

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Shemos
January 13, 2023 / 20 Teves 5783
Volume 28, Issue 13
Candlelighting: 5:01 pm

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

Friday, January 13

5:01pm Candlelighting
5:05pm Mincha / Maariv
8:30pm *Shiur @ R. Nisenbaum's*

Shabbos, January 14

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush is available
4:55pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /
Maariv

Sunday, January 15

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

7:00pm Anniversary Celebration

Monday, January 16

8:00pm "The Rest of the Story" –
"Paradise Lost"

Tuesday, January 17

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

Wednesday, January 18

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

Thursday, January 19

10:15pm Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)

CPR / First Aid

12:30pm, Approx 2 hours
January 15th, - First Aid
January 22nd – Narcan

Classes are free
but require registration.
For more information, contact
Gedaliah Corbett.

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

Parsha: Shemos

When Jacob and his sons first came to Egypt they were respected as the family of the viceroy, Joseph. That quickly changed after Joseph and his brothers died. A new Pharaoh rose to power who did not want to remember Joseph's great accomplishments. He saw the proliferation of the Jewish people throughout Egypt as a threat and was concerned they would try to overthrow the government. The Jewish exile now began in earnest.

Pharaoh enacted various decrees against the Jewish people. He enticed them to help build new cities for the country. Gradually the people's freedom was severely limited, and they became enslaved to Pharaoh. The Egyptians began to oppress the Jews with backbreaking labor. Pharaoh also ordered the Hebrew midwives to abort the Jewish male fetuses shortly before birth. When they refused to follow his orders, he decreed that every male infant be killed. Despite these evil decrees, and actually, as the Rabbis explain, *because* of these decrees, the people continued to multiply and populate the land.

In this setting, a baby boy was born to a couple from the tribe of Levi. The man's name was Amram and his wife's name was Yocheved. The child's mother was afraid the Egyptian authorities would find him, so she put him in a lined basket and set it in the reeds by the river. Pharaoh's daughter,

Bisyah, came to bathe in the river. She saw the child and took pity on him and brought him to the king's palace. The child's sister who had been standing nearby offered to bring a Jewish nursemaid to nurse the child. Bisyah agreed and the child's own mother was brought to help raise the child. Bisyah called the child's name Moshe because he was drawn (*mishisihu*) from the water. Out of respect for Bisyah, this would be the name by which he would be known for all times.

As Moshe grew older, he empathized with his brothers' pain. He saved a Jewish slave from his taskmaster's beatings by killing the taskmaster, and as a result he had to flee Egypt for his own life. He settled in Midian where he married the daughter of Yisro, a former adviser to Pharaoh and a deeply religious man who had dedicated his life to seeking out G-d. He would later convert to Judaism.

When Moshe was eighty years old, G-d appeared to him in a burning bush and instructed him to lead the Jewish nation out of slavery. Moshe did not feel himself worthy of this task. He argued that he was not an orator; He was also concerned that the people would not believe him. G-d insisted that Moshe go, and that his brother Ahron would assist him. Although the exodus would not happen for another year, the process leading to it was now ready to begin.

JLC Anniversary Dinner

7pm Sunday at Young Israel
With R. Ephraim Shapiro

Condolences

to Laura Frayman Wagensberg
upon the loss of her father

Insights: Shemos

The midwives feared G-d... (Exodus 1:21)

A student of the Chafetz Chaim was offered the rabbinate in a city. He traveled to the Chafetz Chaim to seek his advice, claiming that he was afraid of the great responsibilities that came with the position. In response, the sage told him, "When Pharaoh instructed the Hebrew midwives to abort the Jewish babies the Torah says that they feared G-d and did not heed his words. Now, why didn't they just resign from their positions to show their allegiance to Hashem?" The Chafetz Chaim answered, "It is because they were concerned that if they would resign, their replacements would be much worse, and kill the babies! You, too, must accept this position, for who knows if the next candidate will take the position as seriously as you do, and he may even cause serious problems."

Did You Know?

There is a mitzvah to offer rebuke when seeing another person sinning. This must be done in a sensitive manner so as not to insult or shame the wrongdoer. If one is certain that the criticism will not be heeded, and certainly if it will just exacerbate the situation, it need not be offered. However, if there is concern that the wrongdoer will influence others, one should still protest in order to prevent others from sinning, even if the wrongdoer himself will not change. Although there is generally an obligation to give others the benefit of the doubt, this does not exempt one from offering criticism.

Thought for the Week: Don't take a firm stand until you have something firm to stand on.
(A Candle By Day)