

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.

OCTOBER 31–NOVEMBER 1, 2008 · 3 CHESHVAN, 5769 · SHABBOS PARSHAS NOACH
CANDLELIGHTING 6:18 PM · SHABBOS ENDS 7:20 PM

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Rabbi Yaakov & Susan Rich in appreciation for receiving the honor of Chassan Torah. 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 31st

- » Candlelighting–6:18 PM
- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos–6:20 PM

November 1st

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–8:30 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)–4:50 PM
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos–5:50 PM
- » Shabbos Ends–7:20 PM
- » Turn Clocks Back One Hour–2:00 AM

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:

- » Sunday Shacharis–8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40 AM
- » Mincha/Maariv–5:15 PM

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **Children's Shabbos Groups Update:** Due to the fact that most of our teenage girls will be at a Mesorah Shabbaton this Shabbos, children's groups will be limited to ages 3 - 7. We apologize for any inconvenience.
- » **Make Your Own Bracelet:** Do You Want To: Have Fun, Meet New People, Do A Mitzvah, Learn A New Skill, Let Your Creativity Soar, Meet Sori Tropper, and, Receive A Brand New Custom Made Bracelet? Linda Hoffman of Beadworks will be hosting a class from 11am to 12 noon on Monday, Nov.10 where she will teach us how to make a bracelet! As she walks us through the steps, we will actually be making our own unique bracelet, according to our own individual tastes. The charge will be \$30.00 and every cent will go to Yad Eliezer, the largest anti hunger organization in Israel. Tax receipts will be given upon request. Linda is donating her time, her materials and the use of her shop for this, because she knows that the poor Jews in Israel need our help now more than ever. Sori Tropper, the head of American Friends of Yad Eliezer is coming all the way from New York to educate the Dallas Community about the dire situation of so many of our poor brothers and sisters in Israel and what Yad Eliezer is doing to help. She will speak with us about this tremendous organization while we work on our bracelets. To get an idea of what beadworks is all about, go to: www.beadworks-dallas.com. The bracelet we will be making in this class is not shown on the website. It will be made with colorful Bohemian Glass beads and will have a toggle clasp. We also learn pattern design and general bracelet construction. This class is extremely limited, so you must sign up now to insure a place. Contact: Chayamiriam at: chayamiriam@sbcglobal.net.
- » **Mazel Tov** to Joel and Chayamiriam Taurog and family on the engagement of Chayamiriam's daughter, Sarede Switzer (Zlate Rachel Sarede) to Yerachmiel Altizio.
- » **Condolences** to Gila Vinokur and family on the passing of Gila's maternal grandmother in South Africa.

■ IN A HEARTBEAT: BY RABBI LABEL LAM

Whoever spills the blood of man- in man -his blood shall be spilled because in "the image of G-d"- He made man. (Breishis 9:6)

What is the meaning of "the blood of man in man"? They learned in the name of Rabbi Yishmael that a Ben Noach (Gentile) is guilty for murdering a fetus. (Sanherdin 57)

Rabbi Akiva explained, "Anyone who spills blood, the verse considers as if they had diminished the Image of G-d!" (Midrash Aggada)

Why is there a justification for murdering a murderer? A few verses earlier man had been given permission to eat from the animal kingdom as it is written, "Every moving thing that lives shall be

food for you like the green herbage I have given you. (Breishis 9:3) Because of the diminished spiritual stature of man the boundary between a man and an animal may become blurred. An error in thinking might creep into the human psyche and confuse the newly granted right to dispose animals to also include the license to eliminate humans. It was aptly observed by Professor Shmuel Hugo Bergman in remarks made at Yad Va-Shem, "The philosophy that lead to the rise of Nazism was the 19th Century insistence on seeing man as a zoological specimen."

Rabbi Samson Rafael Hirsch ztl. in Horeb writes, "...he who kills a man destroys all the activities in him which he could have contributed to the physical world in the service of G-d. Hence, our Sages say, man was created singly in order to teach that he who kills a man destroys a whole world"

A senior study partner related to me an incident he vividly recalled from his early days in Yeshiva. The Rebbe for their class came into the classroom, just as any other day in Yeshiva. He noticed that the boys were in an unusually giddy mood. Some secret or news was detectable from the smirks they bore on their faces. The Rebbe asked them what was up and one of the fellows told him with a chuckle, "You know those two bums that squat in the basement of the Yeshiva? Last night it seems they couldn't get their dose of booze so they drank paint thinner and one of them died and the other went blind." The Rebbe went pale from the report. He looked at the class with ferocious anger and disappointment. He raised both hands and banged them with all his might on the desk and crying bitter tears declaring repeatedly, "What are you laughing for? A sky scraper has fallen! Class dismissed!" That was the lesson of the day and for all time!

A fine middle aged businessman I was learning with for many years came to our meeting with a look of deep concern on his face one day. It didn't take him long to spill the beans. He told me that his wife was expecting. The two other children were already quite a bit older and he wasn't sure this was the "the right time" for this in their lives. We don't need to spell out every detail of the discussion here but suffice it say that he understood in the end that the only moral option on the table was to do everything possible to be sure that mother and child have the best chance to be happy and healthy together. Years later he was bragging to me how precocious this little girl- Haley is and how she is the "light of their lives". I reminded him of our earlier discussion and he shuddered visibly when revisiting the terribleness of the option he had then considered.

What then is the strain of blindness that puts this point "above the pay grade" of the supposed "most enlightened" and leads so many to think something's new under the sun? That should be cause to pause and wonder- what lurks in the mind of one who would blithely delete another in a heartbeat?

■ 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.

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■ ONGOING CLASSES

The Shabbos Kitchen: Tuesday, 8:00-9:00 PM

There are literally thousands of halachic questions than can arise on Shabbos. Mastery of these laws is necessary to have a proper and meaningful observance of Shabbos. But, managing them all, especially with respect to Shabbos observance in the kitchen, can be

daunting. This class will teach you step-by-step how to keep a halachically correct Shabbos kitchen. You will not only learn what to do, but why as well. Understanding the logic behind the observance makes keeping Shabbos easier and more meaningful. *Beginning October 28, 2008 and running every Tuesday, 8 PM at Congregation Toras Chaim, for men and women, adults and teens. The teacher will be Rabbi Yaakov Rich. There is no cost to attend this course. Congregation Toras Chaim is located at 17912 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75252. Please call 972-248-1324 for more information. Members and non-members of the shul are invited and encouraged to attend.*

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

Placing food on the hotplate or blech / Setting up the slow cooker / Wrapping and storing hot food / Heating the water / Opening the wine bottle / Opening tin cans, soda cans. / Opening food packets and boxes. / Serving the soup / Using a wet ladle. / Serving from a pot on the gas range. / Returning the soup to the hotplate. / Putting challa into the soup. / Putting soup nuts into the soup. / Making tea / Making tea on Shabbos / Pouring hot water into a cholent / Washing the dishes / Using a sponge to wash the dishes. / Using soap and liquid soap. / Preparing the Shabbos day meal / Setting the table / Peeling the eggs / Mashing the eggs / Cutting up the onions / Mixing the eggs with oil and mayonnaise / Taking food from the freezer before the meal / Moving muktze in the freezer / Cleaning up / Sweeping the floor / Moving the garbage can / Cleaning the table / Wiping the counters / Loading the dishwasher / Loading dishes into the dishwasher / Cleaning for after Shabbos / Putting food back in the fridge / Preparing for seudah sh'lishis / Spilling oil from tuna / Mixing the tehinah / Tidying up the table

Path of the Just: Wednesday, 8:00-9:00 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. This is the class to attend as a couple for both husband and wife to learn and grow together. Wednesdays, 8 PM for men and women at Congregation Toras Chaim, 17912 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75252.

Women's Chumash: Sunday, 8:00-9:00 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.

■ PARSHA Q&A: PARSHAS NOACH

QUESTIONS

1. Which particular sin sealed the fate of the flood generation?
2. Why did Hashem tell Noach to build an ark, as opposed to saving him via some other method?
3. The ark had three levels. What function did each level serve?
4. What indication do we have that Noach was familiar with the Torah?
5. Why did Hashem postpone bringing the flood for seven days?
6. Why did the first water of the flood come down as light rain?

7. What did people say that threatened Noach, and what did Hashem do to protect him?
8. What grouping of creatures escaped the punishment of the flood?
9. How deeply was the ark submerged in the water?
10. What did the olive branch symbolize?
11. How long did the punishment of the flood last?
12. A solar year is how many days longer than a lunar year?
13. When did humans receive permission to eat meat?
14. What prohibition was given along with the permission to eat meat?
15. Why does the command to "be fruitful and multiply" directly follow the prohibition of murder?
16. Name two generations in which the rainbow never appeared.
17. Why did Noach curse Canaan specifically? Give two reasons.
18. Why does the Torah call Nimrod a mighty hunter?
19. The sin of the generation of the dispersion was greater than the sin of the generation of the flood. Why was the punishment of the former less severe?
20. Why was Sarah also called Yiscah?

ANSWERS

1. 6:13 - Robbery.
2. 6:14 - So that people would see Noach building the ark and ask him what he was doing. When Noach would answer, "Hashem is bringing a flood," it might encourage some people to repent.
3. 6:16 - The top level housed the people, the middle level housed the animals, and the bottom level, the refuse.
4. 7:2 - Hashem told him to take into the ark seven of each kosher-type animal, and two of each non-kosher type. "Kosher" and "non-kosher" are Torah concepts.
5. 7:4 - To allow seven days to mourn the death of Metushelach.
6. 7:12 - To give the generation a chance to repent.
7. 7:13,15 - People said, "If we see him going into the ark, we'll smash it!" Hashem surrounded it with bears and lions to kill any attackers.
8. 7:22 - The fish.
9. 8:4 - Eleven amot.
10. 8:11 - Nothing. It was a leaf, not a branch. (The olive leaf symbolized that its better to eat food "bitter like an olive" but which comes directly from Hashem, rather than sweet food provided by humans.)
11. 8:14 - A full solar year.
12. 8:14 - Eleven days.
13. 9:3 - After the flood.
14. 9:4 - The prohibition of eating a limb cut from a living animal.
15. 9:7 - To equate one who purposely abstains from having children to one who commits murder.
16. 9:12 - The generation of King Chizkiyahu and the generation of Shimon bar Yochai.
17. 9:22,24 - Because Canaan is the one who revealed Noach's disgrace to Ham. And because Ham stopped Noach from fathering a fourth son. Thus, Noach cursed Ham's fourth son, Canaan.
18. 10:9 - He used words to ensnare the minds of people, persuading them to rebel against Hashem.
19. 11:9 - They lived together peacefully.
20. 11:29 - The word "Yiscah" is related to the Hebrew word "to see." Sarah was called Yiscah because she could "see" the future via prophecy. Also, because of her beauty, everyone would gaze at her.

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 8:00-9:00 PM)
- » **The Shabbos Kitchen** for men and women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Tuesday 8:00-9:00 PM)
- » **Path of the Just** for men and women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Wednesday 8:00-9:00 PM)
- » **Chumash** for men and women (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.