

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parsha VaYakhel / Shekalim
March 8, 2024 / 28 Adar I 5784
Volume 29, Issue 22
Candlelighting: 6:08 pm

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

Friday, March 8

6:08pm Candlelighting
6:10pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, March 9

8:45am Shacharis
(Mevarchim HaChodesh)
Kiddush is available for sponsorship
5:30pm Laws of Shabbos
6:00pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos
7:18pm Maariv

Sunday, March 10

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

Monday, March 11

8:00pm Developing a Jewish
Personality – Leadership

Tuesday, March 12

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

Wednesday, March 13

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

Thursday, March 14

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

Parsha: VaYakhel

Moshe gathered the people to speak to them about the construction of the Mishkan, the Tabernacle. He also reiterated the laws of Shabbos to them and explained that although the Mishkan was important, Shabbos was even more important and could not be desecrated even for the purpose of constructing the Mishkan.

He instructed the Jewish people about all the different materials and skills that were needed for building the *Mishkan*. Although they were not required to give anything, the response was overwhelming. Men and women quickly brought so much gold and expensive jewelry that there was a surplus of what was needed and Moshe had to stop them from giving more. Likewise, the sincerely motivated people offered their services to assist in the construction of the *Mishkan* and its vessels. The enthusiasm was necessary to atone for the misguided enthusiasm the people had shown when they brought their jewelry for the golden calf. It is especially noteworthy that the women showed such enthusiasm, for the men who had showed similar enthusiasm for the golden calf did not necessarily show an endearment to G-d, perhaps they were merely generous to any cause. The women, however, who had not contributed to the calf, showed an enthusiasm only to fulfill G-d's will.

Along these lines, the Torah mentions that after the people had brought their gifts, the *Nesi'im*, the princes of each tribe, donated all the necessary jewels for the High Priest's garments. The Midrash points out that the word *Nesi'im* is spelled defectively. The Midrash explains that at the commencement of the collection, the

princes offered to donate any remaining items needed after the people finished giving their own gifts. However, they underestimated the generosity of the nation. The response had been so overwhelming that the only things needed were the jewels.

Although the princes may have had good intentions, they seemed to show a lesser degree of enthusiasm than the rest of the people. Since this enthusiasm was a necessary part of the nation's atonement, it showed a deficiency in the princes' attitude. Their names are written with a defective spelling, representing this defect in their response.

Betzalel, who was a grandson of Chur, oversaw the construction of the Mishkan. Chur, the Talmud explains, had stood up against the nation when they had first requested the golden calf. He had sharply rebuked them for failing to show the proper faith in Moshe and G-d. At the height of the rebellion the people murdered him. It was therefore quite appropriate that the construction of the *Mishkan*, which would atone for the golden calf, should take place under Chur's grandson's direction.

Mazel Tov

*Shmully and Dinah Halpern
upon the marriage of their son*

Condolences

*Avner and Yelena Cohen upon
the loss of her mother*

One Small Leap...

*The clocks move forward one
hour Sunday at 2am*

Insights: VaYakhel

The men came with the women; all the generous people brought bracelets, nose-rings, rings.. (Ex 35:22) Everybody wanted to donate their best to honor the Tabernacle. A man came to Rav Chaim Kaniewsky with a dilemma. His family often hosted many people at their meals on Shabbos. Though proper respect for Shabbos should require serving meals on fine china, it also entailed much effort to clean up afterwards. Would it be disrespectful to serve on disposable plates? Rav Chaim related an incident with the Chazon Ish. A person perspired heavily and was uncomfortable wearing a tie. He wanted to know if it was disrespectful not to wear a tie on Shabbos. The Chazon Ish said that if it was uncomfortable, wearing the tie did not honor Shabbos! Similarly, if the extra effort needed for cleaning detracts from enjoying Shabbos, there is no honor using the fine china and it is preferable to use the disposable ware.

Did You Know?

Matanos L'evyonim, the Purim gifts for the poor, must be distributed to the poor on Purim day. One may give the gift to an agent before Purim, but it must reach the poor person's hands on Purim. One may not give a post-dated check if the date is after Purim, unless the cash can reach the hands of the poor person on Purim. The gifts should preferably go to a person who cannot afford his basic necessities and not merely to someone who is having difficult times. Similarly, the mitzvah cannot be fulfilled by giving to support for an institution, Children, too, should be trained to give Purim gifts for the poor. Parents should either give their children money to distribute, or they should inform them that they will distribute gifts for them.

Thought for the Week: Those who are minded need not be reminded. (A Candle By Day)