

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Behar

May 20, 2022 / 19 Iyar 5782

Volume 27, Issue 33

Candlelighting: 8:25 pm

Waxman Torah Center · 2195 S. Green Road · University Heights, OH 44121 · (216) 691-3837 · www.clevelandjlc.com

Friday, May 20

7:00am Shacharis

6:55pm Mincha / Maariv (Early)

8:25pm Candlelighting

8:30pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, May 21

8:45am Shacharis

7:20pm Pirke Avos

8:20pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /
Maariv

Sunday, May 22

8:00am Shacharis

9:15am **Parsha Class**
(R. Nisenbaum)

10:00am **"The 613 Mitzvos"**
(R. Stoll)

Monday, May 23

7:00am Shacharis

8:00pm **Climbing the Rainbow:
Healthy & Unhealthy
Shame** (R. Nisenbaum)

Tuesday, May 24

7:00am Shacharis

8:00pm **Pirkei d'Rebbi Elazar**
(R. Stoll)

Wednesday, May 25

7:00am Shacharis

8:00pm **Nach Still Speaks –
Tehillim** (R. Stoll)

Thursday, May 26

7:00am Shacharis

8:00pm **The 12 Jewish Months**
(R. Stoll)

10:15pm **Parsha Class**
(R. Nisenbaum)

Class Connection

R. Nisenbaum:

425-436-6200 #352171

"The Torah Podcast" weekly
at all podcast locations

R. Stoll:

Zoom: 876-619-3551

Audio: 669-900-9128

Parsha: Behar

Every seven years in Israel is called the *Shemittah* year, the Sabbatical year. All Jewish-owned land in Israel may not be sown, planted, or harvested, for the entire year. Although a person in an agriculturally dependent society could hardly be blamed for fearing the loss of income for an entire year, the Torah promises that the sixth year would produce an abundance of food to carry everyone through the eighth year.

After every seven *Shemittah* years, the fiftieth year is called the Jubilee year. The laws of *Shemittah* would be applicable then, too, and the Torah promises that the forty-eighth year would produce enough for both the *Shemittah* and Jubilee years.

During the Jubilee year, a person was also obligated to free all his Hebrew slaves, and to return real estate that was purchased since the last Jubilee year to its original owner, although the Torah does make certain exceptions.

One of the reasons for the mitzvah of *Shemittah* was to allow the people an opportunity to pursue spiritual goals, and not become totally lost in the material pursuits of the world. During the year of *Shemittah* a person would be able to spend more time in Torah study and prayer.

Another reason for the *Shemittah* was to teach the people that one's income comes from G-d and is not merely the fruits of one's own labor. Although the nature of the world is such that man must expend efforts in order to enjoy the benefits, it is important to remember that one's success and failure are not tied exclusively to the amount of efforts that he expend. Although generally the Torah requires man to put forth the proper efforts, here the Torah requires the Jew to abstain totally from effort and putting his trust completely in G-d.

Trust in G-d is also the source of other prohibitions in the portion. One must not charge interest to a fellow Jew. It is also forbidden to pay interest to a fellow Jew. A person might think that if he lends his money to

others without charging interest, he will lose many opportunities for investments and other financial gain. The Torah also warns not to take unfair advantage of others in business by overcharging them. A person's income is a gift from G-d and one must not be greedy to gain more than what he is supposed to have. G-d can provide enough for everyone without a person having to resort to deceptive and unfair business practices.

Mazel Tov!

*Yael Gray upon her
wedding*

*Dr. Scott & Deb Peters
upon the birth of a
granddaughter*

Insights: Emor

Do not force him to work slave labor... (Lev 25:39) After concluding a meal, Rav Yitzchak Meir Alter, the Gerrer Rebbe, went to the kitchen to wash *his hands before reciting the bentching* prayers. His wife asked why he troubled himself when he could have easily asked their young grandson to bring him the water, training him in the mitzvah of honoring his elders at the same time. The Rebbe replied that he was indeed training his grandson – to avoid bothering others when his is capable of doing something himself.

Did You Know?

It is prohibited to sell an item for an unreasonably high price if the purchaser does not realize that the price is considerably higher than the market value. If the discrepancy is more than a sixth higher than market value, the buyer may cancel the sale. However, once enough time has lapsed for the buyer to have verified the fair value, he can no longer cancel the sale. If the seller stated at the time of the sale how much the item had cost him and how much profit he is making, the buyer cannot later claim the price was unfair. In real estate transactions, the buyer cannot cancel the sale, although it is still prohibited to charge an unfair price.

Thought for the Week: Some men we relate to as persons; others we relate to as phenomena.
(A Candle By Day)