

KID FRIENDLY TORAH MAGAZINE A PROJECT OF NAGEELA WEST COAST, JOYFULLY JEWISH EXPERIENCES

SEASON 9, EPISODE 12

PARSHAS VAEIRA 5785



News

Remember the Alamo!

Not that Alamo. Last weekend, nearly 40 JR NCSY participants got together and took over the small town of Alamo, NV, about an hour and a half from Las Vegas.

The Adventure Shabbaton was wildly successful, highlighted by an amazing game of Capture the Flag, an intense session of Stump the Rabbi Live, and of course, rock climbing, ropes course, archery and sports.

It was great hearing Dvar Torah presentations from Shai Zippor, Talia Zargari, Eli Gross, Elioenai JudahJones and congrats to Shelly Ganot on earning the Havdallah candle honors!

Please stay tuned for our Jewnior NCSY Regional Shabbaton coming up in March!

January 29th will be our next LA City event, and March 12th will be our next Phoenix event.

Please stay tuned for upcoming Utah programs in February as well.

This Monday, Las Vegas Jewnior NCSY is back!



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!



ous hints to the weekly parsha or relevant holiday.

How many hints can you find? This week's is about Parshas Vaeira

Deep Thoughts

Little kids are lucky.
They take a nap and everyone is proud of them.



JOIN US!

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 \$2,999

DYAR TORAH

BE NOT LIKE PHARAOH

Act 1, Scene 1

Father: Son, I offer a single piece of advice

for you. Never forget it.

Timothy: Yes, father. I'd like to hear your sage

advice, whatever could it be?

Father: Don't be like Pharaoh.

Timothy: Fast! I shall abrook no similarity to that villainy.

Ne'er shall I tire myself in skirt and headdress.

Father: Good-deed. Yet, my meaning has not been achieved. Twas not clothes of which I spoke. Be not like Pharaoh.

Timothy: Verily shall I endeavor to avoid acts of cruelty and barbarism, notably perpetrated by the tyrannical Egyptian monarch Pharaoh.

Father: Tis well. However, that is not what I meant. Don't be like Pharaoh.

Timothy: I see-eth. I shall concern myself with avoiding doing things that may result in painful smiting. In sooth, smiteful plagues are uncool. Uncooleth?

Father: Indeed. Yet this, too, misses the mark. It's not about Pharaoh's evil, and it's not even about Pharaoh's punishments. Don't be like Pharaoh.

Timothy: I remain at a loss. What then is the advice? What precise trait of the Egyptian monarch is so nefarious that your advice importunes me to shun?

Father: Yo, dude, check this out:

ANSWER ON PAGE 3

Question of the Week

The Jewish people are generally divided into three categories, Kohen, Levi and Yisrael, and it's always the same as your father was.

Which Levi had a father who was a Yisrael?



LOLZ

WHAT IS RED AND BAD FOR YOUR TEETH?

A BRICK.

Interlude

As our Torah reading begins, Pharaoh is one of the most powerful men in the world. His empire spans a vast distance, and his wealth was mind blowing. We are told that when Joseph had control over Egypt's food storage (the whole country became a giant ziploc), he gathered "all the wealth" of the world. So Egypt



Nageela Fun Fact

For a long time, Camp Nageela West was the only Jewish camp in Utah.



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DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



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DYAR

CONTINUED

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was super wealthy, they had millions of slaves, a river with a fantastic 6 flags water park, and pretty good pizza. Pharaoh was the wealthiest and most powerful man in all Egypt (he technically owned the entire country, and all the citizens just rented from him at a 20% tax rate). He must have been pretty happy, right?

Right?

God instructs Moses to go visit Pharaoh as he goes out to the river. The MIdrash tells us that Pharoah would visit the Nile river each morning for a specific reason. Pharaoh pretended to be a deity. He wanted people to think of him as a god. But why? He had everything? He could get ice cream in any flavor he wanted! It's amazing that even someone with such incredible wealth and power can feel like he needs more, and more, and more. This is the way people work. Nobody gets rich and famous and then thinks, "I have enough. I can stop and focus on the important things in life." People always think, "If I don't get more, then I'm nothing." In truth this isn't unique. People in power will pull all kinds of stunts to get more power. Alexander the Great was one of the most powerful emperors in history, yet he, too, bullied his priests into ascribing some form

The original Levi was the son of Jacob, who was also called Yisrael, so he was a Levi who was the son of a Yisrael.

of divinity to him. He himself believed that he was the son of Zeuss (which was an upgrade from his previous belief that he was simply a descendant of Achilles).

Act 1, Scene 2

Timothy: What was my dear father expounding upon regarding Pharaonic avoidance? Spaceth I out for a spell.

Father: Merely this, my curious offspring. Merely this. Pharaoh had it all, yet was unsatisfied with his allotment. This way leads to misery and melancholy. Happiness must come from inside, from being satisfied with who you are. Because if you need other people's approval for your happiness, then there's no end. Even if you achieve the absolute heights of popularity and celebrity; even if you are the biggest thing on a platform that may or may not be banned, you'll always need more. Don't be like Pharaoh.





WORTH 1,000 WORDS

SOME PHOTOS FROM LAST WEEK'S ADVENTURE SHABBATON.









REMEMBER THE ALAMO



PICKLE



now Magae

WOOSTER LAKE ILLINOIS 180 acres of awesome!

CAMP NAGEELA WEST SUMMER 2025



Mažel Mažel

Mazel Tov!

Heartfelt Mazel tov to Nageela West staff member Tehilla Seleh upon getting engaged!

Mazel System

Mazel Tov!

Heartfelt Mazel tov to Nageela West staff member Leah Kantor upon getting engaged!

Is this a typo?

Analest Trans



This week's Parsha describes the first seven of the 10 plagues: Blood, frogs, lice (hear scratching), wild animals, cattle plague, boils, firey hail. We also presented a king bathing in a river:





Happy Birthdays!

Ariella Bernheim-Perez Sam Leytes Sofia Hafter Ari Freeman Hinda Gross Jason Shapiro Mylan Ghenassia Noa Agatstein Shoshana Ostrow Nava Freeman Kayla Bauman Jet Zohar Sky Zohar Max Zohar Aurelia Zohar



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



info@nageelawest.org www.nageelawest.org



PARSHAL PARSHA

a brief summary of the weekly Torah porshon

PARSHAS VAYECHI- The End of the Beginning

- JACOB IS 130 YEARS OLD WHEN HE ARRIVES IN EGYPT, AND HE LIVES THERE AN ADDITIONAL 17 YEARS.
- JACOB WANTS TO BE BURIED IN ISRAEL, IN THE ANCESTRAL BURIAL GROUND OF HIS FAMILY, THE CAVE OF THE PATRIARCHS, IN HEBRON. IN HEBREW THAT'S PRONOUNCED CHEVRON, NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH ANY GAS STATIONS OF THE SAME SPELLING. HE HAS JOSEPH MAKE AN OATH TO BRING JACOB FOR BURIAL IN ISRAEL.
- JACOB THEN BLESSES JOSEPH'S SONS, MENASHEH AND EFRAIM. THERE ARE TWO UNUSUAL THINGS ABOUT THIS BLESSING. FIRSTLY, THEY ARE GRANDSONS, NOT SONS, SO THE FACT THAT HE GIVES THEM INDIVIDUAL BLESSINGS IS QUITE UNUSUAL AND SHOWS THE SPECIAL REGARD HE HAS FOR JOSEPH. SECONDLY, HE GIVES THE GREATER BLESSING TO EFRAIM, DESPITE MENASHE BEING THE OLDER SON. AGAIN, JACOB SHOWS THAT HE'S MORE CONCERNED WITH WHO DESERVES THE BLESSINGS THAN THE BIRTH ORDER.
- THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE ADOPTED THIS BLESSING AS ONE TO GIVE TO OUR CHILDREN: "MAY GOD MAKE YOU LIKE EFRAIM AND MENASHE." IT'S STILL USED TODAY.
- JACOB CALLS ALL OF HIS CHILDREN TO HIM, AND GIVES HIS FINAL WORDS. MOSTLY, THESE ARE IN THE FORM OF BLESSINGS, PINPOINTING THE STRENGTHS AND TALENTS OF EACH SON. HOWEVER, THE MESSAGES JACOB GIVES TO HIS THREE OLDEST SONS, REUBEN, SIMON AND LEVI, SEEM MORE CRITICISM THAN BLESSING.
- JACOB DIES AND IS EMBALMED, TO PRESERVE HIS BODY. THIS MAY BE BECAUSE THAT WAS THE ACCEPTED EXPECTATION IN EGYPT. SOME COMMENTARIES PROVIDE OTHER REASONS WHY JOSEPH WOULD HAVE HAD HIS FATHER'S BODY EMBALMED, WHICH SEEMS TO GO AGAINST STANDARD JEWISH PRACTICE.
- AFTER GIVING THE NATION OF EGYPT SOME TIME TO GRIEVE FOR THE LOSS OF JACOB, HIS SONS AND A LARGE PROCESSION BRING JACOB'S REMAINS TO ISRAELTOBEBURIEDINTHE CAVE OF THE PATRIARCHS,

THE SAME
SPOT HIS
PARENTS AND
GRANDPARENTS
ARE BURIED, AND
WHERE HE HAD BURIED HIS WIFE, LEAH.

- THIS SPOT CAN STILL BE VISITED TODAY (THOUGH THERE'S A LARGE BUILDING BUILT OVER THE CAVE) AND MANY PEOPLE GO THERE TO PRAY.
- AFTER JACOB'S PASSING, THERE'S SOME TENSION. THE TEN OLDER SONS OF JACOB WORRY THAT JOSEPH WILL ACT AGAINST THEM IN REVENGE FOR WHAT THEY HAD DONE TO HIM MANY YEARS EARLIER. JOSEPH ASSURES THEM THAT HE HAD NO INTENTIONS OF REVENGE.
- JOSEPH MAKES HIS BROTHERS SWEAR THAT WHEN THE JEWS WILL EVENTUALLY LEAVE EGYPT THEY WILL CARRY HIS REMAINS TO BE BURIED IN ISRAEL, JUST AS HIS FATHERS WERE.
- JOSEPH DIES AND IS PLACED IN A COFFIN, BUT NOT ACTUALLY BURIED, AWAITING THE DAY WHEN THE JEWS WOULD RETURN TO ISRAEL.