

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Ki Saitzai
September 13, 2024 / 10 Elul 5784
Volume 29, Issue 48
Candlelighting: 7:20 pm

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

Friday, September 13

7:20pm Candlelighting
7:25pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, September 14

8:45am Shacharis
*Kiddush is sponsored by
Rabbi Binyomin Pesach &
Rocheyl Simon in memory
of their grandparents.*

6:20pm Pirke Avos
7:15pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos
8:27pm Maariv

Sunday, September 15

9:15am Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)
10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)

Monday, September 16

8:00pm Art of Forgiveness – But
I Said I'm Sorry (2/4)
(R. Nisenbaum)

Tuesday, September 17

8:00pm Tanna d'vei Eliyahu
(R. Stoll)

Wednesday, September 18

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

Thursday, September 19

8:00pm Sefer HaChinuch: R. Stoll
10:15pm Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)

Torah Podcast

Listen to Rabbi Nisenbaum's
"Torah Podcast" at Spotify,
Apple Podcasts, iHeartRadio,
and more, or download at
www.maverickpodcasting.com

New episodes twice a week!

Weekday Minyanim

7:00am Shacharis (M-F)
8:00am Shacharis (Sun)
10:00pm Maariv (Sun-Th)

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

Parshas: Ki Saitzai

The portion introduces more mitzvahs than any other portion. Some of the mitzvahs are not very common, yet they teach us important lessons. The Talmud says that the laws regarding the rebellious son who is put to death are so detailed that it is literally impossible to meet the entire criterion. Its sole purpose is to teach us about child rearing. Other mitzvahs teach us character development. One such mitzvah discussed is

shiluach ha-ken, sending away a mother bird. This involves a person who chances upon a wild mother bird sitting on a nest of eggs or fledglings, and he wants to take the young for himself. The Torah obligates him to first send away the mother bird and only then take the offspring. Although this mitzvah involves minimal effort, great rewards are promised for its fulfillment.

Some of the commentaries explain the reason for this mitzvah, because it seems cruel to forcibly separate a mother from her young. The love of every mother to her young is instinctive, and it would pain her to see her offspring taken away. Sending away a mother bird before taking its young instills sensitivity in man for all G-d's creatures.

This is also seen in another mitzvah discussed; the prohibition against muzzling an animal while it is working. This too shows compassion for an

animal that becomes hungry while working in the fields. Even if the owner intends to feed the animal afterwards, there is still an element of cruelty in denying it food while it is working. The person who does not show this compassion to an animal is incapable of showing it to a human being either.

On the other hand, though, it is sometimes necessary to refrain from feeling compassion. There is a mitzvah to totally wipe out the

memory of Amalek -every man, woman and child. The Amalekites are considered to be the archenemy of the Jewish people, because they were intent on destroying the image of G-d from the Jewish people. Their war against the Jews was more than just a personal hatred; it was an ideological battle against the recognition of G-d's involvement in the physical world. G-d's name remains flawed, as it were, as long as the nation of Amalek exists.

Here, there is no room for compassion. One who realizes the importance of spreading G-d's ideals throughout the world understands the necessity of sometimes waging the wars of G-d. The Talmud says in relation to the war against Amalek, that one who shows misplaced compassion to those undeserving of it, will eventually show cruelty where compassion should be shown.

Mazel Tov

Jesse & Shira Anderson
upon the birth of a son

Tzeischem L'Shalom

to Phil & Kim Setnik on making
aliyah this week

Insights: Ki Saitzai

On that day you should pay the worker... (Deut 24:15) There is an obligation to pay a worker on the day the job is completed unless other arrangements were specified. After Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach's wife passed away, he hired a girl to come after school to help clean his apartment. In order to avoid any concerns of being in seclusion with a woman, he would leave the house until she finished. Upon returning he would pay her wages, in order to fulfill the commandment of paying a worker's wages that day. Once he returned after the girl had already left. Rav Shlomo Zalman did not have the girl's address and he was concerned that he might not be able to pay her on time. He walked to the school to find out her address, and then he traveled there to pay the girl.

Did You Know?

A woman generally accepts Shabbos when she lights the candles. In extenuating circumstances, she may have in mind not to accept Shabbos at that time. A common situation is when a woman lights candles before Yom Kippur, yet wants to drive to synagogue after kindling for Kol Nidrei. She may have in mind not to accept Yom Kippur until reaching the synagogue. In that case she should not recite the Shehechyanu blessing at the time of the kindling; rather she should recite the blessing with the congregation after Kol Nidrei. (If a woman recited the Shehechyanu at candle lighting, she should not repeat it after Kol Nidrei.)

Thought for the Week: Our failures we attribute to circumstance and our successes to initiative.
(A Candle By Day)