## haye a A KID FRIENDLY WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF NAGEELA WEST COAST JOYFULLY JEWISH EXPERIENCES

CANDLE LIGHTING SCOTTSDALE 6:01 SAN DIEGO 6:22 **HENDERSON 6:13** LAS VEGAS 6:14 **IRVINE 6:24 LOS ANGELES 6:27** RENO/TAHOE 6:32 **OAKLAND 6:42** RANDOLPH 6:57

**SEASON 4 EPISODE 35** 

#### **STOP HITTING ME!** BY RABBI DANI LOCKER

66 Ouch! That must have hurt!"

ordon lay sprawled on the stone pavement, a large bruise Uspreading across his chin where it had smacked into the ground. His friend Adam, who was filming Gordon's bike tricks for their YouTube channel, grimaced, knowing how much that fall must have hurt.

- You OK, man?" Adam asked nervously.
  - Yeah." Gordon replied. "I'm good. Let's go again."

OW! (Holy hipsters, this is starting to sound like an old Batman show)

AAAASH! hat last one was Gordon's shoulder.

fter 2 hours of filming, dozens of takes, 3 loose teeth and Aseveral brain cells fewer, Adam and Gordon finished filming their bike trick video.

66 It's gonna be off the hook!" Adam exclaimed. "But what happened to you? You don't usually, well, you know..."

**SENDING IT TO STUMP@NAGEELAWEST.ORG** 



#### **FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @NAGEELAWEST**

- 66 I don't usually WHAT?" growled Gordon in a low voice.
- Ya know. You don't usually... ummm... hit... ummm... the floor quite so often. Usually. Most of the time. You know what I mean."
- 66 WELL, IT'S NOT MY FAULT!" Gordon hollered. "I was biking the same as always. The sidewalk just kept slapping me! Over and over and over and over. Those paving stones just kept hitting me!"
- 66 Gordon? Buddy? They're literally paving STONES. They're rocks. They don't move.
- What are you trying to say?"

• I'm saying that the ground did not hit you over and over. It has been in the same place the whole time. If you collided it's because YOU initiated with the ground multiple times, that contact (contact that looks great on camera, BTW).





#### Secret P@sswOrd

Hi Rabbi,

Game over! We've been caught in the act! You know the sentence 'Baruch Shem' that goes right after Shema? Right? I've always heard that the reason we say it quietly is to keep it a secret from the angels because we're not really supposed to know it. And then comes Yom Kippur and we say it out loud. So the gig is up. The angels know we know it. What's the point of hiding it going forward?

Thanks,

Baruch ShemTov

BACKGROUND: One of the central parts of our prayer service is reciting 'The Shema' which consists of 3 paragraphs, affirming the basics of Jewish faith. After the first line of Shema, there's a sentence, Baruch Shem K'vod Malchuso L'olam Va'ed.

#### ברוך שם כבוד מלכותו לעולם ועד

Roughly it translates to, "Praise God's name forever." This sentence is supposed to be said in a whisper. This Q & A is dealing with why it is whispered, as well as why on Yom Kippur it is said aloud.

Dear Baruch ShemTov,

Hmmm, should we start a movement to get Baruch Shem said out loud? I like your question, and I want to make it even stronger. Forget because we're about Yom Kippur for a minute. How clueless do people think angels are? What? If we say this verse out loud, they can hear it and will get angry, but if we whisper the verse, they have no idea. Never mind that

we tell each other out loud and publish in all of our rule books and prayer books that this verse should be whispered. They have noooo way of knowing. One of my favorite types of Stump the Rabbi questions is one that leads to 'Jewish Mythbusting'. So here's the REAL story.

Angels are special and holy. Another week we'll discuss ('cause I've been asked) what exactly angels are. The phrase 'Baruch Shem, etc.' is an angelic phrase so we don't use it. Not because we don't want them to know that we found out the password to their top secret clubhouse or something. It's

Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question. Have a question? Please se'nd it in to stump@nageelawest.org

Questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed.

simply because it doesn't 'belong' to us. It was never mentioned in the 5 books of the

We sav

Baruch

Shem quietly

embarassed!

Torah, and frankly we would be infringing on their copyrights to use that phrase on a regular basis. Only extremely holy beings with little sin could appropriately use the phrase.

There is a tradition that our forefather Jacob taught us how to say Baruch Shem, but still, we don't want to utter it aloud because it would be inappropriate for our simple, sinful selves to presume such divine praise. In simpler

English, we say it quietly because we're embarrassed that we're not good enough to say it out loud. Does that make sense? Makes sense to me. Kind of.

> Yom Kippur is different. We don't eat. We pray. We become, temporarily, much more similar to angels.

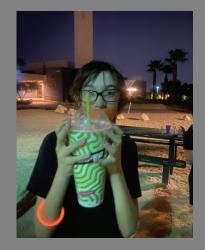
Therefore on Yom Kippuritis appropriate for us to say Baruch Shem out loud. Once Yom Kippur is over, and we go back to our everyday lives, it's no longer appropriate for us to say it. Do the angels know that we know it? Sure! But that doesn't really matter. We're allowed to know it, and even to use it. As long as we don't abuse it.

Have a Nageela Year,



#### Photos of the Week

SLURPEES! We surprised our Las Vegas Middle School group with slurpees at this week's Glow in the Dark Capture the Flag event! They weren't as surprised as the 7-11 employees who didn't know what to do wirth an order for 30 large slurpees.



Meanwhile, in LA, Taco Tuesday attracted 30 middle school students from all over the city. The year is off to a roaring start!





# The Great Rabbi Moshe Iss (Rema) in discus Teshuva (repair

The Great
Rabbi Moshe Isserles
[Rema] in discussing
Teshuva (repairing the
damage of our mistakes),
says that it's MORE
IMPORTANT to do teshuva
for the things you THINK
YOU MIGHT have done
wrong, than for the things
YOU KNOW you did wrong.
Why do you think tht's
true? Email me to
discuss!

**NO MATTER HOW HARD** 

**A PENCIL WORKS** 

TO BE GREAT, IT





**COMIC STRIP** 

#### SWWWWIPE!

**PICKLE JEWS** 

**GALACTICALLY SYNDICATE** 







EPIC TESHUVA FAILS #1

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to family members who have celebrated recently:

Avital Desmond

Ahmi Montoya

Lian Bega

Ayden Arya

David Elmaleh

Rabbi Avi Cutler

Jon Lee



A WILDLY FUN ZOOM GAME TUESDAY, SEPT. 29TH, 4:30PM HAVE FUN. MEET NEW PEOPLE. WIN PRIZES!

ZOOM ID: 317 427 7225

DID YOUR CAMP OPEN IN 2020?
WILL THEY OPEN IN 2021?
WE DID, AND WE WILL!
CONTACT US TO FIND MORE INFO, OR
TO SPONSOR A CAMPER SCHOLARSHIP!

massive new trouble seems to come our way. We think, "The universe keeps smacking us down." It's confusing and frustrating. Well, that's not really how it works. This week's Torah portion describes God as, "The Rock (Dwayne Johnson is currently being sued for copyright infringement)." This means (among other things) that God is always consistent. Nothing in the way He runs the universe has changed. The rules of nature haven't changed, and spiritual realities haven't changed at all. When we get smacked by the pavement, it's because we keep running at the pavement. We are the ones challenging the immovable, rock solid spiritual laws of the universe

Rocks don't move and we should take comfort in the perfect consistency with which God operates. As long as we do our best to avoid walls, pavement and lava rivers, we should be in pretty good shape.

> I found a huge bird that was sick, but it didn't have any medical insurance...

Because it was an ill eagle.

OUCH! GROAN!

Do you have a better joke? I sure hope so! Send it to dlocker@nageelawest.org

#### CAMP NAGETLA WEST WILL RETURN TO NORTHERN UTAH FOR SUMMER 2021

REGISTRATION IS UNDERWAY FOR CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2021 IN JEWTAH!



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DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

Find out about our summer 2021 and see photos from 2020 at nageelawest.org



Nageela West breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach by providing out- of- the- box social and educational programs for Jewish children across the west coast. Through afterschool activities, weekend retreats and our signature summer camp, we engage elementary and middle school children in a fun and meaningful experience.

Our "questions encouraged" mindset makes Nageela a comfortable learning and growing environment for Jewish children of all backgrounds.