care of us?" And then when year 40 hit they smacked their forehead and exclaimed, "Golly, gee! Now I understand!?"

I'll grant you that for math or science, which are about information [Can you memorize this formula? Will these two things blow up if I mix them?] once you learn something, it's learned. Perhaps review is a good idea so you remember it longer. Yet someone with a good memory doesn't need to study the periodic table every day. Just... periodically. But the lessons of trust in God- those aren't things you can just learn once or twice and simply 'own'. Lessons that help us truly feel, understand and live life a cer-

tain way take massive reinforcement.
They need to be seen, experienced
and practiced over and over
and over and over and over and
over and over and over
and over and over
and over and over

Did Jew know that you can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos?

Would you consider sponsoring an episode?

and over and over and over and over.

Steph Curry knows how to shoot a basketball ly experience to kinda good, right? Did you know that he still ly experience to also help us appeared to the state of the state of

We need to be pros at life. If we see bread falling from the sky, we can be inspired and recognize God. But there are also days when it's hard to see God's hand. There are battles (literal and figurative) that make life, faith and trust difficult. We needed 40 years of practice to develop the muscle memory to be

get it wrong."

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

WHERE IN PARSHAS KI SAVO DOES THE TORAH 'HINT' TO ONE OF
THE SPECIAL FOODS (SIMANIM) WE EAT ON ROSH HASHANA?
NO CHEATUNG
ANSWER ON PAGE 4

able to face the adversity that we will certainly experience through our lives. This should also help us appreciate that when it comes to

moral or spiritual learning, it's not enough to just read a book, hear a lecture and know something. In order to KNOW it, it's got to be repeated until we can't get it wrong.

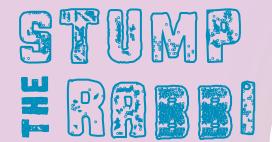


PICKLE JEWS

GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED
COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2023





Stump the Rabbi 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,

How important is telling the truth? I know it's usually bad to lie, but are there ever times when it's OK? Or people who it's OK to lie to?

#246

True Story

Thanks,

Emmet T Ruth

Dear Emmet,

Let me tell you a true story I made up: Jimmy is playing on the swing one fine, sunny day when his father stalks up to him, furious.

"Son..." He rumbles. "Who pushed the truck off the cliff? Tell the truth now."

"Dear father. I don't know anything about the truck."

The father is skeptical so he asks again, receiving the same answer from his son.

"My dear son, let me tell you a story. When George Washington was a boy, he chopped down a cherry tree. His father asked him if he chopped down the cherry tree. George said, "Honorable father, I can not tell a lie. I chopped down the cherry tree." And George's father was not mad, because his son was honest. George went on to become the president of the United States of America

So now, son, I will ask you one last time to tell the truth. Who pushed the truck off the cliff?"

The son, inspired by the story, stands up straight and looks his father in the eye as he says, "Dear father. I can not tell a lie. I pushed the truck off the cliff."

The father is enraged and gives the son a spanking like he's never felt before.

"But father..." Jimmy gasps in between sobs.
"You told me... George... Not tell a lie... father proud... why... why are you so angry?"

"Jimmy..." his father explains... "George Washington's father was not in the cherry tree."

The moral of the story is that it's always good to tell the truth... except sometimes it isn't.
Also, don't park your truck near a cliff... There are people who connect so strongly to the value of honesty that they believe it beats out any other value. There are those who don't even bother with the truth, exaggerating and lying like it was nothing. So what DOES the Torah say about truth?

Clearly we're big fans of truth.
"Stay away from falsehood" (Shemos 23:7) is a concept we take very seriously. There are many, many statements across biblical literature and Talmud talkng about how



DAYS UNTIL CNVV GIRLS 2024



DAYS UNTIL CNW BOYS 2024

YOU CAN GET A WITHDRAWAL HEADACHE WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH CAFFIENE. BUT THE THE CHEM-ICAL WITH THE WORST WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS IS PROBABLY OXYGEN.

important truth is. But not al-

ways! The tricky parts in life aren't usually about deciding whether you should beat up an old lady or not (the answer is not, btw). It's usually a battle between conflicting values. It's important to tell the truth, but what if the only way to keep peace is by lying? What if a lie will save someone's life, or prevent feelings from being hurt? The Talmud tells us that if you go to a wedding, you should tell the groom that the bride is beautiful. Even if it's not true. It goes even further, talking about regular people buying regular stuff. If your friend buys something... say a new bike. If he can't return it, you should just tell him it's awesome (if it's a bad purchase and there's a return policy.

then you should try to help him by telling him what a pointless, unintelligent rip- off scam he got suckered into). You're lying, but you're doing it to preserve someone's dianity or feelings.

Another exception the Talmud describes is for humility. If someone asks you how much Torah you know, it's OK to understate your knowledge and say you don't know so much. Again, we see that although honesty is an important value, humility can win out. **Keep in mind that it's important to balance**

these ideas and not use them as an excuse to lie when it's convenient. Me? I don't lie. I only make up true stories...

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi

ANSWER OF THE WEEK

QUESTION ON PAGE 2

HEYI STOPI THINK FIRST, NO PEEKINGI

<u>'A SHEEP, AND THE PRAYER SAID IS THAT WE SHOULD BE A HEAD AND NOT A TAIL.</u> <u>no kosh hashana, many have a custom to eat the head of either a fish or</u> (28:13)

ONE OF THE BLESSINGS MENTIONED IN "YOU WILL BE A HEAD, AND NOT A TAIL."



I WANTED A PET HORSE. BUT MY MOTHER WANTED SOMETHING SMALLER. SO INSTEAD. I GOT A LIZARD.

HE'S NOT JUST SMALLER... HE'S MY NEWT!

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



THIS WEEK IN **ARIZONA**

STARTING NEXT WEEK IN LAS VEGAS

LOS ANGELES KICKOFF SPET 20 **PARK CITY** KICKOFF OCT 8



Every Monday

@ Zucker Jewish Academy 10100 Banburry Cross Dr.



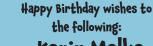
TWEEN NIGHT 4-6 grade 5:00-6:00pm

M.S. TEEN **NIGHT** 7-8 grade 6:00-7:15pm















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