



Congregation Zera Abraham

Volume XVIII, No. 47

Shabbos Parshas Ki Setsei • 14 Elul • August 25th

This week's Eruv is co-sponsored l'n Mr. Ben Zussman, Binyomin ben Tzvi a"h, and in appreciation of Bubbie Bernice Zussman and David and Sivia Fine's remarkable hospitality

This week's Eruv is co-sponsored by Rabbi and Mrs. Yitzchok and Aviva Polter in honor of the aufruf and upcoming chassuna of their son Meir to Gitty Herz, and in honor of the Westside community for always sharing and helping with our Simchos and in honor of Chaveirim - for quickly responding when needed.

** Please remember to repeat Krias Shema.**

Friday Night Minyan

This Week: Parshas Ki Setsei, August 25th

Candlelighting (Earliest, 18 minutes): **6:20, 7:25**

Mincha: 6:30

Next Week: Parshas Ki Savo, August 25th

Candlelighting (Earliest, Latest, 18 minutes): **6:11, 7:15**

Mincha: 6:30

Mazel Tov and Shalom Zachor

Mazel Tov to Rabbi and Mrs. Elisha and Shevi Zeiger upon the birth of their son. The Shalom Zachor take place this week at their home, 1577 Winona Court until 11 o'clock. May they have much yiddishe nachas!

Mazel Tov and Kiddush

To Rabbi and Mrs. Yitzchok and Aviva Polter upon the upcoming marriage of their son Meir and Gitty Herz. The Aufruf will take place this week at Yeshiva Toras Chaim. Kiddush following Davening. May they have much yiddishe nachas!

Mazel Tov and Bris

Mazel Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Schwartz upon the birth of their son. The bris will take place tomorrow, Friday morning at 7:45 am at their home, 402 South Monaco Parkway. May they have much yiddishe nachas!

Mazel Tov

To the Unger and the Gelbfish families upon the birth of Yedidya Yitzchok to Rabbi and Mrs. Tzvi Menachem and Devora Sara Krupka. May they have much yiddishe nachas!

Now One Minyan for Mincha and Two Minyanim for Maariv

WEST SIDE BBQ
 Monday, August 27th • 4:30-6:30 pm
 at Citizen's Park • 24th & Chase
 Go up Sheridan till 24th, make a left, go till Chase, and you'll see a parking lot on your left.

and of course...
A VOLLEY BALL GAME!!!!

\$25 per family • \$7 per adult • \$4 per child

For more information, please contact
 Rabbi Chaim Abrams, Rabbi Chaim Sher or Mrs. Esther Wershaw

Mincha.....7:25
 1st Maariv @ 7:50
 2nd Maariv.....8:30

Kinyan Masechta Time Change – 7:00

The Shiur now begins at 7:00 pm and continues after Maariv till 8:30.

THIS Monday: Westside Bar-B-Q

This Monday, August 27th from 4:30 to 6:30 at Citizen's Park, come and enjoy with family and community. See flyer for details.

Merkaz Torah V'Chesed Annual Community Wide Teshuva Drasha

Merkaz Torah presents its Annual Teshuva Drasha – "Defining Our Life's Mission Through Torah" featuring, world renowned speaker, Rabbi Steven Weil on Sunday, September 16th at 7:30 PM, at the BMH-BJ 560 South Monaco Pkwy. Please see flyer for admittance fees. RSVP by Sept. 14th at info@merkaztorah.org, or www.merkaztorah.org/td18/.

Elul Class

Rabbi Mordechai Fleisher will deliver a class, "No Returns: Is Rosh Hashana a Time for Teshuva?" on Sunday, September 2nd, 10am at the home of Mrs. Sari Wilen.

Westside Bus Update

Thanks to all of those who signed up for the Westside bus. Please expect a transportation agreement in your mail box which will need to be signed and initialed by parent and child (or only parent if child is too young to sign). Please return this back to R' Yisroel Yanez before the school year begins. Please be sure to include your phone number and email on top of the agreement as a new email group and whatsapp group will be created to be able to be in touch with you during the year. For those who have not submitted their payment please make sure you do so before the school year starts.

Checks should be made to West Side Bus Corp and given to R' Shlomo Kurtz. This year Mr. Baxman has agreed to be in charge of the bus discipline you will receive his information as soon as the school year begins.

Meoros Hagedolim

Each week, stories and anecdotes will be shared about a different Gadol, giving us all the opportunity to come to learn about and appreciate our Gedolim of yesterday and today. Each participant will receive a photo of the Gadol discuss that week to bring home. This week, **Rabi David Halevi Segal, the TAZ**, will be presented by **Rabbi Yitzzy Melamed** at 6:25 pm, followed by Mincha at 7:00 pm.

Hillel Academy Annual Esrog and Lulav Sale

Place your orders online at www.haad.org, by email at info@haod.org or call 303-333-1511. Order deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 5. Orders will be available for pickup at Hillel Academy Motzei Yom Kippur, Sept. 19 from 10:30 pm to 12:30 am, Thursday, Sept. 20, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Friday, Sept. 21, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm, Sunday, Sept. 23, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Keshet of the Rockies Dinner

The Keshet of the Rockies 15th Annual Fundraiser Dinner, will take place August 26 at 5:30pm, at BMH-BJ Synagogue, honoring Ellyn Hutt, and Students of the Year will be Eliana Wilkin (DAT), Liat Segev, Maytal Segev, and Mitch Siegel (DJDS), and Benyamin Ortega and Zechariah Ortega (Hillel Academy). Keynote Speaker will be Nathan Schweid. Please call or email Mrs. Lola Zussman, 303-961-4186, lolashe@aol.com, for reservations or further information.

Program for Bochorim

מאורות הגדולים
Develop an Appreciation of our Gedolim of Yesterday and Today!

Each Shabbos, 35 minutes before Mincha.
Each week one specific Gadol will be described with stories and anecdotes.

Each bochor that attends will receive a picture of the Gadol discussed that week.
For grades 3 and up.

Shabbos Parshas Ki Setzei
Rabi Dovid Halevi Segal
זע"ל
בעל ספר טורי זהב (הט"ז)
Presented by
Rabbi Yitzzy Melamed
6:25 pm

In the Ezras Nashim followed by Mincha at 7:00 pm

Parsha Delight and ספר מטעמי זרע אברהם

See the question below on the Parsha. Offer an acceptable answer to the Rov at the kiddush and receive a chocolate! Each week the answers for the previous week's Parsha Delight question will be printed in the newsletter. At the end of the year we will publish a compilation of the questions and answers. This program is for ages 5-105. Sponsored by East Side Kosher Deli.

Newsletter E-mail List and Contact Information

Please e-mail all contributions, mazel tovs, sponsorships, etc. to zera.abraham@gmail.com no later than Wednesday evening. E-mail ensures that nothing will be left out or misspelled. All entries will run for one week unless otherwise specified. The Shul reserves the right to omit or

amend any submissions. To be added to the e-mail distribution list, please send an e-mail requesting to be included.

Shabbos Davening and Learning	
Candlelighting (Earliest, Latest, 18 min)	6:20, 7:25
Mincha	6:30
Mishna Berura/Hilchos Yomtov	Rav Steinberg..... 8:00 am
Shacharis	8:30
Sof Zman Krias Shema	9:04, 9:40
Sefer HaChinuch.....	R' Hillel Erlanger... 4:15-4:45
Daf Yomi	R' Yoil Unger..... 4:45-5:45
Pirkei Avos for Women	TBA..... 5:00
Shiur Maseches Pesachim.....	Rabbi Roskamm .5:45-6:45
Shiur Maseches Shabbos	Rav Steinberg..... 5:45-6:45
Meoros HaGedolim	Rabbi Yitzzy Melamed.... 6:25
Pirkei Avos for Men	Rav Steinberg..... 6:45
Mincha	7:00
Maariv	8:32
Tefilla Shiur	Rabbi Hoffman.. after maariv
Weekday Davening	
Shacharis Sunday.....	6:30, 8:00
..... Monday and Thursday.....	6:10
..... Tues. Wed. and Friday	6:20
Mincha	Sunday-Thursday 7:25 followed by shiur
Maariv	Sunday-Thursday @ 7:50 and 8:30
Daf Yomi	R' Yoil Unger ...M-F at 5:20 am, Sun at 7:20 am
Kinyan Masechta Kesubos.....	Rav Steinberg
Kinyan Masechta Review	Rav Steinberg
Chabura Shmiras Halashon	Rabbi M. Zussman ... M-Th..... after Maariv
Night Seder.....	Sun-Thurs..... 7:30 pm
Partners in Torah.....	Tues

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

FROM HARAV AVIGDOR MILLER ZATZA" L

Q: Is there a way for a regular person to fill his mind with דעת ה'?

A: The answer is, that's what we're talking about right now. That's what these lectures are for.

Of course, if a person is capable of learning ספרים that teach דעת ה', then by all means, I would recommend מסילת ישרים and חובות הלבבות and שערי תשובה. There may be other ספרים that you like. But when a person learns these ספרים – not just to read them, but he thinks into them – they are going to transform his character. You become a new person. דעת ה' transforms you into a new person completely. You won't grow in דעת ה' – in developing a Torah mind – from reading newspapers and magazines and all the garbage that everyone is busy reading. You'll only fill your mind with the opposite of דעת ה'. So make a decision that you're finished with reading things that only fill up your mind with empty ideas – at best it's empty ideas. And start filling your mind with ideas of the מסילת ישרים and the חובות הלבבות and the שערי תשובה and all the other ספרים that can make you great. It's amazing what an influence these ספרים have had on our people. And that's one of the ways of gaining דעת ה'. TAPE # E-179

Q: What should a person do in order to be always happy?

A: In order to be always happy a person must first choose one thing and concentrate on it until it makes him happy. You have to work on that one thing. After a while you'll be happy with that one thing. Then add another thing. And work on that. After a while work on something else. After a while you'll have so many things that you'll be a rich man. You'll actually feel a happiness about so many things. So start out as follows. Say, "I'm happy that I have something to eat." Learn how to be happy that you have food. Work on that. It takes some effort. Practice that for a while without any weakening of your resolve.

Next, you went to the bathroom. Everything worked? Learn how to be happy with that. You hear that?! Learn how to be happy with that. You don't think about it?! When you'll be eighty years old you'll start thinking about it. Trust me, you'll think about it. And you'll long for those days of happiness when everything worked so well. So start thinking about it now. Work on being happy that you can go to the bathroom.

Little by little, add. It takes work. It takes time. Like I said before, it doesn't come by itself. Little by little, you'll add. And after a while you'll have forty, fifty things. And that's nothing yet because there's so much more than that. But you'll be happy with forty things and you'll be a rich man. You'll be a rich man already. And if you're a young man yet – even a young man of sixty – you'll keep on this path, on this career, until you're in your nineties and you'll be a very wealthy person.

But you have to do it, though. Just hearing me say it, is not enough. You have to make up your mind that you're going to pursue this career of happiness and that you'll always be saying, "I thank You Hashem." Always, "I thank You Hashem for giving me this breakfast. I thank you Hashem for being able to go to the bathroom." And don't rely on the brachos you make. You must say it with your mouth in your own language. Always. And, המחשבה נמשכת אחר הדיבור – your mind will be transformed because of your speech and you will become a happy man. You will become happy with the so many wonderful things that you have always taken for granted. And you will become a servant of Hashem and a great man. Not only will you become a happy person but you will become a great person. TAPE # E-202 (July 1999)

Q: What could a person think about during a regular work day if he wants to become great??

A: Ohhhh! This is so important! Whenever you have a chance – and this applies equally to a woman – you should think, "I love You, Hakodosh Boruch Hu. I thank You, Hashem, that I don't have the flu. I thank You, Hashem, that I don't have this disease. I thank You that I don't have that disease. I thank You, Hashem, that I have the money to pay rent. I thank You, Hashem, that I'm able to see. Thank You for giving me good eyes. I thank You that I'm living in a free country. I thank You that I have a pair of shoes. I thank You, Hashem, that I'm a Jew."

There are so many things to think about. I don't even know what's the question. There's no end to the things that you can think about. All day long! So much opportunity to become great by thinking about Hashem and thanking Him. Only that you have to think about your business too. The question is, when do you have time to think about your business, there's so much to think about. TAPE #E-214

Artificial Peace

An Article by Rabbi Shmuel Gluck, taken from his weekly newsletter

Many sincere people do whatever they can to help others get along with each other. They bend over backwards to ensure that any interaction between them, and anyone with whom they come into contact, will result in happy people. They even try to make peace for others, with whom they're not involved.

Although many of these people are sincere, some go about it in the wrong manner. As a result, the end product of their efforts won't be as "peaceful" as they had hoped.

There's a difference between focusing on "making Sholom, (peace)", or "doing everything with Sholom". Most people do the former. Our Chachomim tell us to do the latter. Making Sholom often causes people to focus exclusively on the immediate challenge, and ignore the ripple effect of their actions. People can make immediate Sholom, but it may plant seeds for future arguments. For example, people can make Sholom by "giving in" to others who already feel entitled,

causing them to be more aggressive in their demands. **Artificial Sholom generally reaps a negative outcome.**

Many people who try to "make Sholom" can't tolerate seeing people argue, or anything that causes unhappiness. They lack something that they really want. Their inability to tolerate what they observe, for self-serving reasons, "forces" them to intervene. Their thought processes don't focus on what's inherently right, wrong, fair, or unfair. They just want the unhappiness to stop. Their personal/selfish need to become comfortable again distorts their thought processes, and they convince themselves that what they're doing isn't artificial, but will bring everyone long term Sholom.

Doing everything with Sholom means that people won't exclusively consider how others will react. They only focus on what they decide is the correct thing to do. Once they've decided what it is, they'll, as much as possible, implement that decision, in a manner that's peaceful. The peaceful manner may completely, or only partially, succeed, but it'll



offer long term Sholom and, unlike short term Sholom, which eventually becomes problematic, is what Hashem wants people to have.

Focusing on what's the correct thing to do, will include areas, such as family, finances, and personal growth. Just as there won't be an increase in Sholom if others have to "pay" for the Sholom given to one person, there won't be (necessarily) an increase in Sholom, if the person him/herself has to pay a price for the Sholom "given" to others. **As a general rule, people can give anything to others, but only after they've confirmed that it won't have a negative impact on anyone else.**

For example, inviting guests for Shabbos which'll require a part of the family to eat in the kitchen, isn't a true act of Sholom. It only shifts the Sholom from one person/group that had Sholom (family), to a second group (the guests). **People should remember that Sholom can't turn right into wrong, or wrong into right.** Believing that wrong becomes right when it's done for the sake of Sholom, will "knock people's lives off balance".

People always have choices, but those choices can change as a result of previous decisions. For example, a person can choose between going to Monsey, or Brooklyn, for Shabbos. Their initial decision "decides" what their options are with regard to the Shul in which'll Daven. Deciding on Monsey removes the option of going to their favorite Brooklyn Shul. They'll also have to decide where they'll eat their meals. Their choice of Shuls, in Monsey, will negate several of their previous choices of meals.

Most people realize that their previous choices, may decide what their present choices will be. However, they may be unaware of how significantly it'll affect their lives. People's social/relationship decisions can also create, and negate, previous choices, even though they're mostly intangible. The degrees to which a person likes/respects, or dislikes/disrespects, others are intangibles. Therefore, a choice may become unavailable, even though people have access to that choice.

For example, two children may get into a fight. For the sake of peace, the parents may ask the "victim" to apologize, or to "give in" to the aggressive sibling. That decision succeeded in creating short term peace. However, the "price" they paid is that the aggressive child learned that aggression pays, and the other child becomes resentful, and feels mistreated. Some of the previous Chinuch choices that the parents made, will now become ineffective, because their children's attitudes have changed.

In addition, it's not Sholom when justice is distorted. Is the person really willing to give in, and not just saying it, for the sake of Sholom? In addition to meaning "peace", Sholom also means to be complete. A ball is a complete circle. When a

piece is missing, and it's returned to an incorrect place, creating a bump, it won't make the ball complete again, despite having all of its pieces. It will be disjointed, and wobble, and unable to roll efficiently.

People should appreciate that there are times that they can't, or shouldn't, make Sholom. Not because it won't be worth the effort, but because, based on the present reality, they won't succeed. Their attempt will do more damage. There are two pieces of advice that I offer people when they ask me whether they should accommodate the requests of others for the sake of Sholom, even though it'll make their life more complicated and/or more stressful:

1) People should accommodate others even if it'll make them uncomfortable, but only to a degree. For example, if people are asked to go to difficult relatives for Shabbos, who'll be very upset if they don't come. However, going will cause the people who've been asked to go significant anxiety, and stress. I suggest that they decide as follows: If the stress will be limited to the time that they're with the difficult relatives, but not before, and/or after, Shabbos, they should go. If their anxiety will "spill" into the rest of the week, they shouldn't go, because it won't increase the overall amount of Sholom. Whatever will be gained by accommodating the difficult relatives, will be taken from them and, probably, their spouse and children.

2) I always suggest that people "jump through 20 hoops" in order to make others happy. Nevertheless, if they're certain (possibly after asking their Rav) that jumping through all of those hoops won't make the other people happy, they shouldn't jump through any hoops.

There are circumstances, which may appear as if they don't "cost" any Sholom, but will actually cost people Sholom with Hashem. **People should consider whether their acts of Sholom are contrary to Halacha.** They may make a decision not to go Daven, in order to help people; however, Davening should have been the priority. Instead of increasing the amount of Sholom, they now have a compromised relationship with Hashem for not Davening. They may be raising their children in a manner that makes everyone happy now, but will lead to adults who are significantly different from what they intended. The same is true with people's personal actions. They may be so focused on being nice, that they're ignoring Hashem's Mitzvoths. People may like them, but Hashem will be disappointed.

People must strive to increase Sholom, not just shift it from one person to another. In order to accomplish this people must think with their minds, and not with their emotions. Doing this will make Hashem love them. He wants nothing more than Sholom between people and Himself.