

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.

SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2008 · 13 ELUL, 5768 · SHABBOS KI SEITZEI
CANDLELIGHTING 7:17 PM · SHABBOS ENDS 8:19 PM

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by shul. 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:

September 12th

- » Candlelighting–7:17 PM
- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos–7:00 PM

September 13th

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–8:30 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)–5:50 PM
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- » Sunday Shacharis–8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40 AM
- » Mincha/Maariv–7:10 PM

■ WHAT’S NU AT CTC

- » **Welcome to the Community:** CTC welcomes Bracha Konigsberg and Melanie Deverett, the two wonderful new interns of Mesorah High School for Girls.
- » **CTC Sisterhood Inaugural Meeting:** Congregation Toras Chaim will inaugurate its sisterhood this Sunday, September 14 at 11 AM at the Rich family home, 7119 Bremerton Ct., Dallas, TX 75252. We invite all members and friends of Congregation Toras Chaim to participate in this exciting and informative meeting. For more information please contact Susan Rich at (972) 248-3994.
- » **Only 7 Days Left Until Pre-Rosh Hashana Shabbaton: Rosh Hashana: A Celebration of Our Potential—In Memory of Shoshana bas Tzvi Eliezer (Rosalie Rich), sponsored by Larry Rich & Wendy Lavine (Toronto, CAN), Cory & Elissa Ross (Toronto, CAN), and Rabbi Yaakov & Susan Rich (Dallas, TX)** Congregation Toras Chaim is very pleased to announce that Rabbi Label Lam of Monsey, NY will present a series of engaging and meaningful talks in anticipation of Rosh Hashana, Friday, September 19 — Sunday, September 21, 2008. Members and non-members alike are invited to attend what promises to be a very inspirational two days of Torah study that will help each and every one of us reach our true potential.

Itinerary includes:

- Friday night dinner in shul (space for 50) with keynote speech: The Hidden World in Which We Live (\$50 Registration Fee)
- Shabbos morning after kiddush: The Art of Finding the Good
- Shabbos afternoon (one hour before mincha): The Mystical Message of the Shofar
- Shalosh Seudos: The Art of Listening
- Saturday Night (12:15 AM - one hour before selichos): The Secret of Akeidas Yitzchok (Binding of Isaac)
- Sunday morning breakfast (9:00 AM): The Power of the Parable (\$10 Registration Fee)

There is a \$50 registration fee to attend the dinner/keynote speech Friday night. There is a \$10 registration fee to attend the breakfast Sunday morning. If you would like to help sponsor the shabbaton, or need help finding hospitality for Shabbos please call Rabbi Yaakov Rich at 972-248-1324 or Wes Sutkin at (972) 989-1344.

Biography

Rabbi Label Lam is a former collegiate athlete and a poet. A graduate of Colgate University, Rabbi Lam matriculated at Harvard Extension School. While pursuing his Master in Education he studied for many years at Yeshiva Ohr Somayach in Monsey before launching a multifaceted career in Jewish Education.

A veteran of the Day School Movement and a former full-time lecturer for Arachim Seminars, Rabbi Lam has been inspiring

businessmen and college students alike for Ohr Somayach International and Hamayan Institute for almost two decades. He is the co-founder of Foundations for Jewish Learning with outreach projects in the United States and abroad. He brings to his lectures his rich life experience, a profound wit and an infectious love for Jewish people.

His insights on the weekly Parsha are received by more than 15,000 subscribers weekly and can be found at torah.org. Rabbi Lam lives in Spring Valley, New York with his wife Chaya and their ten children.

- » **High Holidays, Seats and Child Care:** Rosh Hashana and Yom HaKippurim will, please G-d, be very uplifting. The shul has two exceptional chazzanim joining us—one from Israel and one from Lakewood, NJ—for Rosh Hashana and spending the entire ten days, through Yom HaKippurim, with us. They are not charging the shul a fee. Rather they are offering to lead our services out of their desire to daven with a young, growing, energized congregation. We are very grateful to Rabbi Moshe Kranz and Rabbi Tzvi Teitelbaum for their services.

We want everyone to feel that davening at CTC is comfortable and affordable. We expect many people to be joining us for the High Holidays, and therefore, we have decided to rent space at Torah Day School of Dallas for our services. Child care, however, will still be at the shul, which is only one block from TDSD. The shul leadership has set the following prices for High Holiday seats (includes Rosh Hashana and Yom Hakippurim):

- **Early Bird Price:** \$150/seat (tickets paid for by August 31, 2008)
- **Regular Price:** \$175/seat (tickets paid for by Rosh Hashana)
- **Child Care Price:** \$20/day/child

You may pay by check, made out to Congregation Toras Chaim, or use the online payment interface. Please indicate in the “Special Instruction” box how many men and women’s seats are being purchased, and how many children are being registered for child care. We wish everyone a happy, healthy, sweet new year, filled with growth in all areas of one’s relationship with Hashem.

- » **Premium Kosher Meat for Rosh Hoshana: Order Deadline and Pickup** Pickup is at Congregation Toras Chaim, 17912 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75252, on Sunday, September 14, 2008 at 10:30 PM AM. Please pay by cash or check when picking up order. All weights are only approximations. For more information call Shalom Abrams at 903-918-9650.

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

Alef-beis, gimmel-daled; these are road-signs that orient one’s path in life. One takes the first step with alef-beis, learning Torah. One’s feet are then automatically pointed in the direction of gimmel-daled, helping others. Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, whose advice and halachic decisions guided the last generation and continue to resound today, provided a paradigm for this steady, upward progress. In one instance, the secular court wished to consult Rav Moshe regarding a case before it. A court officer visited Rav Moshe and asked him the relevant questions. When the official part of the interview was concluded, the officer had a personal question to ask: “I understand that you are one of the greatest rabbis and your opinions in Jewish law are widely respected. How does one reach this status? Why do people listen to you? Are you elected?”

Rav Moshe explained: “Someone once came to me with a question, and he liked the answer I gave him. Then someone else came, and he also liked my answer. People soon heard that I gave good answers and sound advice, so more and more people began

to come.” That was the simplistic explanation, geared to a secular understanding. On the spiritual level, Rav Moshe was actually explaining the link between Torah learning and chesed. He spent his days in learning, and therefore, he merited Divine assistance in his efforts to alleviate the problems of others. His guidance was golden because it shone with truth of Torah. Rav Moshe’s learning laid the foundation of his greatness, but he reached his highest state when he turned that learning into a vehicle for helping others. At that point, Hashem rested His presence upon him.

When one’s days are oriented in this direction, the success of one’s life’s journey is virtually assured.

The alef-beis lays out a sequence, a path toward constant spiritual growth, and the Chofetz chaim urges every Jew to follow it. A person must first learn and understand, which will lead him to help others. Hashem will then bestow His presence upon the person and his faith in Hashem will grow stronger. This will lead to more learning, which will bring a greater ability to help and greater sense of joy and purpose in life. Every step along the path leads upward, in an ascent that has no limit.

From the Appel Edition: Chofetz Chaim Loving Kindness by ArtScroll

■ PARSHA Q&A: PARSHAS KI SEITZEI

QUESTIONS

1. Why must a captured woman mourn her family for a month in her captor’s house?
2. What fraction of the inheritance does a first-born receive if he has a) one brother? b) two brothers?
3. What will become of a ben sorer u’moreh if his parents don’t bring him to court?
4. Why is it a degradation to Hashem to hang a criminal’s body on the gallows overnight?
5. What do you do if you find a lost object that costs money to maintain?
6. Why does the Torah forbid wearing the clothing of the opposite gender?
7. Why does the Torah link the mitzvah of sending away the mother-bird with the mitzvah of making a railing on the roof of your house?
8. When is it permitted to wear wool and linen?
9. What three things happen to a man who falsely slanders his bride?
10. Although the Egyptians enslaved the Jewish People, the Torah allows marriage with their third-generation converts. Why?
11. Why is causing someone to sin worse than killing him?
12. If one charges interest to his fellow Jew, how many commandments has he transgressed?
13. What is the groom’s special obligation to his bride during their first year together?

14. When is a groom required to fight in a non-obligatory war?
15. What type of object may one not take as collateral?

ANSWERS

1. Why must a captured woman mourn her family for a month in her captor’s house? **21:13 - So her captor will find her unattractive.**
2. What fraction of the inheritance does a first-born receive if he has a) one brother? b) two brothers? **21:17 - a) 2/3 b) 1/2**
3. What will become of a ben sorer u’moreh if his parents don’t bring him to court? **21:22 - He will eventually rob and kill to support his physical indulgences.**
4. Why is it a degradation to Hashem to hang a criminal’s body on the gallows overnight? **21:23 - Because humans are made in Hashem’s image; and because the Jewish People are Hashem’s children.**
5. What do you do if you find a lost object that costs money to maintain? **22:2 - Sell it and save the money for the owner.**
6. Why does the Torah forbid wearing the clothing of the opposite gender? **22:5 - It leads to immorality.**
7. Why does the Torah link the mitzvah of sending away the mother-bird with the mitzvah of making a railing on the roof of your house? **22:8 - To teach that one mitzvah leads to another, and to prosperity.**
8. When is it permitted to wear wool and linen? **22:12 - Wool tzitzit on a linen garment.**
9. What three things happen to a man who falsely slanders his bride? **22:18 - He receives lashes, pays a fine of 100 silver selah, and may never divorce her against her will.**
10. Although the Egyptians enslaved the Jewish People, the Torah allows marriage with their third-generation converts. Why? **23:8 - Because they hosted Yaakov and his family during the famine.**
11. Why is causing someone to sin worse than killing him? **23:9 - Murder takes away life in this world, while causing someone to sin takes away his life in the World to Come.**
12. If one charges interest to his fellow Jew, how many commandments has he transgressed? **23:21 - Three; two negative commandments and a positive commandment.**
13. What is the groom’s special obligation to his bride during their first year together? **24:5 - To gladden her.**
14. When is a groom required to fight in a non-obligatory war? **24:5 - When he remarries his ex-wife.**
15. What type of object may one not take as collateral? **24:6 - Utensils used to prepare food.**

Good Shabbos

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■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 8:15-9:15 PM)
- » Path of the Just for men and women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Wednesday 8:15-9:15 PM)
- » Chumash for men and women (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.