



CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

An intimate space... Grow at your pace.

August 13, 2016 ■ 9 Av, 5776 ■ Shabbos Devarim, Chazon
Candlelighting: 7:57P ■ Shabbos Ends 9:04P

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by the members of the Guarantee Kiddush Club: Wes & Tricia Sutkin, Yaakov & Susan Rich, Ben & Lauren Nise, Jeff & Suzanne Luftig, Chana Esther Day, Ari & Naomi Goldberg & Eli Goldberg. Shalosh Seudos this Shabbos is sponsored by the shul.

Please contact Rabbi Yaakov Rich at 972-835-6016 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE

Friday Night, August 12th

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv – 7:00 PM
- » Candlelighting – 7:57 PM (Should light by 7:25 PM. Not before 7:04 PM. If great need, may rely on 7:57 PM)

Shabbos Day, August 13th

- » Shacharis followed by Kiddush–8:30A
- » Pirkei Avos for M&W–Cancelled
- » Chumash Shiur for M&W–Cancelled
- » Mincha (No Shalosh Seudos in shul this Shabbos) – 6:00 PM
- » **Fast Begins – 8:14 PM**
- » Shabbos Ends – 9:04 PM (Everyone should say Baruch HaMavdil Bein Kodesh L'Chol before doing any melacha, driving back to shul for Maariv, etc.)

■ TISHA B'AV SCHEDULE (Pregnant or nursing women, or anyone who is ill, please contact Rabbi Rich about fasting requirements)

Saturday Night, August 13th

- » Maariv / Reading of Eichah / Reading of Kinno's with explanations – 9:30 PM

Sunday, August 14th

- » Shacharis / Reading of Kinno's with explanations (Tallis and Tefillin are not worn) – 8:30 AM
- » Chatzos (Midday): 1:30 PM

Three Video Presentations: (Suggested donation: Adult: \$15, Student: \$10)

- » 3:00-4:30 PM Chofetz Chaim Program B: "Opening the Door: How Ahavas Yisrael Opens the Door to the Redemption.": Rabbi Y. Y. Jacobson – one of America's greatest communicators of Torah and mysticism; Rabbi Warren Goldstein – Chief Rabbi of South Africa, who is famous for his outreach, spreading love of Torah and positive Jewish identity.
- » 4:45-5:45 PM Project Inspire
- » 6:00-7:30 PM Chofetz Chaim Program A: "Opening the Door: How Ahavas Yisrael Opens the Door to the Redemption.": Rabbi Paysach Krohn – famous storyteller focusing on ethics and spiritual growth; Rabbi Yisroel Frand – his powerful speaking style goes straight to the heart
- » Mincha (Tallis and Tefillin are worn): 7:40 PM
- » Maariv: 8:40 PM
- » **Fast Ends: 8:54 PM**

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40A
- » Mincha/Maariv followed by NQ Daf HaYomi (Kesuvos)–7:55P

■ OBSERVANCES OF TISHA B'AV (Observed on 10th of Av this year)

Eating and Drinking

- » All eating and drinking is forbidden. This includes rinsing the mouth and brushing teeth, except in a case of great distress.
- » Swallowing capsules or bitter tablets or liquid medicine without water is permitted.
- » The ill or elderly as well as pregnant and nursing women should speak with Rabbi Rich concerning the requirements of fasting. A woman within thirty days of giving birth should not fast.
- » Boys under thirteen years old and girls under twelve years old are not allowed to fast even part of the day.
- » Those not required to fast should eat only what is needed to preserve their health.

Bathing and Washing

- » All bathing for pleasure is prohibited even in cold water including the hands, face and feet. Ritual washing upon waking, after using the bathroom, touching covered parts of the body or before praying is permitted, but only up to the knuckles. One may wash dirty or sullied portions of the body (including cleaning the eyes of glutinous material), and if necessary may use soap or warm water to remove the dirt or odor. Washing for cooking or for medical reasons is permitted. A woman may not immerse on Tisha B'Av since relations are prohibited. Washing to commence the clean days is permitted.

Anointing

- » Anointing for pleasure is prohibited including oil, soap, alcohol, cream, ointment, perfume, etc.
- » Anointing for medical reasons is permitted, as well as using deodorant to remove bad odor.

Marital Relations

- » Since cohabitation is prohibited, a husband and wife should not come in contact during the night of Tisha B'Av.

Wearing Leather Shoes

- » Even shoes made partially of leather are prohibited.

- » Shoes made of cloth, rubber or plastic are permitted.
- » Wearing leather shoes is permitted for medical reasons.

Learning Torah

- » Since the heart rejoices in the study of Torah, it is prohibited to learn topics other than those relevant to Tisha B'Av or mourning.
- » One may learn: Lamentations with its midrash and commentaries, portions of the Prophets that deal with tragedy or destruction, the third chapter of Moed Katan (which deals with mourning), the story of the destruction (in Gittin 56b-58a, Sanhedrin 104, and in Josephus), and the halachos of Tisha B'Av and mourning.

Additional Restrictions

- » One should deprive himself of some comfort in sleep. Some reduce the number of pillows, some sleep on the floor.
- » Pregnant women, the elderly and the ill are exempt. Sitting on a normal chair is forbidden until midday.
- » One may sit on a low bench or chair, or on a cushion on the floor.
- » Greeting someone with "good morning" and the like is prohibited. One who is greeted should answer softly and, if possible, inform the person of the prohibition.
- » One should not give a gift except to the needy.
- » Things that divert one from mourning such as idle talk, reading the newspaper, taking a walk for pleasure, etc. are prohibited.
- » Smoking is prohibited until afternoon, and then only for one who is compelled to and in private.
- » The custom is to refrain until midday from any time-consuming work that diverts one from mourning. In a case of financial loss, consult the rabbi.

Prayer

- » Ashkenazim do not wear tefillin at Shacharis, nor is a blessing made on tzitzis. At Mincha, tefillin is worn and those who wear a tallis gadol make the blessing then.
- » At Mincha, the prayers Nacheim and Aneinu are added to the Shmonah Esrei during the blessing "Veliyushalayim" and "Shema Koleinu" respectively. "Sim Shalom" is said in place of "Shalom Rav." If one forgot them and completed that bracha, he need not repeat the prayer.
- » The custom is to sanctify the new moon the night after Tisha B'Av, preferably after having eaten something.

The Day After Tisha B'Av

- » It is permitted to do laundry, take haircuts, eat meat, drink wine, and listen to music first thing after morning begins, instead of waiting until chatzos, as Tisha B'Av is a nidcheh, observance is pushed off until Sunday, this year.

■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

MEN

- » Refael Daniel Mordechai ben Chaya Shifra (Friend of Doni Tkatch)
- » Yaakov Shmuel ben Rochel (Uncle of Tricia Sutkin)
- » Yisroel Michoel ben Shulamis (Father of Chani Tkatch)
- » Zoosav ben Leeba (Father of Suzanne Luftig)
- » Yisroel ben Malka (Friend of Suzanne Luftig)
- » R' Moshe ben Chana Sara Leah (Rebbi of Ari Goldberg)
- » Yechiel Mordechai ben Devorah (Brother of Ken Jarmel)
- » Itai ben Shoshana (Son of Ehoud & Shoshana Wilson)
- » Mattisyahu Chaim ben Ettel (HaRav Mattisyahu Solomon)

WOMEN

- » Leah Esther bas Yenta Leah (Lori Jarmel)
- » Yenta Leah bas Shayna (Mother of Lori Jarmel)

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **Welcome to Our Seed Boys – Moshe List, Yoseif Parsons, Moshe Kirzner, Pinny Muken & Yaakov Gordimer.** Thank you so much to Ben & Lauren Nise for hosting the boys. We need to find places for them to eat dinner beginning this Tuesday evening going forward for one full week. If you can host them please let Rabbi Rich know. Thank you.
- » **Welcome to Moshe Bush** who just moved here from Rancho Mirage, CA in anticipation of his upcoming marriage to another CTC member, Ariella Mizell. May their marriage be B'Sha'a Tova U'Mutzlachos.
- » **Chuck Ribs Available for Purchase:** Congregation Toras Chaim has a huge supply of the best quality Chuck Back Ribs. Mouth watering, fall-off-the-bone tender meat. We need to sell everything. We are offering these ribs to the community at the steeply discounted prices of \$7.50 / lb or \$6.00 / lb / case. Contact Rabbi Rich at (972) 835-6016 or yrich@toraschaimdallas.org

■ THAT IS THE QUESTION! RABBI LABEL LAM

And HASHEM called to man, and He said to him, - "AYECHA" - Where are you?" (Breishis 3:9)

Now after Adam ate what he was commanded not to eat he became spiritually distant from HASHEM. We understand that HASHEM knew where he was geographically like a GPS satellite, but he wanted Adam to consider where he had moved to in relationship to his Creator. HASHEM asked Adam so Adam would understand what happened? The Midrash here is sensitive to the language and detects that the very same letters used in asking that dramatic question are the very same letters that compose the name- the title for the Megilla we read on Tisha B'Av- "Eicha" - How!? How did it happen that a nation became so dislocated from its source? It's the same gnawing question that echoes through the cosmos till today! "Where are you!?"

Exactly 24 years ago, while running a program for prisoners, I brought a colleague of mine who travels widely as a guest speaker. Because the prisoners crave to know what's going on "out there" and they live vicariously through the adventures of others, they nudged the Rabbi with desperation to tell them where he had been recently. He answered glibly, "I was just in the world's largest prison and there I confronted the most- fierce warden of them all!" Some started to guess which place and which person he was referring to.

After they got quiet, he told them, "The largest prison in the world is the whole world!" I felt an awkward silence in the room and I glanced up sideways signaling that he ought not to continue peddling these soft parables or this was going to be a long night or a short night. As I expected, they chorused "All of us would love to go to that prison! Let us go out there!" The second answer shed light on the first and his words became poignantly clear. "Who's that fierce warden? Myself!" He explained "This guard keeps you from going a few feet to your left and right! This one stops you from getting beyond that point! I have my limitations too. If I travel north I cannot go south. Of course my limitations are far more expansive than yours.

On the horizontal plane, but who keeps us from going up, from climbing vertically, transcending the confines of this place and reaching the fullness of our real potential, even here in prison? Nobody stops us but ourselves!"

I know it was exactly 24 years ago, because my wife gave birth a week later, on Shabbos Tisha B'Av to a baby boy who is turning 24 this Tisha B'Av. Thirty seconds into the world, I held him for the first time. Maybe it was the footprint reminding me of the finger printing when entering prison but the first unrehearsed words that escaped my mouth at that time was, "Welcome to the prison!"

My wife looked up at me with bewilderment. I owed her an explanation but I needed to explain it to myself first. It dawned on me that here, this lofty soul, a breath from The Almighty Himself, bigger and brighter than anything in this universe, aware of the whole Torah on some sublime level has just been crushed into this tiny body, sans teeth and sans vocabulary. He thinks he wants soda and pizza but deep-deep down he wants much-much more. We pray for the wisdom of the warden.

After that visit to the prison we launched a new orientation program for anyone entering the prison system. We would ask him, "Where do you live?" The fellow would answer, "Green Haven!" The question would persist, "Where do you live?" The answer would expand to "New York". Again the question and then, "America" and next the "world?"! Very nice but where are you???

The answer we repeated till it was real: "We are in front of HASHEM!" If that's your mind-set then you are not in prison! Sure your feet are here in this shoe but that's not where you need to be a whole day! The Baal Shem Tov said, "Wherever a person's thoughts are, that is where he is entirely!" Now back to the question of the day, the question for all time, "Where are we?" Are we in New York or Jerusalem? In a cell phone or with family?! Are we in a prison cell or are we living with HASHEM? That is the question!

■ Q&A ON THE PARSHA: DEVARIM

1. How do we see from the beginning of Parshat Devarim that Moshe was concerned for the Jewish Peoples honor? 1:1 Moshe mentions only the names of the places where the Jewish People sinned, but does not mention the sins themselves.
2. How much time elapsed between leaving Mt. Sinai and sending the spies? 1:2 - 40 days.
3. Moshe rebuked the Jewish People shortly before his death. From whom

did he learn this? 1:3 - From Yaakov, who rebuked his sons shortly before his death.

4. Why did Moshe wait until he had smitten the Amorite kings before rebuking the Jewish People? 1:4 So that no one could say, "What right has he to rebuke us; has he brought us into any part of the Land as he promised?"
5. What were some of the achievements that resulted from the Jewish People "dwelling" at Mt. Sinai? 1:6 - They received the Torah, built the mishkan and all its vessels, appointed a Sanhedrin, and appointed officers.
6. Why does the Torah single out the names of the avot in connection with the giving of the Land? 1:8 - Each of the avot possessed sufficient merit for the Jewish People to inherit the Land.
7. What did Moshe convey to the Jewish People by saying: "You today are like the stars of the Heavens"? 1:10 - They are an eternal people, just as the sun, moon and stars are eternal.
8. "Apikorsim" (those who denigrate Talmud scholars) observed Moshe every move in order to accuse him. What did they observe, and what did they accuse him of? 1:13 They observed the time he left home in the morning. If Moshe left early, they accused him of having family problems (which drove him from his home). If he left late, they accused him of staying home in order to plot evil against them.
9. Moshe was looking for several qualities in the judges he chose. Which quality couldn't he find? 1:15 - Men of understanding.
10. Moshe told the judges, "The case that is too hard for you, bring it to me." How was he punished for this statement? 1:17 - When the daughters of Tzelofchad asked him a halachic question, the law was concealed from him.
11. Why did Moshe describe the desert as great and frightful? 1:19 - Because the Jewish People saw huge, frightening snakes and scorpions in the desert.
12. Which tribe was not represented among the spies? 1:23 - Levi.
13. Which city did Calev inherit? 1:36 - Hebron.
14. How many kingdoms was Avraham promised? How many were conquered by Yehoshua? 2:5 - Avraham was promised the land of ten kingdoms. Yehoshua conquered seven. The lands of Moav, Ammon and Esav will be received in the time of the mashiach.
15. Why were the Jewish People forbidden to provoke Ammon? 2:9 - This was a reward for Lots younger daughter, the mother of Ammon, for concealing her fathers improper conduct.
16. Why were the Jewish People not permitted to conquer the Philistines? 2:23 - Because Avraham had made a peace treaty with Avimelech, King of the Philistines.
17. How did Hashem instill the dread of the Jewish People into the nations of the world? 2:25 - During the battle against Og, the sun stood still for the sake of the Jewish People, and the whole world saw this.
18. Why did Moshe fear Og? 3:2 - Og possessed merit for having once helped Avraham.
19. Who was instrumental in destroying the Refaim? 3:11 - Amrafel.
20. What was the advantage of Reuven and Gad leading the way into battle? 3:18 - They were mighty men, and the enemy would succumb to them.

Good Shabbos

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■ CLASSES

» Before Shacharis Gemara Yevamos for men (M-Fr, 6-6:40A)

» NQ Daf HaYomi Kesuvos for men (Sunday-Thursday following Maariv)

» Pirkei Avos for men & women (Shabbos 90 mins before mincha)

» Chumash for men & women (Shabbos 45 mins before mincha)

» Supercharge Your Sundays for men (Sunday after Shacharis for 45 mins., with R' Noach Klug)

» Marriage Chaburah for women (Tuesday 7:15-8:00P)

» In-Depth Hilchos Shabbos for women (Time is Changing)