



CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

Vibrant, Relevant, Meaningful . . . and Orthodox

June 18-19, 2010 ■ 7 Tammuz, 5770 ■ Shabbos Parshas Chukas
Candlelighting: (See below.) ■ Shabbos Ends 9:23 PM

Kiddush is co-sponsored by Larry & Wendy Rich and Yaakov & Susan Rich in honor of Yirmiyahu's Bar Mitzvah, and Ehoud & Shoshana Wilson in commemoration of Ehoud's father's yahrzeit on 7 Tammuz. Shalosh seudos is sponsored by Kirk and Rikki Rovinsky in honor of Yirmiyahu's Bar Mitzvah.

Please contact Rabbi Yaakov Rich at 972-835-6016 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE:

June 18th

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv—7:00 PM
- » Candlelighting—**Not before 7:08 PM**. Preferably light by 7:25 PM.
In case of great need on may rely on 8:17 PM candlelighting time.

June 19th

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)—8:30 AM
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- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)—6:45 PM
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■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:

- » Sunday Shacharis—8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis—6:40 AM
- » Mincha/Maariv—8:25 PM

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **Mazel Tov:** With gratitude to Hashem Yisborach, we welcome you to our son, Yirmiyahu's Bar Mitzvah. Kiddush following davening. In addition, Yirmiyahu will be making a siyum on Masechta Beitza, Shabbos afternoon at the shul. Mincha will begin at 7:45 PM followed by Shalosh Seudos and the siyum. We look forward to having you join us. Yaakov & Susan Rich
- » Our Deepest Condolences: We are sad to inform the congregation about the passing of Eytan Kaplowitz, brother of Congregation Toras Chaim member, Shuli Bloomenstiel. The funeral was held today in Baltimore. May Shuli and her family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.
- » **CTC Kids: Children's Program & Childcare:** Thanks to the efforts of our dedicated mothers and teenage girls, Congregation Toras Chaim is very proud to announce its New and Very Improved CTC Kids: Children's Program & Childcare for Shabbos morning. Beginning, this Shabbos at 10 AM boys and girls, ages 3-7, are invited to spend some time playing in our brand new childcare facility, fully stocked with table and chairs, tea sets, hopscotch, and an outdoor camping tent for real fun, and much, much more! At 10:15 AM, the teenage girls will begin to daven with the children, read them a story, learn about the parsha, and play an educational game with all present, ending at 10:55 AM, just in time for the start of kiddush. There is no cost for the Children's Program and all are welcome if you plan on staying in the building during the session. We do ask that the following rules be observed: 1. Parents, please be responsible for your own children's behavior. Children who cannot or will not follow the rules will be asked to leave the room. 2. Children will be gladly admitted to the room between 10:00-10:20 AM. Past 10:20 AM parents are kindly asked not to drop off children as it is very distracting to the successful running of the program. If you have young ones below the age of three, our other childcare room is available at the back right of the building, where mothers can sit with other mothers while the toddlers quietly play. Drop off your children, focus on davening, and enjoy a sumptuous kiddush after all is said and done. Shabbos at Congregation Toras Chaim couldn't be better! For more information please contact Vivian Block at (214) 564-4357.
- » **Free Classifieds at CTC:** Congregation Toras Chaim provides FREE CLASSIFIED ADS for its members and friends, (and anyone else who wants to place an ad — all ads are moderated by the shul) for cars, jobs, real estate, and everything and anything else you may want to buy and sell. Find what you are looking for . . . or create your own ad — FOR FREE! Go to <http://www.toraschaimdallas.org/classifieds/>

- » **New Class: Hilchos Niddah – The Laws of Family Purity:** This past Thursday, June 10, 2010, began a new study group for men interested in learning the Talmudic sources, Rishonim, Responsa literature, and Shulchan Aruch. Get a serious look at the halachic process from beginning to end, and learn one of the most important areas of Jewish Law, incumbent on all married couples, Hilchos Niddah, or Family Purity. Some experience in gemara learning is extremely helpful. Monday & Thursday evenings, after Maariv, at Congregation Toras Chaim, 17912 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75252. No charge. Please call Rabbi Yaakov Rich at 972-835-6016 for more information.

■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

- » Getzel Yoseif ben Feigah (Father of Shuli Bloomenstiel)
- » Etka bas Yocheved (Relative of Jill Lichtenstein)
- » Dina bas Chava (Friend of Josh Mann)
- » Baruch Tzadik ben Chava (Relative of Jill Lichtenstein)
- » Leib ben Basha Gittel (Relative of Jill Lichtenstein)
- » Michoel ben Esther (Uncle of Shelly Newman)
- » Eliyahu Heschel ben Sharon (Friend of Ben & Lauren Nise)
- » Michoel Yaakov ben Yosefa Israeleta (Friend of Wes & Tricia Sutkin)
- » Peretz Yaakov HaLevi ben Chana Yaffa (Nephew of Josh & Lisa Rothstein)
- » Moshe Tzi ben Sara (Friend of Yoni & Abigail Ruttenberg)

■ RECOLLECTION AND RECOGNITION

For \$18 you can sponsor a greeting in memory of a loved one, in honor of a deserving friend or family member, or in recognition of an outstanding achievement. Please call Rabbi Rich at 972-835-6016 by Thursday afternoon to place your greeting.

■ EVERYTHING!: BY RABBI LABEL LAM

HASHEM spoke to Moshe saying, "Take the staff and gather the assembly, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes that it shall give its waters. You shall bring forth for them water from the rock and give drink to the assembly and to their animals." Moshe took the staff from before HASHEM, as He had commanded him. Moshe and Aaron gathered the congregation before the rock and he said to them, "Listen now O rebels, shall we bring forth water for you from this rock?" Then Moshe raised his arm and struck the rock with his staff twice. Abundant water came forth and the assembly and their animals drank. HASHEM said to Moshe, "Because you did not believe in Me to sanctify Me in the eyes of the Children of Israel, therefore you will not bring this congregation into the Land that I will give them." (Bamidbar 20:7-12)

Moshe finds himself between a rock and a hard place, literally. What's he to do? He has a thirsty crowd to contend with and as a result of the action he takes or the words he spoke or didn't speak he and his brother Aaron are denied entry into the Land of Israel. It's hard to figure exactly what went so wrong. Why was Moshe told to take a stick and then talk to the rock? What was he to say to the rock? Why was he to speak to the rock "to the eyes" of the congregation? In the end the water came gushing out and the masses were mollified but Moshe was still blocked from the Holy Land. Could it really be that as he is apparently accused, Moshe did not believe in HASHEM? What does that mean?

The Midrash Yalkut Shimoni reveals what it was that Moshe was to say to the rock. "Moshe was told to teach it a chapter (a perek) and it would give forth water. The Lekach Tov says that Moshe was told to say, "So says HASHEM: 'Bring out your water!'" In any case Moshe hit the rock instead of speaking to it and he even hit it twice. What was lost?

HASHEM criticizes Moshe that he lacked belief in HASHEM. It certainly cannot mean that Moshe who achieved the highest degree of

prophecy did not believe in HASHEM. In this incident, Moshe failed to make HASHEM more believable in “the eyes of the congregation”.

What’s the point, what’s the value of being stuck without water in the desert? It’s a test? This becomes a teachable moment for the entire nation. Sure there’s a practicality of expediently delivering water but with that drink of water there’s a great chance to install an all time lesson. Where had Moshe failed? He hit the rock and miraculously the water was restored. The people broke out spontaneously into song and Moshe is heralded as cosmic plumber. Yes, they made a Kiddush but it was not as much of a Kiddush HASHEM as it might have been.

By deviating from the lesson plan outlined to him by HASHEM the intended lesson was lessened. Had Moshe spoken to the rock, Rashi explains, the people would have figured that if a rock which doesn’t speak or hear and doesn’t need a livelihood is obedient to the word of HASHEM, the how much more so should we be! What an impact that would have made on the hearts of the entire nation. By using the stick instead that crucial message lost.

By simply learning with a rock, a small portion of Torah, it can be made to drip with the milk of human kindness and quench the thirst of millions of starving souls. How much more so, with regard to a human who can hear and can speak and who is vulnerable to the gyrations of the marketplace, should he be sensitive to the word of HASHEM. Moshe Rabbeinu should not have to hit or shout to get his point across. A great teacher should rather speak softly and carry a big stick.

Rabbi Yisrael Salanter ztl. was served a glass of water at a fancy French hotel. Afterwards he was given a bill for 50 francs. He queried about the extra high price to the waiter who explained, “Rabbiner, you are not paying only for the water! See the piano player over there tickling the ivories, and the artful tapestries are upon the walls. You’re paying for the ambiance! Reb Yisrael paid the bill and when he returned to his room he wrote a letter to his students in Russia explaining that now he knows why when we make a Brocho on water we say, “SheHaKol Neheyiah B’Devaro”- “that everything comes about through His speech”. We are not making a blessing on the water alone but rather on everything!

■ PARSHA Q&A: PARSHAS CHUKAS QUESTIONS

1. ”Take a perfect para aduma (red heifer).” What does the word “perfect” temima mean in this context?
2. How many non-red hairs disqualify a cow as a para aduma?
3. A man dies in a tent. What happens to the sealed metal and earthenware utensils in the tent?
4. What happens to the one who: a) sprinkles the water mixed with the ashes of the para aduma; b) touches the water; c) carries the water?
5. Why was the mitzvah of the para aduma entrusted to Elazar rather than to Aharon?
6. Why does the Torah stress that all of the congregation came to Midbar Tzin?
7. Why is Miriam’s death taught after the law of para aduma?
8. During their journey in the midbar, in whose merit did the Jewish People receive water?
9. Why did Moshe need to strike the rock a second time?
10. When Moshe told the King of Edom that the Jewish People would not drink from the well-water, to which well did he refer? What do we

learn from this?

11. The cloud that led the Jewish People leveled all mountains in their path except three. Which three and why?
12. Why did the entire congregation mourn Aharon’s death?
13. What disappeared when Aharon died?
14. Which “inhabitant of the South” (21:1) attacked the Jews?
15. For what two reasons did G-d punish the people with snakes specifically?
16. Why did the Jewish People camp in Arnon, rather than pass through Moav to enter Eretz Canaan?
17. What miracle took place at the valley of Arnon?
18. What was the “strength” of Amon that prevented the Jewish People from entering into their Land?
19. Why was Moshe afraid of Og?
20. Who killed Og?

ANSWERS

1. 19:2 - Perfectly red.
2. 19:2 - Two.
3. 19:14,15 - The metal utensils are impure for seven days, even if they are sealed. The sealed earthenware vessels are unaffected.
4. 19:21 - a) Remains tahor; b) He, but not his clothing, contracts tumah; c) He and his clothing contract tumah.
5. 19:22 - Because Aharon was involved in the sin of the golden calf.
6. 20:1 - To teach that they were all fit to enter the Land; everyone involved in the sin of the spies already died.
7. 20:1 - To teach that just as sacrifices bring atonement, so too does the death of the righteous.
8. 20:2 - Miriam’s.
9. 20:11 - After he hit it the first time, only a few drops came out since he was commanded to speak to the rock.
10. 20:17 - To the well that traveled with the nation in the midbar. This teaches that one who has adequate provisions should nevertheless purchase goods from his host in order to benefit the host.
11. 20:22 - Har Sinai for receiving the Torah, Har Nevo for Moshe’s burial, and Hor Hahar for Aharon’s burial.
12. 20:29 - Aharon made peace between contending parties and between spouses. Thus, everybody mourned him.
13. 20:29 - The clouds of glory disappeared, since they sheltered the Jews in Aharon’s merit.
14. 21:1 - Amalek.
15. 21:6 - The original snake, which was punished for speaking evil, is fitting to punish those who spoke evil about G-d and about Moshe. And the snake, to which everything tastes like dust, is fitting to punish those who complained about the manna which changed to any desired taste.
16. 21:13 - Moav refused them passage.
17. 21:15 - The Amorites hid in caves in the mountain on the Moabite side of the valley in order to ambush the Jews. When the Jews approached, the mountain on the Eretz Canaan side of the valley moved close to the other mountain and the Amorites were crushed.
18. 21:24 - G-d’s command, “Do not harass them” (Devarim 2:19).
19. 21:34 - Og had once been of service to Avraham. Moshe was afraid that this merit would assist Og in battle.
20. 21:35 - Moshe.

Good Shabbos

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■ WEEKLY CLASSES

- » **Amud Yomi:** Gemara for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (M-Fr, 6-6:35 AM)
- » **Talmud for Beginners** for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Mon. & Thurs. 8:30-9:30 PM)
- » **The Power Potential/Jewish Marriage** for women with Rebbetzin Susan Rich (Tuesday 8:30-9:30 PM)
- » **Jewish Marriage** for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Wednesday 8:30-9 :30 PM)
- » **Chumash for Men and Women** (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)
- » **Torah Today: Hashkafa and Halacha Unique to Our Times** for men and women with Rabbi Avraham Chaim Bloomenstiel (Sundays, 9 AM)

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.