

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.

NOVEMBER 2-3, 2007 · 22 CHESHVAN, 5768 · SHABBOS PARSHAS CHAYEI SORAH
CANDLELIGHTING 6:17 PM · SHABBOS ENDS 7:19 PM

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Larry & Wendy Rich. Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by the shul.
Please contact Shalom Abrams at 903-918-9650 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE:

October 12th

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos–6:15 PM

October 13th

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–9:00 AM
- » Chumash Class (for men & women)–4:50 PM
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos–5:50 PM
- » Shabbos Ends–7:19 PM

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **Daylight Saving Time ends this Sunday, November 4th.** Clocks are set back one hour at 2:00 AM, which becomes 1:00 AM standard time.
- » **Love & Logic: A 4-Part Seminar Teaching What You Need To Know To Be Successful Parents**— Have you ever wished your kids had come with an owner's manual? If so, then you must come and hear about this wonderful method for making parenting and teaching fun and rewarding, instead of stressful and chaotic: **Love & Logic. For four Tuesday nights in November starting November 6th, and running through November 27th,** Congregation Toras Chaim will be hosting Becky Udman as she teaches us how to raise our children to be responsible and happy adults. This is an amazing technique, and Becky Udman is an amazing facilitator who has many years of experience with great results. Parents will learn how to gain respect from and teach responsibility to their kids, handle misbehavior in public, and how to stay calm and avoid arguments with their children. **The workshop will be Tuesdays, 8:00-9:30 PM. It is geared for couples, but anyone can attend. The cost will be \$75 per couple (plus \$10 for one workbook) or \$55 for an individual.** **Becky Udman:** a certified "becoming a Love & Logic Parent and Teacher" facilitator has been lecturing both in the Dallas Fort Worth area and throughout the country for the past fifteen years. Audiences have enjoyed both the humor and the tools of parenting and classroom discipline. Becky has appeared on radio shows in Dallas and New York and writes a monthly column for The Texas Jewish Post. Her parenting tape series has been enjoyed by thousands of people around the world. Becky enjoys her days at Torah Day School of Dallas where she serves as the Preschool director but her greatest joy of all is spending time with her husband and her own eleven children.
- » **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.
- » **CTC began a daily gemara shiur,** one side of a page, each weekday at 6 AM in the shul. 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.
- » **One Time Only:** Glatt kosher frozen beef available for incredible prices. Frozen boneless chuck (20-35 pounds) at 3.50/lb and shank (10 pounds) at \$3/lb. Free delivery. Product will arrive in Dallas Tuesday. First come-first served. For more info please call Yaakov Rosenblatt at 469-682-3282 or email yrosenblatt@gmail.com.
- » **DATAS Presents Dallas Conference for Jewish Women:** Sunday,

November 11th. 10:00 AM – 2:45 PM at the Westin Park Central. Keynote speaker, Jill Kaisman. Workshops, breakout groups and lots of camaraderie. Dedicated in memory of Eleanore Rudd.

- » **This Sunday, November 4 7:30 PM, will be the Third Annual NCSY "Evening of Laughs"** at Levine Academy featuring the renowned comedian MODI. It will also pay tribute to Rabbi Yaakov and Suri Rosenblatt.

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

Here in this world, the reward for work is calculated according to a very simple system. The auto mechanic gets his \$65 an hour. Even though the repair might have enabled a man to get to his job, enabling him to earn his salary, enabling his family to eat, the mechanic doesn't collect a penny for all these extremely valuable results. The doctor gets paid for the medical treatment, not the future accomplishment of the person whose life he is saving. The waiter gets paid for serving the food, not for restoring his customer's strength and spirits. In repaying the chesed one does however, Heaven uses a calculation that awards the maximum benefit to the doer of the kind act, a benefit based on an all-encompassing view of everything the act will ever accomplish. One who loans a dollar gets back not just a dollar, but perhaps his entire life, or the life of someone he loves.

In rewarding a kind act, Hashem doesn't only reward one's outlay of time, effort or money. He rewards the good that even a small outlay can produce. Perhaps a person comes to the door to ask for money to marry off his child. He may be embarrassed, depressed, or crushed by his situation. At one house, however, he gets an invitation to come in and have a cup of hot coffee. The donor cannot pay for the wedding, but the few dollars he gives are given with graciousness and genuine concern. The man leaves with his heart restored, with strength to continue his quest and go on for yet another day. In tangible terms, the donor has given nothing more than a few dollars, a cup of coffee and few kind words. In Heaven, however, the true measure of his act is recorded—he has given someone back his strength, perhaps even his health or his life. Therefore, if the time comes when there is a threat against the donor's health or life, he will collect his true reward.

The Chofetz Chaim draws this concept from a Midrash (Tanchuma Mishpatim 15) which expounds on a verse that says that a person who performs an act of kindness "He (Hashem) will repay him his reward" (Mishlei 19:17). It doesn't mean, as it would seem, that if someone gives a penny to a poor person, Hashem gives him back the penny. Rather, the Creator says, "The soul of the poor person was trembling to depart, and you gave him the sustenance he needed at that moment. You gave him life; I will give you life." The action that earns a person this reward of "life" may be nothing more than a few phone calls to arrange a job interview for someone who is unemployed. Even a half-hour of time and a sympathetic ear can rise to the level of restoring someone else's life.

One should not defer these opportunities to help, the Chofetz Chaim warns. There is bound to come a time in each person's life when he is in need of help and encouragement. Even someone who, today, is blessed with an adequate income, good health, a family and a home may at some time in the future suffer a reversal of fortunes. Businesses go bad, health fails, and family life hits rough spots. For the one who has spent his life reaching out for opportunities to help others, the help he needs will always be there.

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.

■ 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.

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 CHAYEI SORAH

QUESTIONS

1. Name the four couples buried in Kiryat Arba.
2. What did Sara hear that caused her death?
3. What title of honor did the Bnei Chet bestow upon Avraham?
4. Where was Avraham born?
5. How were Avrahams camels distinguished?
6. What is meant by "all the good of his master in his hand?"
7. What special character trait did Eliezer seek when choosing a wife for Yitzchak?
8. Why did Avrahams servant, Eliezer, run toward Rivka?
9. Why did Lavan run to greet Eliezer?
10. When Lavan told Eliezer that the house was cleared out, what did he

remove?

11. Who did Eliezer want Yitzchak to marry?
12. Aside from Eliezer, to which other people did Rivka offer to give water?
13. Lavan answered Eliezer before his father, Betuel, had a chance. What does this indicate about Lavans character?
14. What did Rivka mean when she said "I will go?"
15. What blessing did Rivkas family give her before she departed?
16. Who was Ketura?
17. What gift did Avraham give to Yitzchak?
18. How old was Avraham when he died?
19. For how many years did Yaakov attend the Yeshiva of Ever?
20. How many times is Eliezers name mentioned in this weeks Parsha?

ANSWERS

1. 23:2 - Adam and Chava, Avraham and Sara, Yitzchak and Rivka, Yaakov and Leah.
2. 23:2 - That Yitzchak was almost slaughtered.
3. 23:6 - Prince of G-d.
4. 24:7 - Ur Kasdim.
5. 24:10 - They were muzzled, so they wouldn't graze in the fields of others.
6. 24:10 - Eliezer carried a document in which Avraham gave all he owned to Yitzchak so that people would want their daughter to marry him.
7. 24:14 - He sought someone who excelled in performing acts of kindness.
8. 24:17 - He saw that the waters of the well rose when she approached.
9. 24:29 - Lavan coveted his money.
10. 24:31 - Idols.
11. 24:39 - His own daughter.
12. 24:44 - To the men who accompanied Eliezer.
13. 24:50 - That he was wicked.
14. 24:58 - I will go even if you don't want me to go.
15. 24:60 - That the blessings given to Avraham would continue through her children.
16. 25:1 - Hagar.
17. 25:5 - The power of blessing.
18. 25:7 - 175 years old.
19. 25:17 - 14 years.
20. None!

Good Shabbos

SHABBOS TEFILLAH TIMES

- » Friday Night, November 2: Mincha / Kabbalos Shabbos-6:15 PM
- » Shabbos morning-9 AM

- » Shabbos Mincha-¾ hour before sunset
- » Chumash Class (Rabbi Rich)-4:50 PM for men and women
- » Mincha / Shalosh Seudos-5:50 PM / Sunset-6:34 PM
- » Maariv / Shabbos Ends-7:19 PM

WEEKLY TEFILLAH TIMES (for the week beginning November 4, 2007)

- » Sunday Shacharis-8 AM
- » Mincha / Maariv-5:15 PM Standard Time

WEEKLY CLASSES

- » **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.