

CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

Toras Chaim means a Torah of life and a living Torah, a Torah which permeates every part of our existence, and is relevant to all that we do. It is vibrant, exiting and meaningful. The goal of Congregation Toras Chaim is to create a center for Jewish living that is built on these principles.

OCTOBER 19-20, 2007 · 8 CHESHVAN, 5768 · SHABBOS PARSHAS LECH LECHA
CANDLELIGHTING 6:31 PM · SHABBOS ENDS 7:33 PM

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by the CTC Ladies. Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Ron & Chana Roseman.
Please contact Shalom Abrams at 903-918-9650 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE:

October 19th

» Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos–6:30 PM

October 20th

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–9:00 AM
- » Chumash Class (for men & women)–5:05 PM
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos–6:05 PM
- » Shabbos Ends–7:33 PM

■ WHAT’S NU AT CTC

- » **Amud Yomi:** Beginning this coming Monday early morning, that is October 22, 2008, CTC will begin a daily Amud Yomi. Whereas Daf Yomi learns both sides of a page of gemara in approximately one hour. We will only have a little over 1/2 hour and learn one side or an amud of gemara. This weekday (Monday—Friday) class will begin at 6:00 AM. Learn skills, cover ground, finish tractates and be in the right frame of mind for davening which begins each day at 6:40 AM. Please speak with Rabbi Rich if you have interest or questions. So far we have four attendees.
- » **Save the Date:** Great news! December 14-16, 2007 is the date of our first Shabbaton, when we will be hosting the world famous speaker, Rabbi Eziel Tauber. He is the author of many books, including: Choose Life, To Become One, Darkness After the Dawn, as well as many more on Jewish living and self esteem. He has lectured in every corner of the world, and has reached more people than any Jewish speaker today. His message is profound, relevant and very original. We are very excited to be able to have this time together with Rabbi Tauber. Details about the Shabbaton, classes, events, etc., will be forthcoming.
- » **Restarted Classes:** We have restarted the women’s Sunday night Chumas class and the Wednesday night men and women’s Path of the Just class. They are both at 8 PM and one hour.

■ AHAVAS CHESED (LOVING KINDNESS) BY THE CHOFETZ CHAIM:

There are those who, despite unending prayers and untiring efforts, live out their lives in this world having never been blessed with children. They may believe that, when their time comes to go on to the Next World, they will leave nothing behind. The chofetz Chaim tells a tale of the Baal Shem Tov that illustrates how acts of kindness done during one’s lifetime can create for a person the largest, most loving family imaginable.

A childless couple came for help to the Baal Shem Tov, and he invited them to accompany him to a village far away. There, he questioned child after child, “What is your name?” Nearly all the boys were called Moshe, and nearly all the girls were Devorah Leah. “Let me tell you how this came to be,” the Baal Shem Tov said, and he told this story:

A couple from the village—Moshe and Devorah Leah—were childless. In passing by the beis midrash one day, Moshe heard a passage that said that when one teaches a child Torah, it is as if he gave birth to the child.

Moshe ran to his wife with an idea. In their village, there was no reliable source of Torah education for the children. The parents made do with whatever rebbis would agree to teach, and often the haphazard methods did more harm than good. Therefore, Moshe proposed that he and his wife set up a system to teach the village’s children Torah properly. They found the best melamdin they could and paid them well. They kept their system well financed and supplied, and extended this education to every child in the village.

Now that every child was “their” child, they saw to other needs

as well. For some families, they provided money for household expenses, money for weddings—everything a parent would give for his children. It wasn’t long before the town began to recognize the beauty of the generation this couple was nurturing. In the children’s love of Torah, their refined character and intelligence, they shone brighter than the children of any other town in the region.

As Moshe and his wife approached their final years, they wrote a will leaving money to their relatives, setting up a home for the poor and donating all the rest of their wealth to the upkeep of the children’s education. When their time came to go on to the Next World, the great affection and high esteem in which the townspeople held Moshe and Devorah Leah poured out in a very special way. Almost every child born in those years was named after these “honorary grandparents,” who with endless love and concern brought the town’s children into a life of Torah and mitzvos.

“Now, let me ask you,” said the Baal Shem Tov. “Was this couple childless, or did they have more children than anyone else?”

From the Appel Edition: Chofetz Chaim Loving Kindness by ArtScroll

■ 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 Ellen Gutgold at (972) 818-4021 by Thursday afternoon to place your greeting.

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■ ONGOING CLASSSES

Path of the Just: Wednesday, 8-9 PM

Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzato, better known as the RaMCHaL, authored a book on spiritual and character development that is widely considered to be the quintessential book of its kind. In fact, the Vilna Gaon said of himself that he would crawl across Europe to learn in the dust of the RaMCHaL’s feet.

Spend an hour each week with Rabbi Yaakov Rich, developing a Torah approach to personal growth using the ultimate self-help book. Discover qualities and potential you never knew you had, as you climb the ladder toward spiritual greatness.

There is no cost for the class, but participants will need to purchase a copy of Path of the Just, which is available by Feldheim in Hebrew with an English translation. Books are available for purchase from Lone Star Judaica, at the corner of Hillcrest and Frankford. This class is for men and women, from beginner to advanced. The class is taught every Wednesday, 8 PM at Congregation Toras Chaim, 17912 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75252.

Gemara Avodah Zara: Monday—Friday, 6 AM until davening

Beginning this coming Monday early morning, that is October 22, 2008, CTC will begin a daily Amud Yomi. Whereas Daf Yomi learns both sides of a page of gemara in approximately one hour. We will only have a little over 1/2 hour and learn one side or an amud of gemara. This weekday (Monday—Friday) class will begin at 6:00 AM. Learn skills, cover ground, finish tractates and be in the right frame of mind for davening which begins each day at 6:40 AM. Please speak with Rabbi Rich if you have interest or questions.

Women’s Chumash: Sunday, 8-9 PM

Even if you have never attended, feel free to join, as we are at the

beginning of new Parsha. There is no cost. All Hebrew is read from the original source and translated. Various commentaries are presented, primarily Rashi’s, and a lively discussion ensues, as we try to understand the profundity of the text. For women beginner to advanced. Please bring a chumash that contains at least the text of Shemos (Exodus) preferably with Rashi’s commentary.

■ PARSHA Q&A: PARSHAS LECH LECHA

QUESTIONS

1. What benefits did G-d promise Avraham if he would leave his home?
2. “And all the families of the earth will be blessed through you.” What does this mean?
3. Who were the souls that Avraham and Sarah “made?”
4. What were the Canaanites doing in the Land of Canaan when Avraham arrived?
5. Why did Avraham build an altar at Ai?
6. What two results did Avraham hope to achieve by saying that Sarah was his sister?
7. Why did Avrahams shepherds rebuke Lot’s shepherds?
8. Who was Amrafel and why was he called that?
9. Verse 14:7 states that the four kings “smote all the country of the Amalekites”. How is this possible, since Amalek had not yet been born?
10. Why did the “palit“ tell Avraham of Lots capture?
11. Who accompanied Avraham in battle against the four kings?
12. Why couldnt Avraham chase the four kings past Dan?
13. Why did Avraham give “ma’aser“ specifically to Malki-Tzedek?
14. Why didnt Avraham accept any money from Sodom’s king?
15. When did the decree of 400 years of exile begin?
16. What did G-d indicate with His promise that Avraham would “come to his ancestors in peace”?
17. How did G-d fulfill His promise that Avraham would be buried in “a good old age”?
18. Why did the Jewish People need to wait until the fourth generation until they returned to Eretz Canaan?
19. Who was Hagars father?
20. Why did Avraham fall on his face when G-d appeared to him?

ANSWERS

1. 12:1 - He would become a great nation, his excellence would become known to the world, and he would be blessed with wealth.
2. 12:3 - A person will say to his child, “You should be like Avraham.”
3. 12:5 - People they converted to the worship of G-d.
4. 12:6 - They were in the process of conquering the land from the descendants of Shem.
5. 12:8 - He foresaw the Jewish People’s defeat there in the days of Yehoshua due to Achans sin. He built an altar to pray for them.
6. 12:13 - That the Egyptians would not kill him, and would give him presents.
7. 13:7 Lots shepherds grazed their flocks in privately owned fields.
8. 14:1 - Amrafel was Nimrod. He said (amar) to Avraham to fall (fel) into the fiery furnace.
9. 14:7 - The Torah uses the name that the place would bear in the future.
10. 14:13- He wanted Avraham to die trying to save Lot so that he himself could marry Sarah.
11. 14:14 - His servant, Eliezer.
12. 4:14 - He saw prophetically that his descendants would make a golden calf there, and as a result his strength failed.
13. 14:20 - Because Malki-Tzedek was a kohen.
14. 14:23 - G-d had promised Avraham wealth, and Avraham didn’t want Sodom’s King to say, “I made Avraham wealthy.”
15. 15:13 - With the birth of Yitzchak.
16. 15:15 - That his father, Terach, would repent and become righteous.
17. 15:15 - Avraham lived to see his son Yishmael repent and become righteous, and he died before his grandson Esav became wicked.
18. 15:16 - They needed to wait until the Amorites had sinned sufficiently to deserve expulsion.
19. 16:1 - Pharaoh.
20. 17:3 - Because he was as yet uncircumcised.

Good Shabbos

SHABBOS TEFILLAH TIMES

- » Friday Night, October 19: Mincha / Kabbalos Shabbos–6:30 PM
- » Shabbos morning–9 AM
- » Chumash Class (Rabbi Rich)–5:05 PM for men and women
- » Mincha followed by Shalosh Seudos–6:05 PM
- » Sunset–6:48 PM
- » Shabbos Ends–7:33 PM

WEEKLY TEFILLAH TIMES

- » Sunday Shacharis–8 AM
- » Mincha / Maariv for the week of Oct. 21, 2007–6:30 PM

WEEKLY CLASSES

- » **Gemara Avoda Zara** for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich, followed by Shacharis. (Monday—Friday, 6:00 AM)
- » **Path of the Just** for men and women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Wednesday 8-9 PM)
- » **Chumash** for men and women (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)
- » **Laws of Tefillin** for men (Sunday morning after Shacharis)
- » **Chumash** for women (Sunday, 8-9 PM)

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.