

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, exciting and meaningful. The goal of Congregation Toras Chaim is to create a center for Jewish living that is built on these principles.

JULY 4-5, 2008 · 2 TAMMUZ, 5768 · SHABBOS PARSHAS CHUKAS
CANDLELIGHTING 8:20 PM (NOT BEFORE 7:09 PM) · SHABBOS ENDS 9:23 PM

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by the shul. Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Shelley Newman in honor of Nava's graduation and Arielle's great achievement this year. Please contact Shalom Abrams at 903-918-9650 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE:

July 4th

- » Candlelighting–8:20 PM (Not before 7:09 PM, Preferably with the shul by 7:25)
- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos–7:00 PM

July 5th

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–8:30 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)–6:55 PM
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos–7:55 PM
- » Shabbos Ends–9:23 PM

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:

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

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **On Vacation:** Please note: Rabbi Rich will be on vacation from July 7 through July 23, 2008. All classes will be cancelled during that time period. In case of emergency you may contact Rabbi Rich at 972-835-6016, otherwise he may be reached at 416-429-0584.
- » **Mazel Tov:** Mazel Tov to Rabbi Yehudah & Esti Abrams on the birth of a baby boy. The Shalom Zachor will be this Friday night at their home, 5731 Charlestown Dr. and the Bris will be Monday July 7th at 8:00 AM at Congregation Ohr HaTorah.

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

Knowing where an act of chesed will lead is impossible. One cannot possibly trace its progress through the world as it spreads goodness through the many lives intertwined in the fabric of humanity. No one can see what Hashem sees as the effects of one kind act mount higher and higher. No one, therefore, can imagine the immeasurable reward he earns for his act of kindness. A person can only know that the good he has done is no doubt far greater than the good he thinks he has done.

The Chofetz Chaim extracts this message from an account of a famine in the times of King David. King David turns to Hashem for help, and Hashem explains the reason behind the great suffering: "it is because Shaul killed the Givonim" (Shmuel II, 21:1). The Talmud (Bava Kamma 119a) notes that there is no mention anywhere of King Shaul killing the people known as the Givonim. The Givonim were a branch of local Canaanite people who, during the times of Yehoshua, pretended to be foreigners seeking refuge among the people of Israel. Yehoshua took them in and relegated them to work as woodchoppers and water-carriers. The Kohanim took upon themselves the task of feeding them. Many years later, King Shaul became enraged at the Kohanim in the city of Nov, for reasons completely unrelated to their care of the Givonim. Shaul had the Kohanim killed, and in the process, cut off the Givonim's source of support. In Hashem's eyes, King Shaul's removal of the Givonim's sustenance – even though it was a completely unintended result – made Shaul directly responsible for their demise. For this, a famine was sent to ravage the Jewish people.

Through this account, the Chofetz Chaim emphasizes how great is a person's responsibility for every result his acts set in motion. The point, however, is not only to ponder the guilt one might be forced to bear for his unkind act. It is to understand that, as the Torah teaches (Tosefta Sotah 4:1), "The reward is always greater than the punishment." Any commandment that carries with it a punishment also carries a reward which is far more powerful. By looking squarely upon the devastation Shaul brought by disregarding the well-being of others, one can catch a glimpse of the radiance bestowed upon one who makes other people's welfare his own constant concern.

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 Rabbi Rich at 972-248-1324 by Thursday afternoon to place your greeting.

- » Mazel Tov to Janel Alperstein, sister of Abigail Ruttenberg, on adopting a little boy, Max Vinicio Alperstin.

—Rabbi Yaakov & Susan Rich

■ ONGOING CLASSES

Path of the Just: Wednesday, 8:45-9:30 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, 8:45-9:45 PM

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.

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

SHABBOS TEFILLAH TIMES

- » Friday, July 4th
- » Candlelighting–8:20 PM (Not before 7:09 PM, should preferably light with shul before 7:25 PM)
- » Mincha / Kabbalos Shabbos–7:00 PM
- » Shabbos, July 5th
- » Shacharis–8:30 AM
- » Chumash Class (men & women)–6:55 PM
- » Mincha / Shalosh Seudos–7:55 PM / Sunset–8:38 PM
- » Maariv / Shabbos Ends–9:23 PM

WEEKLY TEFILLAH TIMES (for the week beginning July 6, 2008)

- » Sunday Shacharis–8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40 AM

- » Mincha/Maariv–8:25 PM

WEEKLY CLASSES

- » **Amud Yomi: Gemara** for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (M-Fr, 6-6:35 AM)
- » **Chumash** for women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Sunday 8:45-9:30 PM)
- » **Path of the Just** for men and women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Wednesday 8:45-9:30 PM)
- » **Chumash** for men and women (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.