

Rabbi Menachem Goldberger

הרב מנחם ראובן הלוי גולדברגר
שליטא מרא דאתרא

בס"ד

אהד



בלב

TiferesYisroel.org

410-764-1971

16 Teves 5770/January 2, 2010

5746-5770

Celebrating our 24th year

1986-2009

DAVENING SCHEDULE**Friday (January 1)**

Shacharis: 7:00 am
Candle Lighting: 4:36 pm
Mincha: 4:40 pm

Shabbos Day

Mishna Chabura: 8:00 am
Shacharis: 8:30 am
Mincha: 4:25 pm
Maariv: 5:55 pm
Shabbos is over after: 6:07 pm

Sunday

Shacharis: 8:00 am
Mincha/Maariv: 4:45 pm

Monday-Friday

Shacharis: 6:30 am
Maariv (Mon.-Thurs.): 9:00 pm

Next Shabbos – Parshas Shemos

Candle Lighting: 4:42 pm
Friday Mincha: 4:45 pm

This Shabbos

- Camp Shabbos
- Shalosh Seudos sponsored by Efraim Katz and Judy Schnidman in honor of the yahrzeit of Judy's father, Morris Schnidman, Moshe ben Yehoshua a"h
- 7:30 pm: Father/Son Learning

New Shiur for Men with Rabbi Goldberger

Rabbi Goldberger is giving a new shiur Monday through Thursday from 9:20 until 9:45 pm, learning Tur with selected Bais Yoseph on Hilchos Megilla. This shiur is advanced in nature and is for men only.

Hilchos Shabbos Shiur

The Hilchos Shabbos shiur meets on Tuesday nights from 8 until 9, and will continue until right before Purim. B'ezras Hashem, we hope to complete the sefer we are learning, "The Shabbos Book" by Rav Yechiel Michel Stern of Yerushalayim. You can order a subsidized copy from Mo Margolese at mo@tiferesyisroel.org.

Even if you miss a shiur, please come; we're learning lots of important practical halacha with real-life application. Even those with a good background in halacha will learn new things in this shiur.

This shiur is for men and women.

New Shiur with Rabbi Porter

Rabbi Porter will be giving a Mishnayos shiur for men; Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 9:30 to 10, beginning with Bava Metzia. All men are invited to attend.

Refuah Shalaimah to

- Chaya Diamond, Chaya Bruria bas Meira Neomi
- Phil Saltman, Pesach ben Sarah
- Bernard Katz, Dov Ber ben Raizel
- Mark Korn

Online Shiurim

We have many Hilchos Shabbos shiurim, parsha shiurim, Journey through Chasidus shiurim and many others as well. Check it out. It's the next best thing to being there.

Bikur Cholim

Bernie Katz, father of Sandra Orman, and shul member and attendee, is very sick and in a nursing home. Visits will cheer up Bernie

and his family and provide a little light in the storm going on now.

Please contact Shoshana Shamberg at shoshanberg@yahoo.com for information and to be included in a schedule of visitors.

Mazel Tov to

- Elaine Witman in honor of the engagement of her son, Adam Spector to Sarit Cioban of Nazareth Illit, Israel. May they be zoche to build a bayis ne'man b'Yisroel.
- Yosef and Chani Steinberg on the birth of a baby boy this past week. May they be zoche l'hachniso b'vriso shel Avraham Avinu b'zemanu u'l'gadlo l'torah l'chuppah u'l'ma'asim tovim.
- Louis and Rachel Rosenstock on the birth of a baby boy, December 29, 2009. May they be zoche l'hachniso b'vriso shel Avraham Avinu b'zemanu u'l'gadlo l'torah l'chuppah u'l'ma'asim tovim. Shalom Zachor Friday, January 1, at 3213 Fallstaff Road and bris Tuesday, January 5 following Shacharis (approximately 7:30 am).

Banquet

Our honorees for this year's banquet are Hillel and Karen Zeitlin, with the Jewish Leadership Award being presented to Chaverim and accepted by David Bagan and Binny Margolese.

- Save the date – March 14, 2010
- Buy an ad
- Get other people to buy ads
- Buy tickets
- Have a great time!

Father/Son Learning Sponsor

- Jay, Deborah and Baruch Taffel in memory of Jay's mother, Nancy Taffel

This week's Lev Echad is sponsored by:

Emily Lipsitz, in thankfulness for the friendship of three "swell guys": Ken Birnbaum, Elliott Morrison and Bob Rosenfelt
Elaine Witman in honor of the engagement of her son, Adam Spector to Sarit Cioban of Nazareth Illit, Israel
Ken and Chana Birnbaum in honor of the yahrzeit of their grandfather, Yaakov ben Chaim HaKohen

Parsha Potpourri

by Oizer Alport

Sim na yad'cha tachas yereichi (47:29)

In asking his son Yosef to place his hand under his thigh, Rashi explains that Yaakov was requesting him to take an oath not to bury him in Egypt. However, it is difficult to understand why Yaakov asked him to hold his circumcised region while doing so. Earlier we find (24:2) that Avrohom made the same stipulation with Eliezer regarding the selection of a wife for Yitzchok.

Rashi explains there that this condition was appropriate, as the taking of an oath requires a person to hold on to an object which is a mitzvah (e.g., a Sefer Torah). In the case of Avrohom, circumcision was the first mitzvah he was commanded to perform. It was also a mitzvah which was dear to him because it was performed with great suffering. In the case of Yaakov, however, this mitzvah wasn't specifically commanded to him. Further, the Medrash explains that he was called "ish tam" (25:27) because he was born circumcised ("tam" = complete and whole), in which case this mitzvah wasn't even performed by him.

As a result of these difficulties, Rav Avigdor Nebenzahl suggests an original understanding of Yaakov's instructions. Although he used the same words as Avrohom, he wasn't referring to the place of his circumcision. Yaakov's words literally mean, "Place your hand under my thigh." In this case, his intention was that Yosef should swear while holding his gid hanasheh (sciatic nerve). For Yaakov, this was indeed the first mitzvah that was directly commanded to him, and just as with Avrohom's circumcision this mitzvah came at great personal cost to Yaakov, as it left him (32:32) walking with a painful limp.

*Yissochar chamor garem roveitz bein hamishp'sayim (49:14)*

Rav Tzvi Markovitz questions why the tribe of Yissochar, whose descendants are known for their dedication to Torah study, is specifically compared to a donkey as opposed to any other animal. He posits that while Torah scholars also "carry a load" similar to a donkey, this parallel isn't sufficient, as there are other animals, such as horses, which are also capable of transporting heavy burdens. He explains that although all animals carrying loads must inevitably stop to rest, there is a critical difference in how they do so. When horses stop for a break, their burden must be removed until they are ready to continue, while donkeys are able to lie down and rest even while carrying the weight on their backs.

There is a well-known, if perhaps apocryphal, story which is told about Aristotle. In between lessons, Aristotle's students once bumped into him "on the wrong side of town," in an area known for its immoral activ-

ities. Unable to reconcile his current behavior with the lofty philosophical teachings that he espoused during his lectures, his students asked for an explanation. Aristotle answered them, "When class is in session, I am the great Aristotle, and I share my pearls of wisdom with the world. At other times, I am not the Aristotle with whom you are familiar."

It is specifically to donkeys that the tribe of Yissochar is compared, as those who "carry the load of Torah" must also periodically stop to recharge. The distinguishing characteristic of true B'nei Torah is that in contrast to Aristotle, they conduct themselves even at these moments in accordance with their year-round behavior, never casting off their "burden" for even a moment.

*V'zos asher diber lahem avihem vay'varech osam is hasher k'virchaso beirach osam (49:28)*

Just prior to his death, Yaakov gathered his sons together one last time to charge them with continuing his spiritual legacy. In addition to addressing them collectively, Yaakov also spoke to each son individually, and our verse seems to indicate that his message to each son was some form of blessing. This is difficult to understand, as Rashi explains Yaakov's final words to Reuven, Shimon, and Levi more like words of rebuke than of blessing. In what way was his harsh criticism considered a blessing?

Rav Uri Weissblum answers that we must redefine our understanding of a blessing. If somebody is sick but doesn't realize it, or perhaps knows that he is sick but is unable to diagnose his illness, a doctor who diagnoses the sickness and clarifies its treatment is offering him a tremendous gift. Similarly, if someone has a large pot with a hole in the side, giving him gifts to put in the pot which will only fall out will leave him with nothing. A better "gift" would be to bring the hole to his attention so that he may fix it and retain his future acquisitions. Therefore, Yaakov felt that the most appropriate "blessing" he could offer to his three eldest sons was to point out to them the characteristics which needed improvement (Reuven's impetuosity and Shimon and Levi's anger). Calling their spiritual illnesses to their attention would allow them to "plug the holes" to become whole and ready for future blessings.

Rav Yisroel Salanter points out that everybody has his own personal "holes" which need fixing. He suggests that this is the intent of the Mishnah in Avos (4:2) "u'bore'ach min ha'veirah" – a person should flee from "the sin." Rav Yisroel explains that every person has within himself one bad middah (character trait) which constitutes the root of his personal struggles. The yetzer hara (evil inclination) attempts to disguise this trait so as to prevent its identification and cure. By

calling their personal weak spots to their attention, Yaakov was indeed giving his sons a tremendous blessing.

The lesson of Yaakov's final words wasn't limited to his immediate children, as it is relevant to everyone. Yaakov teaches us that it is not a person's sins or what lot in life a person receives that is critical, but what he makes of them. If a person acknowledges and learns from his flaws and difficulties, he can turn even his biggest mistakes into the greatest of blessings.

*Vayomer Yosef el echav anochi meis ...**v'ha'aliseim es atzmosai mi'zeh (50:24-25)*

Our verses contain Yosef's final words to his brothers prior to his death. Yosef promised his brothers that their descendants will be redeemed from Egypt and made them swear to bring his bones to the land of Israel when they are freed. Just before these parting instructions, Yosef's brothers begged his forgiveness for being jealous of him, hating him, and selling him into slavery. Yosef answered them that they had nothing to fear, as he felt no ill-will toward them and had no intent to hold a grudge or harm them in any way. Although on the surface Yosef's final message seems unconnected to the previous dialogue, Rav Akiva Eiger suggests that our verses are actually a continuation of that conversation.

Yosef buttressed his claims that he harbored no ill-will against his brothers for their actions by offering two additional proofs. First, the Gemora in Berachos (5a) advises that if a person is unable to subdue his yetzer hara and no other technique proves effective, he should remember the day of death, as this will surely humble him. Yosef hinted to his brothers that he knew his death was imminent and dwelling on it had removed any negative feelings toward them from his heart.

Second, the Gemora in Shabbos (152b) teaches that the bones of a person who has any jealousy in his heart will rot after his death. By requesting that his brothers carry his bones back to Eretz Yisroel for burial, Yosef was hinting that he was confident that his bones would remain intact and not decay, which could only be the case if he was sure that he had removed any last vestige of ill-will from his heart.

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Focus on Shabbos**What's Bothering Rashi?**

by Avigdor Bonchek

Exodus 31:15

Six days work may be done and on the seventh it is a Sabbath of complete rest, holy to Hashem; whoever does work on the day of the Sabbath shall be put to death.

RASHI

A Sabbath of complete rest: A rest of comfort, not a transient rest.

WHAT IS RASHI SAYING?

The comment is clear. Rashi is relating to the double words in Hebrew: “Shabbat shabbaton” which is here translated as “A Sabbath of complete rest.”

He says the double words means “a rest of comfort.”

UNDERSTANDING RASHI

One of the commentaries on Rashi, the Be'er Yitzchak, explains this as follows. There are several types of rest or days off.

1) When a person has no work, as is the case when one is unemployed, this “rest day” is annoying, because one would rather work, even though the day is free to do as he wishes. It is still not restful.

2) A day when one rests (sleeps) because one is tired from working so much. This is a “transient rest” because it serves only as a catching up, getting one’s strength back to be able to work some more.

3) A complete rest. This is rest for its own sake. No worries of getting back to work; no tension for having nothing to do; no thoughts of wasting time – just resting in comfort. This is the rest our verse refers to.

How does one do that? How does one achieve such a Nirvana?

Hint: See the rest of the verse?

Your Answer:

A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

The verse goes on to say “holy to Hashem.” The Torah is telling us that a Shabbat which is devoted to Hashem is the real rest, a complete rest. This means a day spent in prayer, in studying and discussing Torah. A day with festive family meals, which are “decorated” with song and words of Torah. This is an active day, which is a true break from the daily work we must perform during the six days of the week. It is a day of positive action, whose activities and involvements are on a higher level than those of the weekdays. Such a rest, which is not an escape from the mundane but an attraction to the holy – such a day affords a true rest.

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Yahrzeits

Giving tzedakah in the name of the departed has the power to elevate their soul. When you give charity on behalf of your loved one, consider giving to Tiferes Yisroel.

And may the soul of your loved one be bound in the bond of life, together with the souls of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; Sarah,

Rebecca, Rachel and Leah; and together with the other righteous men and women in the Garden of Eden.

Nanette Winter a”h, 22 Teves, grandmother of Gail Feinstein

Shandle Reznick, Shandle bas Yisrael Leib a”h, 23 Teves, grandmother of Howard Reznick

Chezekel ben Shmuel Shaya a”h, 23 Teves, nephew of Yaakov David Shulman

Coming Up

- **January 9:** Men’s Melave Malka
- **January 9:** Camp Shabbos
- **January 16:** Lecture by Nossi Gross. Motzei Shabbos.
- **January 30:** Camp Shabbos
- **March 14:** Tiferes Yisroel Banquet

Calendar

- **January 2:** Khal Ahavas Yisroel Tzemach Tzedek invites the entire community to a Hachnosas Sefer Torah written in memory of their beloved Rav, Rabbi Mendel Feldman zt”l. Procession beginning at Congregation Ohr Hamizrach. Motzei Shabbos 7:30 pm. 6811 Park Heights Ave. For more information or sponsorships contact Shloime Grunhut at 410-358-2089.
- **January 9:** Mind, Body, and Soul, Celebrating the Jewish Woman. Includes a workshop by Rebbetzin Bracha Goldberger. 8 pm, Yeshivat Rambam. Proceeds to benefit Hachnasat Kallah. \$10, \$8 for students.
- **January 10:** Women’s Day of Torah, Inspiration and Growth. WIT. Liberty Jewish Center. www.witbaltimore.org.
- **January 11:** Marriage, a work in progress. Presented by theShmuz.com. For men and women. 8:30 pm. Hot buffet. Rabbi Weiss’ shul.
- **January 16:** Winter lecture series on modern Jewish history by Rabbi Dovid Katz. The Jews of the United States in the 1920s: Lurch to the Left and an Anemic Orthodox Response. 8-9 pm. Yeshivat Rambam.
- **January 17:** Discovery Seminar. Etz Chaim. 9:30 am-3:30 pm. \$25.
- **January 18:** Baltimore Shiduch Network meeting at the home of Chaim and Rochel Trenk, 6007 Park Heights Ave. (Blair House). 8 pm.
- **January 18:** Thesaurus Day.
- **January 23:** Winter lecture series on modern Jewish history by Rabbi Dovid Katz. The Great Depression and the Rise of Hitler: Its Effect on the Jews of Europe. 8-9 pm. Yeshivat Rambam.
- **January 23 and 24:** The Serpent. Presented by Bais Yaakov High School. Goucher College-Kraushaar Auditorium.

- **January 25:** How a Packet of Lifesavers Candy Made a Yid of Me. Etz Chaim, 8 pm. \$5.
- **January 31:** Educational program of awareness, prevention and intervention on eating disorders. Promoting Self Esteem and Positive Body Image. 8:45 am-1:30 pm. Free. Conference Center at Sheppard Pratt. www.eatingdisorder.org.
- **February 6:** Winter lecture series on modern Jewish history by Rabbi Dovid Katz. The Great Depression and the Rise of Hitler: Its Unexpected Effect on the Jews of Eretz Yisrael. 8-9 pm. Yeshivat Rambam.
- **February 13:** Family for a While. The journey of a young girl as she learns to trust again. Presented by Bnos. 8:45 pm. Goucher College-Kraushaar Auditorium. For women only.

Tehillim

Tehillim are said in praise of Hashem and for all of our needs in life, including praying for the sick, difficulty becoming pregnant, shidduchim and basically everything.

Each Sunday morning at 10, the Tiferes Yisroel Tehillim Group meets for 45 minutes in the Ezras Nashim to recite Psalms.

The reading is done silently in Hebrew or English, proceeding at your own pace. We supply the Tehillim books, so there’s no need to bring your own.

There is a long list of sick people that we pray for. If you can’t make it to the group and want to add a name to the cholim list, please contact Rebbetzin Bracha.

Sponsor the Lev Echad

On Friday, do you wait anxiously for the notice that the Lev Echad has been posted on the Website? When you come to shul, do you pick up a copy before you start davening?

It’s informative. It’s thought-provoking. Sometimes you can even play “find the mistakes.”

And it’s a great place to highlight your message. When you sponsor the Lev Echad, your message is there on the front page for the entire Kehilla to see.

Perfect for remembering a yahrzeit or a birthday, or just thanking people for shoveling your snow.

Your message. Front page. A bargain at only \$36. And it makes our officers happy.

Matching Campaign – JobKatif

For every dollar contributed to the families of Gush Katif and the Northern Shomron, the Israeli Government will match up to \$1 million per year for the next 5 years.

Donations can be made to the Shomrei Emunah Israel Fund, earmarked JobKatif, and mailed to Shomrei Emunah.

Shemen Lamaor Sponsors

- Ari and Caryn Blum
- Aaron and Shoshana Shamberg
- Elie and Esther Levi

See You On Shabbos

We'd like to let you know of an amazing new idea that can bring kiruv, achdus and chesed to all corners of the earth. It's no exaggeration. The site is called seeyouonshabbos.com. There, any Jew can post themselves as a guest or a host. You can be in contact with people who are interested in trying out their first Shabbos or who need a place just for a simcha. The site is safe and each guest has references and pictures. It's only been up for a short time and already many people are signing up. Check it out and sign up!

Census Jobs

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. These jobs offer good pay, flexible hours and paid training. Census taker jobs are an excellent way to earn extra money while performing an important service for the community. As a census taker, you'll play a vital role in making sure that everyone is counted.

Apply today by contacting your Local Census Office or by calling 1-866-861-2010.

Joblink

Joblink provides job seekers, recruiters, and employers with valuable information regarding employment opportunities and career information. If you are looking for a job or know of one at your office, please contact our shul liaison, Yocheved Gelula at 410-367-4926, jgelula@msn.com or Elly Lasson, executive director at Joblink, elasson@joblinkemployment.com, 410-602-8700.

Mitzvah Cards. For \$18 you get four cards that you can mail out yourself. For \$10, we will send the card out for you, and your donation will be announced in the Lev Echad.

Contact Glenna Ross at 410-358-1687 or e-mail glenna@tiferesysisroel.org.

Shul Rentals. To reserve the use of the shul's simcha hall, please contact Eileen Rosenbaum at 410-764-8443 or eileen@tiferesysisroel.org. There is no fee to reserve the date.

For availability, you can go to our Website, www.tiferesysisroel.org, and click on the "Calendar" button on the left. This online calendar is kept up to date continuously.

No Peanuts!/No Fragrances! The shul is peanut and fragrance free. In consideration of our members with peanut/fragrance allergies, please refrain from bringing peanut products into the shul and from wearing fragrances.



Sponsorships. To arrange your sponsorship, e-mail levechad@tiferesysisroel.org, call 410-764-1971 option 4, or go to www.tiferesysisroel.org and click donate.

Please send your donation to Congregation Tiferes Yisroel, 6201 Park Heights Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215.

To sponsor Shemen Lamaor, the Lev Echad or Father/Son Learning, or to co-sponsor Batya Sklar Camp Shabbos, the donation is \$36. A full sponsorship for Camp Shabbos is \$72.

For the following, please contact Nisan Blaxberg at 410-358-3943.

- Siddur \$50
- Chumash \$75
- Yahrzeit Plaque \$300

Other seforim may be dedicated as well.

TY Shiurim Schedule**Sunday:**

- 9:30-10:15 am: Men's **Gemara Brachos** shiur given by the Rabbi. פרק ה', Rashi, selected Tosfos and Maharsha following Shacharis.
- 10-10:45 am: **Tehillim** gathering for cholim for women (Ezras Nashim).

Monday:

- 6:30-7:30 pm: **Rambam** Mishnah Torah laws about shekalim and annual donation for the Beis HaMikdash operations, given by Jay Taffel. Upstairs Beis Midrash.

Tuesday:

- 6:10-7:10 pm: **Gemara Chulin**, chapters 7 and 8, the basis for the many laws of kashrus, given by Jay Taffel. Upstairs Beis Midrash.
- 8 to 9 pm. Rabbi Goldberger. **Hilchos Shabbos**. For men and women.

Daily Shiurim (M-F):

- 6-6:25 am: Chabura learning **Rashi** on the weekly parsha given by Nisan Blaxberg. All men and (older) boys are invited to attend.
- Every morning following davening – a chabura for strengthening Hebrew reading with **Nesivos Shalom**. With *fresh hot coffee!*
- 9:20-9:45 pm. Rabbi Goldberger. Tur with selected Bais Yoseph on **Hilchos Megilla**. Advanced. For men.
- Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 9:30 to 10. Rabbi Porter. Mishnayos Shiur for men beginning with Bava Metzia.

Shabbos:

- 8-8:30 am: Morning Chabura: Learning, discussion and inspiration by Rabbi Apisdorf. **Shabbos Malkisa**.
- 8-8:30 am: Mishnayos Chabura. **Makkos**.

OFFICERS

- **President** Lenny Ross 410-358-1687 len@tiferesysisroel.org
- **VP Facility** Mordechai Beleck

- **VP Programming** Mo Margolese mo@tiferesysisroel.org
- **VP Member Relations** Howard Reznick 410-825-8729 howard@tiferesysisroel.org
- **Secretary** Tzadik Vanderhoof 410-764-2258 tzadik@tiferesysisroel.org
- **Treasurer** Ken Gelula ken@tiferesysisroel.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Boys Club** Yehuda Severin 410-800-4456
- **Calendar** Eileen Rosenbaum 410-764-8443 eileen@tiferesysisroel.org
- **Camp Shabbos** Alisa Mandel 410-963-2977
- **Candyman** Ari Blum
- **Chesed Committee** Chana Birnbaum (shiva) 410-358-7736 Rivka Malka Perlman (other) 410-358-3550
- **Davening Schedule** Jay Taffel 410-358-9029
- **Father/Son Learning** Dov Pear 410-358-9825
- **Gabbai Rishon** Jay Taffel 410-358-9029
- **Gabbai Sheni** Hillel Zeitlin 410-358-7316
- **Gabbai Tzedakah** Nisan Jaffee 443-929-2587
- **Girl Scouts** Judy Schnidman 410-358-0440 judyschnidman@hotmail.com
- **Hospitality** Gail Feinstein 410-764-2532
- **Kitchen/Kiddush** Emunah Friedman 410-318-6727
- **Lev Echad** Suzanne Kayne 410-764-1971, Option 4 levechad@tiferesysisroel.org
- **Mitzvah Cards** Glenna Ross 410-358-1687
- **Seforim** Purchase Nisan Blaxberg 410-358-3943 Repair Mark Hart
- **Shalosh Seudos Coordinator** Hinda Blum 410-764-2279
- **Simcha Hall Reserve** Eileen Rosenbaum 410-764-8443 eileen@tiferesysisroel.org
- **Supplies Ordering** Emunah Friedman 410-318-6727
- **Tzeischem L'Shalom Coordinator** Mordechai Beleck
- **Webmaster** Tzadik Vanderhoof 410-764-2258 tzadik@tiferesysisroel.org
- **Yahrzeit Plaques** Nisan Blaxberg 410-358-3943
- **Yahrzeit Records** Alisa Mandel 410-963-2977 apmandel@yahoo.com
- **Yomim Noraim Seating** Ari Blum 410-358-5478
- **Shul Business** admin@tiferesysisroel.org

**Lev Echad Deadline:
Wednesday, 6:13 pm
levechad@tiferesysisroel.org**

Good Shabbos!



**Rabbi Goldberger's Shul
Congregation Tiferes Yisroel**

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