

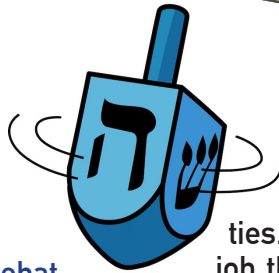
HAVE A

NAGEELA SHABBOS

A Kid Friendly Torah Magazine by Nageela West Coast

DVAR TORAH

What is the real Chanukah miracle?



For ages, Jews have discussed and debated this point. Is the main miracle the incredible victory our small and untrained resistance force achieved over a really frightening enemy? Is it the miracle of the oil, with a small amount of oil proving light long past when it should have puffed out?

I say, neither.

Let me ask you another question. We have a concept in Judaism, that God doesn't fault us for things that are beyond our control. So if a person is stuck on a desert island and has no way to make matzah, they're exempt from matzah. They've done nothing wrong. Similarly, when the victorious Macabee army liberated the Holy Temple and there was no pure olive oil, it should not have been a big deal. Remember, the day before, they had also not lit the menorah, because the Temple was occupied by the enemy. They were not at fault for that, so what's the big deal that it would take them another 8 days to produce more oil. They were exempt, after all.

The difference lies in whether you view the commandments as merely obligations, or as

opportunities. If you have a job that pays hourly, and your manager gives you the day off, you might be happy for the break. But if you really need the money, and you were counting on having an extra shift or two to pay your bills, then being 'exempt' from work would be terrible! You want to earn as much as you can! The Maccabees and their associates were not just fighting to get rid of foreign oppressors. They were fighting to gain mitzvah opportunities, to grow as Jews and people and (at risk of sounding cliché) to bring more light to the world. So when they won the war their immediate first thought was to get the Temple service started again with no delay.

I think that's the real Chanukah miracle. Not what God did for us. Those miracles are Ah.May.Zing! God is perfect and saved us. The thing that's truly worthy of celebration though is what people have done. The Jews in that time were so in love with God and His commandments, they could not take a break. They searched, they scoured, they played Pokemon Go (do people still play that?)



In the Chanukah blessings, we say, "In those day, in our time." We remember and we pray that the miracles and divine assistance that we've received in the past will stand for us in our current time of need. May this Chanukah be one remembered for tremendous and miraculous salvation!

continued on two, too.

won from page one

I'm a little behind the times) until they found a bit of oil. Then they did what they could to light what they had. There was no thought of 'exemptions' or 'free periods.'

this year, let's remember the miracle the lights represent. The miracle of Jewish dedication (after all, the word Chanukah means dedication) to excellence in our Judaism and personal growth.

When we light our Chanukah flames

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Nobody will eat donuts on Shabbos Chanukah, in the year 2043. Why not?

Answer is on page 3.
DON'T CHEAT!

SHINE A LIGHT
on Antisemitism

WIPE OUT ANTISEMITISM
DEC 10TH, 2023
DEC 17
SKI AGAINST HATRED WITH PARK CITY NCSY

NCSU PARK CITY
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JEWISH STUDENT UNION

WESTCOAST.NCSY.ORG/WIPE-OUT-HATRED

GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STRIP
by Nani Loefler, 2023

PICKLE JEWS

CHANUKAH

BIRTHDAYS

PASSOVER

POTATOES

COLORFUL CANDLES

PRESENTS

KID STANDING ON A CHAIR WHILE QUESTIONS ARE ASKED

Go Latkes!

There's nothing else we CAN eat!

Mah Nishtana

"How old are you now?"

LOLZ

WHICH HAND SHOULD YOU
LIGHT THE MENORAH WITH?

THINK YOU CAN DO BETTER? YOU'RE PROBABLY
RIGHT.

SEND YOUR JOKES IN TO DLCKER@NAGEELANEST.ORG

NEITHER. YOU SHOULD USE A
CANDLE!

ANSWER OF THE WEEK

QUESTION ON PAGE 2

Trick question. Because of how the Jewish calendar and leap years fall out, there is no Shabbos Chanukah in 2043. There's one in Dec of 2042, and the next one is in January of 2044!

SHINE A LIGHT




SKI SHABBAT

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JEOPARDY!


In this week's video
POKE BOWLS!
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Monday at 6:30-8pm



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*PARENTS MUST PROVIDE APPROPRIATE ITINERARY. SEE JET IN COACH.
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SESSION 2: JULY 18- AUG 7 [BOYS]



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BIG BEAR LAKE

200

DAYS UNTIL
CNW GIRLS
2024

222

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 VAYEISHEV

- Joseph, as the son of Jacob's beloved late wife Rachel, gets special treatment from his father. That never ends well.
 - Jacob gives Joseph a unique, colorful coat, which adds to his brothers' jealousy. Also he got new Airpod Por Maxs for Chanukah, and I only got a donut. It's not fair!
 - Joseph has two dreams which turn out to be prophetic, and he shares them with his brothers. In one, the brothers are all bundling stuff in the fields and the brothers' bundles bow down to Joseph's bundles. This does not make them happy. In the other dream, the sun, moon and 11 stars (as in 11 brothers) were bowing to Joseph. Basically, the dreams predict Joseph eventually being in charge of them all, which they did not appreciate, him being 17 and them being older.
 - The 10 older sons of Jacob hate Joseph and plan to get rid of him. One day, as he visits the big bros, they grab him, rip his coat off, and throw him in a pit full of nasty creatures.
 - Eventually, they decide not to kill Joseph, but sell him to passing merchants, and he eventually arrives in Egypt, where he is bought as a slave by a high ranking Egyptian official named Potiphar. How phar was Joseph from home? Poti phar.
 - While this is going on, Judah, who had been the clear leader among the brothers, leaves, gets married and has 2 sons (eventually 3, but 2 at first).
 - Both of Judah's sons die, and to make a long story
- very short, Judah ends up having twin sons with Tamar, who had originally been married to his sons. One of these sons, Peretz, ends up fathering the line of descendants which would produce King David and the future of the Jewish monarchy (including the future Messiah).
- Back at the ranch- are there ranches in Egypt? Joseph is super successful and his master puts him in charge of everything. Unfortunately, he catches the attention of Potiphar's wife. She is angered by Joseph's repeated rejection of her friendly advances, so she accuses him of committing a serious crime, and he is thrown in prison.
 - While locked up, Joseph again gains the trust of those in charge. He's that awesome. Nothing can keep him down.
 - Two of Pharaoh's (that was the title of the Egyptian King. For all we know, his real name might have been Wilfred) stewards get thrown into prison and have dreams that trouble them. Joseph, who's kind of an expert at dreams, having hosted a successful podcast on the subject matter, tells them what the dreams mean. Good news for one, death for the other, yet they instinctively knew he was right.
 - Joseph asks the wine steward (that was the one with the happy dream) to use his pull to try and help get Joseph released from his unjust incarceration. The steward is released, and promptly forgets about Joseph, who is left languishing in prison. Cliff hanger!

HBD

Michaella Gazala
Hillel Nissim
Babbi Locker
Yaakov Polonsky
Zevi Frid

Happy Birthday wishes to
the following Nageela family
members:

Rabbi Locker
Eli Banner
Levi Guttman
Sean Perry
Joshua Rafeil



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