

Highway Environmental Hygienist

Education Centre Nourishment Consultant Petroleum Transfer Engineer **Customer Experience Enhancement Consultant** Gastronomical Hygiene Technician **Domestic Technician**

are:

Answers at the end of this Dvar Torah.

I find something really funny about what happened when the Jewish people moved down to Egypt. Of course, the stuff that happened later wasn't funny at all. But when they first came- listen to what happened.

Joseph prepared his brothers carefully for their first meeting with the Egyptian king. One of his instructions is that they should tell the king they were shepherds, because the Egyptians hated shepherds, and this would allow them to live apart from the idolatrous natives. So what does Pharaoh respond?

He tells them that if any of them are worthy, he will appoint them as 'flock officers' over his herds. I don't know about you, but 'flock officer' sounds alot

You can sponsor an episode of Nageela Shabbos in honor or in memory of a loved one.

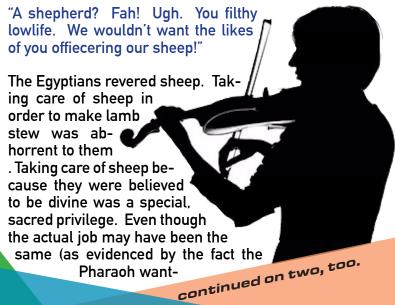
Also, yuo cna spnosor an espisode in honr of gud speeling.

herd. I imagine a job interview might have gone something like this:

"So, I see you have a job opening for a flock officer. What does the job entail?

"Taking the sheep out to graze, making sure they're well fed and watered and protecting them from wild animals. Occasionally cleaning dirt out of their wooly coats."

"Great! I have a lot of experience with that, I've been a shepherd for years."



COMIC STRIP

GALACTICALLY SYNVICATED

ed to hire Joseph's brothers for Flofficer duty based solely on their shepherding experience), the intention while doing that job and the attitude one brought to the job makes it completely different. You take a fiddle and put a fancy name on it, suddenly it costs 15.9 million dollars.

It might sound crazy, but it's actually quite reasonable. The attitude you bring to a task will most certainly affect your production. A shepherd doesn't have the self respect and the drive for success that a flofficer does. There's a famous story about a beggar in the subway who was selling pencils to try and make a few cents. A well- dressed businessman dropped some money into the cup and started hurrying off, but then came back. "I forgot to take my pencil. After all, you're selling them at a reasonable price. You're a businessman just like me!"

This simple interaction gave this beggar his self respect back. He started viewing himself as a pencil salesman rather than a panhandler, and he worked hard to improve his situation, eventually becoming

successful and respectable.

It's important for us to recognize this about ourselves. Whether our 'job' is doing homework, changing diapers, taking out the garbage or anything else we do, we are officers. We are high ranking homosapiens whom God has given great importance in this universe. Every job we do well, we are accomplishing a grand mission.

Don't be a fiddle. Be a Stradivarius.

Now for the answers:

Thoroughfare Environmental Hygienist = Street sweeper

Education Centre Nourishment Consultant = School lunch lady

Petroleum Transfer Engineer = Gas station pumper Customer Experience Enhancement Consultant = Store associate

Gastronomical Hygiene Technician = Dish washer Domestic Technician = House wife



anywhere engagement teen who West Coast? could benefit from year- round Jewish Do you know a Jewish kid or

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CAN \mathbb{X} ns. CONTACT

THEY SAY THAT BABIES ARE DELIVERED BY STORK. BUT THAT'S ONLY THE LIGHTER ONES.

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HEAVY BABIES NEED A CRANE

This past week, we held our 3rd annual WIPE OUT HATRED event in Park City Utah.

At the event, more than a dozen volunteers interacted with more than 1,000 skiers and boarders, giving out stickers and informational postcards, engaging in meaningful conversations, and sharing some bagels and lox.

The goal of the event was towfold: To raise awareness about the startling recent increases in antisemitism here in the USA, and to engage Jewish teens in Jewish advocacy.

Great vibes, excellent skiing and an inspirational Shabbos all combined to make this our best event to date!

Can't wait for WOH 2024!





QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Which ten brothers were all named in honor of the same person?

Answer is on page 4.
DON'T CHEAT!



186

DAYS UNTIL CNW GIRLS 2024 208

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 VAUIGASH

- The stage has been set for an epic showdown.
 It's Harry vs. Voldemort. Except in this case both participants have noses.
- Joseph is still unrecognized by his bros, and in his role as Egyptian big dawg he has accused Benjamin of stealing his (Joseph's) special magical goblet. It's not a cup, it's a goblet. I don't know what the difference is. He insists that Benjamin must stay permanently as a slave, and the other 9 brothers may return home to their father.
- Judah stands up to this Egyptian ruler, and according to the Midrash they have a pretty intense show of intimidating each other.
- Seeing that his brothers are standing up for Benjamin, Joseph decides it's time to reveal himself. He clears the room of everyone not in his family, and he reveals his identity. The brothers are speechless, and embarrassed because they understand the extent of their earlier mistakes.
- Amazingly, Joseph doesn't yell at his brothers, punch them or blame them in any way. He recognizes that his 'adventure' was God's way of ensuring they would be able to survive the famine.
- Joseph (with Pharaoh's permission) sends his brothers home with wagons full of goodies, and instructions to bring the entire family down to relocate in Egypt.
- God appears to Jacob and promises him that his descendants will eventually return from Egypt, and that Joseph

would take care of him.

- Jacob brings the entire family, consisting of
 70 people in total, to settle in Egypt.
- When they arrive, Joseph introduces his father and half of his brothers to Pharaoh, and settles them in the suburb of Goshen. They end up living in Goshen for over 200 years.
- Jacob blesses Pharaoh and the famine ends, only 2 years into the 7 years it was supposed to take. That's a pretty good deal.
- During the famine, Joseph had so successfully stored up food, and everyone else had done such a poor job, that he eventually owned all the money. Like all of it. From everywhere. He also was able to gain partial ownership of all the land in Egypt, and relocated many of the Egyptian citizens to different parts of the country, in order to prevent the Jewish immigrants from feeling like strangers.
- The Jews have many, many children

ANSWER

OF THE WEEK

QUESTION ON PAGE 3

Benjamin named his ten sons after his (presumed) departed brother, Joseph.

1. Bela- he was swallowed up
2. Becher- He was his mother's first-born, etc (see Rashi for a complete list)



This week on Instagram, we asked people what their favorite part of Chanukah was. At the time of publishing, here are the results:

We had some write-ins that said familym and a few people wanted to choose more than one poll item.

Latkes are definietly the best Jewish food out there... a little surprised it won out over Candle Lighting and presents in our highly scientific poll.

Next week's question:

Which of these Rabbis had the greatest effect on the Jewish people? Hillel, Rabbi Akiva, Rabbi Judah the Prince, Shimon Hatzadik

VORITE PAR	T OF CHA	NUKAH'
_		
Presents		11%
Candle lightin	ıg	33%
reidel		11%
₋atkes		44%

True Stories or Legends?



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 don't know what to think! The Torah is full of surprising, impossible sounding things. There are all kinds of miracles and supernatural events. I've heard stories of talking animals, and giant creatures that couldn't possibly exist. Are these things true? How could they be? Are they meant to be taken literally? Thanks

Allison Goury

Dear Allie Goury,

"Let me tell you a true story I made up." I often use that line when I tell a story. Usually a wildly exaggerated or completely made up story. So why do I call them true stories? Because their core is true. The lessons and values they represent are true. Before anyone gets the wrong idea, let me clarify.

The written Torah consists of 24 books, divided into the Torah (also called Chumash or the five books of Moses, these are the contents of a Torah scroll), the Prophets and the Holy Writings. The Torah is meant to be taken literally. Yes, there are some remarkable The sea splitting, and Bilaam's donkey miracles. giving a soliloguy, the ten plagues and bread falling from heaven. We understand that God is really, really powerful and that He has performed spectacular miracles. In the Holy writings, however, there are some portions which are sumbolic, and not to be taken literallu. For example, there's a whole book about a man named lyov (Job). According to some Talmudic opinions, he may have never existed.

Thenthere's Midrash. Midrashim are a compilation of stories, legends and explanations mostly written around the same time as the Talmud (roughly 1500-2000 years ago). They tell the backstories of many of the Torah's episodes. In a way, the Midrash is the 'deleted scenes' section

Even some parts of the books of the prophets may

not be meant to be taken literally.

of the Torah. I'm guessing that much of

your question is based on some pretty wild pieces of Midrash which tell extremely hard to believe stories. That's because they're not meant to be believed. Even though they're true.

Now I'm confusing you... I hope.

According to Maimonides, Maharal and many others, all Midrash, as a part of the Oral Torah, is based in absolute truth. It's there to teach us a valuable, true lesson. The exact details of the story may not have actually happened, though. It's kind of like a secret code. In fact, that's one of the reasons why Midrash will often use sketchy stories. It's to throw off people who aren't ready to fully understand the deeper meaning of the truth behind the lesson. Another reason, of course, is because sometimes a good story helps us understand stuff better.

One Midrash has Pharaoh's height at under 2 feet, and Moses standing more than 15 feet tall. There's the midrash about the manna tasting like any food you wanted, except Red Vines, of course. In this week's

Torah portion, as Judah and Joseph have an old-Western style showdown, the Midrash mentions some pretty unbelievable feats of strength, like Judah screaming so loud his deaf nephew heard him from a different country. There is much discussion about the deep meaning behind the disagreement between Joseph and Judah.

So did these unusual stories in Midrash actually happen? Certainly some did, but not necessarily all of them.

But they're still true.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi



DEC 13 MONTHLY JEWNIGA

COMPLIMENTARY COMMENTING CHALLENGE



MAZAL TOV!!!

TO NAGEELA HEAD COUNSELOR
SHIFRA KAMIN
UPON HER ENGAGEMENT TO MORDECHAI MAY!

MAZAL TOVIII

Questions? contact lockerd@ncsy.org

TO NAGEELA CHEF
YITZIE LEVIN
UPON HIS ENGAGEMENT TO BAYLA GOLDMAN

Etai Bitton
Cal Cassie
Aryeh Kachani
Benjamin Nitevich
Tal Hirsh
Shlomo Berk
Agam Cohen

Happy Birthday wishes to the following Nageela family members:

> Alec Milton Ben Bernstein Naomy Bernheim Sarah Bernheim Brian Berko Sydney Warnick



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