

Nageela

Shabbos

SEASON 7, EPISODE 37

HAVE A

A Kid Friendly Torah Magazine by Nageela West Coast

DVAR TORAH

"If you follow all my rules, then your reward is... that you followed all my rules!"

That sounds like an odd reward. I tried this with my kids and it got mixed reviews. I'm kidding, they were not mixed at all. Kids don't think that is funny. At. All.

The beginning of this week's Torah portion has very interesting wording. "See, I have put before you... a blessing and a curse... the blessing, that you will listen... If you pay attention to the words, you might notice that it doesn't say "You get the blessing IF you listen." It says the blessing is THAT you listen. We know that the Torah is extremely precise in the way it speaks, so if it says something in an unusual way, that

Rules Rule!

by Rabbi Dani Locker

means something. A number of commentators point this out, and they explain that the Torah is indeed being very clear and specific.

There are people in the world who try to live without rules and without discipline. As a rule (pun intended), their lives are chaotic, unhappy and filled with drama and trauma. One of the greatest gifts we can give our children, and ourselves, is a structured system of values and social cues. People who follow a path, rules to live by, aren't only better people than they could have been otherwise. They are happier people.

So God tells us that if we follow His rules, the greatest blessing is THAT we follow His rules. Sure, there are other side benefits (as the Torah goes on to describe), but the main prize is the path itself. There may be times in life when you think to yourself, "I wish I could do whatever I want!" What kid hasn't dreamed of that? Yet in reality, we would not be better off that way. Rules rule!

Do you know a Jewish kid or teen who could benefit from year-round Jewish engagement anywhere on the West Coast? CONTACT US. WE CAN HELP!

JOBS AVAILABLE!

JOB REQUIREMENTS:
7 DAYS A WEEK, FOLLOW ALL THE RULES!

REWARD:
7 DAYS A WEEK, FOLLOW ALL THE RULES!

Did Jew know that you can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos? Would YOU consider sponsoring an episode?



OUR SUCCESSFUL **FOURTEENTH** SUMMER!

Thanks to our many sponsors, donors and volunteers, we have successfully concluded Camp Nageela West 2023!

Through the past 6 weeks, 45 Nageela campers have enjoyed 5 national parks, amusement parks, camping, hiking, axe throwing, laser tag, rock climbing, a ropes course, speedboating, ice skating, swimming, baking, ceramics, dancing, bowling, arcades, soccer, basketball, volleyball and football.

They have experienced Shabbos singing, Torah reading, educational games, Q&A sessions and 1 on 1 learning.

Please stay tuned for more highlights, videos, photos and stories in the coming weeks!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

CAN YOU FIND 5 COMMANDMENTS IN THIS WEEK'S

PARSHA REVOLVING AROUND

THE NUMBER 7??

NO CHEATING

ANSWER ON PAGE 4



WE'D LIKE TO WISH AN AWESOMETASTIC

MAZEL TOV

TO LONG TIME CNW
FAMILY MEMBER

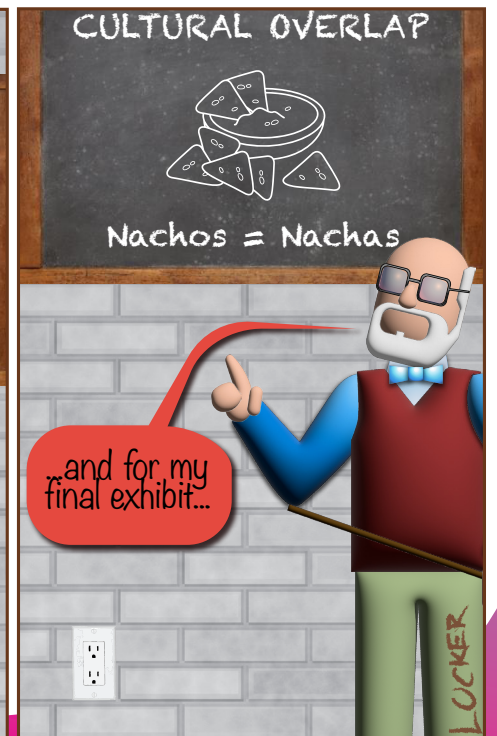
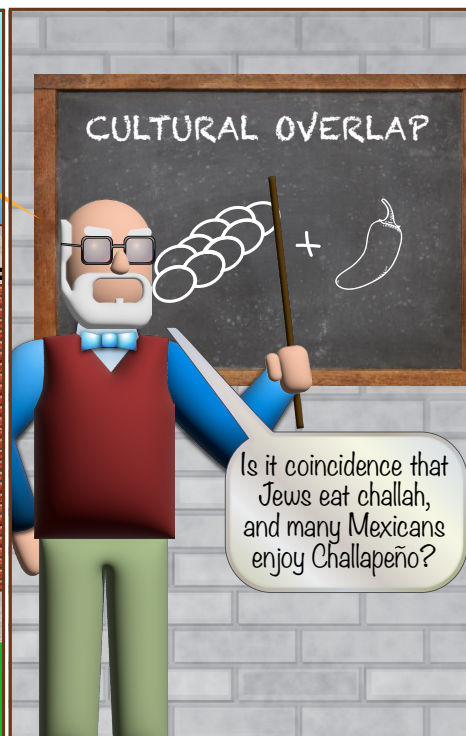
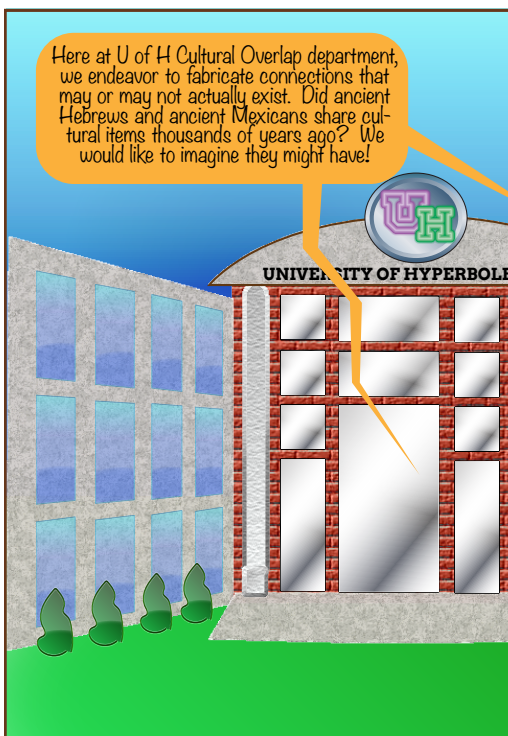
MAEVEN FANEBUST

UPON HER ENGAGEMENT TO RAFAEL LITMAN!

PICKLE JEWS

GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2023



STUMP 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

(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,

#244

Who Do You Play For?

Why do bad things happen to good people? If it's true that there is a God and, God is good, and God controls everything, why wouldn't he make it so that good people have great lives? Also, if we are God's people and we have stood up through history for morality and goodness, why do the Jews have so much trouble?

Thanks,
Percy Cuted

Dear Percy,

Let's split this question into two parts. Today we will focus on the national question. If we're God's people, shouldn't we get special treatment?

This week's Torah portion provides the answer to this question. The portion begins by describing the 'blessings and the curses:' the awesome benefits and blessings the Jewish people are entitled to when we are acting as we should, and the troubles we go through when we are not.

One of the greatest sports movies, in my opinion, is *Miracle*, the story of the 1980 US Olympic hockey team and their unlikely victory over the unbeatable Soviet team. One memorable scene takes place after a terrible loss, and the coach, Herb Brooks, makes the team go through incredibly painful and exhausting skating drills. Over and over they skate line to line, until they're dropping from exhaustion. The whistle blows over and over and the players

are suffering. Until one player answers the question, "Who do you play for?" He barely gets out the words, "I play for the United States of America!" This is a turning point in their quest for Olympic gold, realizing (in the words of the coach) that the name on the front of the jersey is more important than the name on the back.



The Torah outlines our national mission. Then it tells us about the intense measures our Coach will take, to ensure that we remember that our national identity is more important than our individual egos. The Talmud tells us that the temple's destruction and our lnnnnng exile are because the Jewish people don't get along. Look around the world today. Does it seem like we 'play as a team?'

It is only because God loves us and believes in us that He sometimes deals with us in a forceful way. We are the team with Olympic hopes. We are the nation with the potential of Abraham and

???

DAYS UNTIL
CNW GIRLS
2024

???

DAYS UNTIL
CNW BOYS
2024

WHEN WILL THE COUNTDOWN BEGIN?

DEEP THOUGHTS

DO THEY GIVE COFFEE BREAKS AT THE TEA FACTORY?

Sarah. We are the chosen few, but we can't win on talent alone. Hopefully this will provide a bit of perspective on why Jewish history has sometimes been harsh. BTW, if you think about the relative lack of persecution in the past 75 years, and how quickly the Jewish nation is disappearing behind a fog of apathy, ignorance and assimilation, you'll gain some more insight into how we are helped by those difficult lessons we are taught from time to time.

Next week we will address the next part of the question; the individual.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi

KICKOFF

MONDAY, AUGUST 21ST

JEWNIOR NCSY KICKOFF
EVENT IN LAS VEGAS!

STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!

KICKOFF EVENTS COMING SOON IN:

SCOTTSDALE

PARK CITY

SAN DIEGO

LOS ANGELES

IRVINE

HBD

We'd like to wish a happy birthday to:

Eve Moga
Miracle Moga
Katelynn Musser
Netanel Gazala
Avi Gewirtz
JQ Sklar
Aaron Polonsky
Rosie Polonsky
Caleb Gould
Gavin Gould
Adam Borsody
Chaya Leos
Menacham Sosonov
Maya Elezra
Liddor Bega
Gabriel Lewis
Jake Michael
Chase Mennear
Eitan Lugasi
Lior Ben Yehuda
Orel Kohen
Daniel Jacobi
Maeven Fanebust
Shifra Kamin
Jonathan Kessler

Avi Maryles
Gabriella Zargari
Geula David
Emma Kantrowitz
Josh Small
Sophie Guenniche
Chloe Huttner
Ezra Okseberg
Heshy Rubinson
Zollie Nemer
Leah Mizrahi

Sponsored by the Streiter family, may their children merit to grow up as Torah learning Jews!

READ OVER 250 EPISODES IN OUR ARCHIVES BY SCANNING THE CODE BELOW



REGIONAL BOARD FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS IN FORMATION. MOTIVATED 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS PLEASE CONTACT US!

ANSWER OF THE WEEK

QUESTION ON PAGE 2

HEY! STOP! THINK FIRST. NO PEEKING!

- 1. SHEMITA, THE SABBATICAL YEAR.
- 2. HEBREW SLAVES GO FREE IN THE SEVENTH YEAR.
- 3. SEVEN DAYS OF PASSOVER.
- 4. SEVEN WEEKS COUNTING THE OMER.
- 5. SEVEN DAYS OF SUKKOS.

LOLZ

BEWARE OF FRIENDSHIP WITH TENNIS PLAYERS.

TO THEM, LOVE MEANS NOTHING.

THINK YOU CAN DO BETTER? YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. SEND YOUR JOKES IN TO [DLOCKER@NAGEELAWEST.ORG](mailto:dlocker@nageelawest.org)



www.nageelawest.org

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