

CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

Vibrant, Relevant, Meaningful. . .and Orthodox

December 19-20, 2008 ■ 23 Kislev, 5769 ■ Shabbos Parshas Vayeishev
Candlelighting 5:06 PM ■ Shabbos Ends 6:10 PM

Kiddush this week is sponsored by Shalom & Shira Abrams in honor of their son, Dovid, leaving for Ohr Somayach in Israel. It is also sponsored by the Reynolds family to thank Hashem for His many blessings, and also the members of CTC for their great love and affection for us. Our celebration includes: Tamar & Yoseif's Hebrew birthdays; Zev & Tamar's 26th anniversary; and "ta-da" the anniversary of the Reynolds' family (all of them) conversion. 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:

December 19th

- » Candlelighting–5:06 PM
- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos–5:05 PM

December 20th

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–8:30 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)–3:40 PM
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos–4:40 PM
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■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:

- » Sunday Shacharis–8:00 AM
- » Sunday, Chanukah (first light)–6:05 PM
- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40 AM
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■ WHAT’S NU AT CTC

- » **Welcome** to Kenny & Beth Broodo and family who are spending Shabbos with the CTC family.
- » **Tzeischem L'Shalom:** We wish a very successful trip to Dovid Abrams who is leaving to learn Torah at Ohr Somayach in Israel.
- » **Sisterhood Chanukah Celebration: We kindly request that you register online.**

For the Children

- Arts & Crafts project
- Fun & Games
- Fantastic animated movie about Chanukah

For the Adults

- Chanukah Quiz with great prizes
- Delicious Chanukah food, including: Potato Latkes, Sufganiot and “Greek” Salad
- Chance to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere
- D’var Torah by Rabbi Rich

All are invited Thursday, December 25, 2008, 3-5 PM at the shul | Cost: \$5 per person, or \$25 maximum per family | Please pay at the door.

- » **Meat Sale:** We had a very successful meat sale today. Thank you for purchasing A.D. Rosenblatt Glatt Kosher Meat through Congregation Toras Chaim. We have the following items left over and available for immediate purchase:
 - 13 briskets at \$6.75 per pound
 - 6 packages of ribs at \$7.25 per pound
 - Many tongues (two per package) at \$7 per pound (very discounted)

Please call Shalom Abrams right away at 903-918-9650 to order. The meat is being sold on a first-come, first-served basis. When this is gone, there won't be any more until our next sale just before Pesach.

- » **All ongoing classes** are cancelled during the week of Chanukah.

■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

- » Michal Zev ben Esther Shaindel (Risa Solomon's nephew)

■ A BLESSED BUSINESS? BY RABBI LABEL LAM

And HASHEM was with Yosef and he was a successful man and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. And his master saw that HASHEM was with him and all that he did HASHEM made his hand succeed. (Breishis 39:2-3)

The Midrash Tanchuma is troubled by an obvious difficulty in the verse. “Did the wicked Potifar see that The Holy One blessed is He was with him? Rather what he saw was that the Name of Heaven never moved from the mouth of Yosef. When he entered to do his service he was whispering and saying, “Master of the

World in You do I trust, You are my Father, let me find grace and kindness in Your eyes and in the eyes of all those who see me, in the eyes of Potifar my master. Potifar would ask him, “What are you whispering? Maybe this is some kind of spell you are casting upon me?!” He answered, “No, I am praying that I should find grace in your eyes!” Therefore it is written, “And he saw that HASHEM was with him”.

What was Yosef’s secret for success? Was it all good looks and hard work? Obviously not! His formula for success actually requires very little exertion in addition to the regular efforts. What was his secret?

I heard a story recently about a woman that was about to undergo critical surgery. The risk of the delicate procedure she was entering into might result in her never being able to speak again. As the nurses were “prepping” her and they were about to administer the anesthesia she began to agitate. She insisted upon meeting with the surgeon. The surgeon is usually the last one to walk into the operating theatre after the stage is set. They tried multiple approaches to dissuade her but she persisted, and so the surgeon himself was forced to make an appearance. Everyone involved was fascinated to hear what she was going to say. She told the surgeon with perfect sincerity, “If, for whatever reason, the surgery is not successful, I want you to know that I will not have any complaint against you. It will have been G-d’s will, and I am ready to accept the outcome.” The surgeon nodded in deep appreciation of her forgiving attitude and was about to exit the room when the woman indicated that she had something more to say. She concluded her remarks. “If the operation is successful and the results are positive, neither will you have been deserving of the credit. The great praise goes to G-d!”

Zalman Margulies obm. was an extraordinarily successful businessman in England. At a banquet for principals, partners, and employees in honor of a successful season, he stood up and dramatically declared, “We have only One to thank for our great fortune this year.” Many sitting on the dais began to shift in their seats anticipating that they might suddenly be singled out for honor. Pointing to the Heavens he announced, “We have only to thank The Ribono Shel Olam, G-d Almighty for our bounty!” We have to suspect that it might very well be that that was the cause of his great success and it was not just a rhetorical device or an afterthought.

Yosef’s plan for success was that he included The Almighty in every detail of his life. Rashi says, “The Name of Heaven was fluent in his mouth.” Don’t think it was superior results that attracted Potifar’s attention. Only later it states that he was successful. Sure he acted diligently. There’s no virtue in indolence. He honored his efforts in the greatest way by praying continuously and resisting the temptation to take for himself credit for beneficial results. That made obvious the secret, which is no secret, for a blessed business.

■ 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 TOLDOS

QUESTIONS

1. "These are the offspring of Yaakov: Yosef...." Give three reasons why Yosef is considered Yaakov’s main offspring.
2. What was praiseworthy about the fact that Yosef’s brothers did not speak to him in a friendly manner?
3. How do we see from Yosef’s dream about the sun, moon and stars that

- all dreams contain some untrue element?
4. Who brought Yosef down to Egypt?
 5. Where was Reuven when Yosef was sold?
 6. In addition to the brothers, who else knew that Yosef was alive?
 7. Why didn't G-d reveal prophetically to Yaakov that Yosef was alive?
 8. For how long did Yaakov mourn the loss of Yosef?
 9. Verse 37:35 states "his father wept." To whom does this refer?
 10. Who was Tamar’s father?
 11. In what merit did Tamar deserve to have kings as her descendants?
 12. Why is the word "hand " mentioned four times in connection to the birth of Zerach?
 13. Why does the Torah relate the incident with Potiphar’s wife immediately after the incident of Yehuda and Tamar?
 14. How did Potiphar "see" that G-d was with Yosef?
 15. Who in this week’s Parsha pretended to be sick?
 16. Why were the butler and the baker imprisoned?
 17. For how long were the butler and the baker in prison?
 18. How did the baker know that Yosef had correctly interpreted the butler’s dream?
 19. What prompted the butler and baker to tell Yosef their dreams?
 20. How was Yosef punished for asking the butler for help?

ANSWERS

1. 37:2 - (a) Yosef was the son of Rachel, Yaakov’s primary wife. (b) Yosef looked like Yaakov. (c) All that befell Yaakov befell Yosef.
2. 37:4 - They did not act hypocritically.
3. 37:10 - The moon represented Rachel. Since she had already died, it was impossible for that element of the dream to come true.
4. 37:28 - A caravan of Midianites.
5. 37:29 - He was attending to Yaakov.
6. 37:33 - Yitzchak.
7. 37:33 - Because the brothers had issued a ban against revealing the truth to Yaakov, and G-d, so to speak, abided by their ban.
8. 37:34 - Twenty-two years.
9. 37:35 - Yitzchak, who wept because of Yaakov’s suffering.
10. 38:24 - Shem.
11. 38:26 - In the merit of her modesty.
12. 38:30 - To allude to his descendent, Achan, who sinned with his hand by taking four things from the spoils of Jericho.
13. 39:1 - To teach us that just as Tamar acted with pure motives, so did Potiphar’s wife.
14. 39:3 - Yosef mentioned G-d’s name frequently in his speech.
15. 39:11 – Potiphar’s wife.
16. 40:1 - The butler was imprisoned because a fly was found in the king’s goblet, and the baker was imprisoned because a pebble was found in the king’s bread.
17. 40:4 - Twelve months.
18. 40:5 - The baker dreamed the interpretation of the butler's dream.
19. 40:6 - Yosef asked them why they looked troubled.
20. 40:23 - He remained in prison an additional two years.

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.