

Happy Chanukah to all!

We've started with a bang or two, so here's the rundown. Last week, we had an awesome oportunity to view a game between the Israel Select hockey team and the Sin City Kings, led by Nageela alumnus Bryce Gould.

The Chanukah photo contest is in full swing, and some of the entries are fantastic!

This Sunday will be DOUBLE POINTS, so be sure to join if you're between 5-8 grades. Some serious prizzzzzes are involved! See the flyer on the back page or visit ncsy. org/chanuphoto

It was great seeing many of our families and speaking with many new interested families at the Chanukah party hosted by The Jewish Identity Center.



#### **COMING UP SOON**

**ONGOING- PHOTO CHALLENGE** 

Jan 2- Chanukah ZOOM Afterparty

Jan 8- Phoenix event

Jan 17- Jewniors Shabbaton, Alamo, NV

Jan 29- LA event

You can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one. Help us reach more Jewish kids with interesting Torah content!



### Deep Thoughts

Is water actually wet, or does it just make things wet?



We have programs for Middle School kids from all over the West Coast. Please contact us for details!



**REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2025!** 

FIRST TIME CAMPERS CAN GET THREE WEEKS OF CAMP FOR JUST \$2,9991

## DVAR TURAH

#### THE OILY BIRD...

Believe it or not, Chanukah is not the first time there was a miracle with long-lasting oil. The original bottomless oil incident takes place hundreds of years earlier during the times of the first Temple, and the prophet Elisha.

The story actually begins with a different prophet, Ovadiah, who was employed by the wicked royal family, Achav and Izevel. Izevel was not particularly kind to the prophets. She just tried to kill them all. No biggie, right? In truth, she might have succeeded in wiping out all of the spiritual leadership of the Jewish people, were it not for the incredible efforts of Ovadiah. He gathered 100 prophets (yeah, I didn't know there were even that many!) and hid them in two caves, 50 in each. He then fed them secretly, with ramen noodle soups and uncrustables. Oh, and he provided them with lamps so they could study Torah. But that's only half the story. All this took a great deal of money. In order to fund his clandestine rescue operation, Ovadiah borrowed what he needed from the then prince, Jehoram. It was kind of ironic that the royal family was actually funding their own rebels.

When Ovadiah died, the debt had still not been paid back, and Jehoram (now king) was ready to seize Ovadiah's sons as slaves to pay for the interest. Ovadiah's widow, now impoverished and rather desperate, reached out to the great prophet Elisha. Elisha instructed her to borrow as many pots, bowls, cups, containers, receptacles, basins, tubs and vessels. She had a bit of oil left in a small jug (sound familiar?) and as she poured, that oil kept on flowing until the containers were all completely full. With the proceeds of her oil sales, she was able to pay the king, and live on the rest.

That was some miracle! Lots of people ask why the miracle had to be with oil. If Elisha's magically making something grow so she could survive, is there a reason it had to be oil? I mean, they had clothing- why couldn't the clothing grow, or have chairs multiply, or their Bitcoin? Why didn't he just pull coins out of their ears? There's something special about the oil.





**ANSWER ON PAGE 4** 

# Question of the Week

Aside from the blessings we make when
lighting Chanukah
candles, which blessing,
said periodically, has its
origins in the month of
Kislev?
(hint: it's not only said in

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O

Kislev)

LOLZ

Which hand should you light the Menorah with?

Neither. You should use a candle.

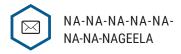


#### Nageela Fun Fact

In February 2019, Camp Nageela West hosted the Harlem Wizards for one of the most entertaining fundraisers ever! The Nageela staff team came close... kind of.



How much do you love being Jewish?



# DYAR TURAH

#### **CONTINUED**

One idea is that, as we mentioned, Ovadiah did not simply keep the 100 prophets alive. He provided them with lamps- oil lamps to study Torah. Ovadiah realized that for true survival, Torah study would have to be preserved. And so, when God miraculously helps Ovadiah's family, oil is the preferred method.

Chanukah shares this theme. Why was the miracle done with oil? Just because that happens to be what they ran out of? Of course, it's deeper than that. The menorah represents the wisdom and knowledge of Torah, and the illumination it brings to the world. That's something worth preserving with a miracle. That's why Chanukah must be accompanied by an increased commitment to Torah study.

It's easy to love Chanukah. The games, lights, delicious foods- let's face it, Chanukah has the most popular food of any holiday, latkes over hamentaschen any day of the week! It's also very regular to use Chanukah as a way to appreciate God's miracles in our lives. That's a really important component. Still, I think the Torah aspect gets overlooked, so let's get on that! I guess you can say Torah study is some light reading.





#### Table Setter

Have you ever studied Talmud and still had no idea what the partical Jewish law or custom is? Join the club. Talmud is full of wonderful debates and lessons in how to think. It's really hard to know what the final decisions are, and may great scholars over the centuries have worked hard to clarify the rules.

The most central to these authors is Rabbi Yosef Caro, who lived in the 1500s. He was born in Spain, but is famous for his leadership in the holy city of Tzefas (Safed) in Israel. He wrote many great books, and his main work, the Shulchan Aruch, is called 'the set table', because it lays out the practical rules for Jewish living - like a well-set table.

His works are still a huge part of Rabbinical study today.



## PARSHAL PARSHA

a brief summary of the weekly torah porshon

### PARSHAS MIKETZ- Actual Brotherly Love

- TWO YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE JOSEPH INTERPRETED DREAMS FOR TWO OF PHARAOH'S STEWARDS.
- PHARAOH HAS TWO DISTURBING DREAMS THAT HE HAS NO SATISFYING EXPLANATIONS FOR.
- IN THE FIRST DREAM, SEVEN EMACIATED COWS SWALLOW SEVEN HEFTY COWS, AND STILL REMAIN THIN.
- THE SECOND, VERY SIMILAR DREAM, FEATURES SEVEN SCRAWNY STALKS OF GRAIN (THEY PROBABLY GOT BULLIED IN SCHOOL) GET SWALLOWED BY SEVEN HEALTHY STALKS. WELL, MAYBE THEY WEREN'T BULLIED, BUT THEY WERE DEFINITELY STALKED!
- THE WINE STEWARD REMEMBERS, "HEY, THERE WAS THIS KID WHO KNOWS HOW TO INTERPRET DREAMS. LET ME SCROLL THROUGH MY CONTACTS AND SEE IF I CAN FIND HIM... OH, HERE HE IS, "HEBREW SLAVE KID."
- JOSEPH SUCCESSFULLY EXPLAINS THE DREAMS AND PREDICTS SEVEN YEARS OF BULKING AND SEVEN YEARS OF CUTTING. OR AS PHARAOH'S PR EXPERTS PHRASE IT, "SEVEN YEARS OF MANDATORY DIETING."
- JOSEPH IS APPOINTED AS THE HEAD FOOD DUDE, AND SECOND ONLY TO THE KING IN AUTHORITY.
- OSNAS, THE DAUGHTER OF POTIFAR, WHO MAY OR MAY NOT BE OF JEWISH DESCENT (DIFFERING MIDRASHIC OPINIONS) MARRIES JOSEPH AND THEY HAVE TWO SONS.
- BECAUSE OF JOSEPH'S PLANNING, EGYPT IS THE ONLY LAND IN THE REGION WITH ENOUGH FOOD, AND JACOB SENDS HIS TEN OLDEST SONS TO BUY GRAIN, BECAUSE INSTACART HAD BOYCOTTED ISRAEL.
- WHEN JACOB'S SONS COME TO EGYPT, JOSEPH RECOGNIZES THEM, BUT THEY CAN'T IMAGINE THEIR 17 YEAR OLD, BEARDLESS KID BROTHER COULD BE THIS CONFIDENT RULER. JOSEPH PRETENDS NOT TO KNOW THEM AND BEGINS A LONG AND COMPLEX PLAN TO ENSURE THEY HAVE CHANGED.
- ME INSISTS THEY BRING THEIR YOUNGEST BROTHER, BENJAMIN TO SEE HIM, AND LOCKS UP SIMON TO GUARANTEE THEIR RETURN. YET JACOB REFUSES TO LET THEM COME BACK, AFRAID THAT HE MIGHT LOSE HIS ONLY SURVIVING SON OF HIS BELOVED RACHEL (AS FAR AS HE KNOWS).



- JOSEPH FIRST TREATS BENJAMIN REALLY WELL, BUT THEN ACCUSES HIM OF STEALING, PLANTING JOSEPH'S SILVER GOBLET IN BENJAMIN'S BAG.
- JOSEPH THEN ANNOUNCES THAT BENJAMIN WOULD STAY AS A SLAVE TO HIM, WHILE HIS SIBLINGS WOULD RETURN TO ISRAEL. WHAT WOULD THEY DO? WOULD THEY ABANDON A BELOVED BROTHER?









DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

# WORTH 1,000 WORDS











THE FRUIT IS THE MAIN PART, RIGHT?





LOVE LOVE THESE PHOTO CONTEST ENTRIES!





# Answer of the Week

Zocher Habris.

We are told that Noah left the ark on the 28th of Cheshvan, just before Kislev. It was a few days later, when Noah had brought sacrifices, that God created the rainbow and made a covenant with humankind.

That would be the blessing we make upon seeing a rainbow-





#### **Mazel Tov!**

Heartfelt Mazel tov to long time Nageela West camper Naama Rose who celebrated her bas mitzvah this week!



I should never have gone to a Jewish barber this time of year.

They insisted on giving me dreidelocks

# PICKLE





#### **Happy Birthdays!**

Landon Lewis Mia Goldberg Brandon Minkowsky Adam Berman Sam Lipke Alec Milton Israel Slomianski Mark Roffe Samuel Roffe Yossi Koppel Ariella Mahgrefteh Yaakov Almoslino



Nageela Shabbos is a weekly publication of Nageela West Coast, Joyfully Jewish Experiences.



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