



CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

An intimate space...Grow at your pace.

September 3, 2016 ▪ 30 Av, 5776 ▪ Shabbos Re'eh, Rosh Chodesh Elul
Candlelighting: 7:32P ▪ Shabbos Ends 8:38P

KIDDUSH this Shabbos is sponsored by Rabbi Yaakov & Rebbetzin Susan Rich, Wes & Tricia Sutkin, Chana Esther Day, Ari & Naomi Goldberg, Josh & Lisa Rothstein, Rabbi Avi & Shuli Bloomenstiel, Simcha & Sara Itskavich, Ben & Lauren Nise, Jeff & Suzanne Luftig, Ken & Lori Jarmel, Reuven & Devorah King, Eli Weingarden, Zlati Krycer, Eli Goldberg, Ibriy & Amy Martin, Yehuda & Rivka Harper, Bruce & Shanie Dunn, Eliyahu Rich, and Ariella Mizell's family & friends in honor of the aufruf of Moshe Bush. May Moshe & Ariella be zoche to build a Bayis Ne'eman b'Yisroel. **SHALOSH SEUDOS** this Shabbos is sponsored by Ari & Naomi Goldberg L'luy Nishmas Chana Devorah bas Shmuel (Naomi's grandmother) who was a wonderful grandmother and role model to her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. 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, September 2nd

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv – 7:00P
- » Candlelighting – 7:32P (Should light by 7:25P unless great need to delay.)

Shabbos Day, September 3rd

- » Shacharis followed by Kiddush–8:30A
- » Pirkei Avos/Chumash for m&w–6:20P
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos for men in shul – 7:20P
- » **Shalosh Seudos for women & young children/Shabbos Kallah for Ariella Mizell at the Rich home – 7:20P (Hint: You won't want to miss the yummy peanut butter & chocolate balls and five-layer pareve ice cream cake.**
- » Maariv/Shabbos Ends–8:38P

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40A
- » Mincha/Maariv followed by NQ Daf HaYomi (Kesuvos)–7:25P

■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

MEN

- » 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 Ettl (HaRav Mattisyahu Solomon)

WOMEN

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

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **Catered Yahrtzeit Breakfast & Speaker in Memory of Hershel Krycer, A"H** – This Sunday, Sept. 4 at 9 AM the congregation (men & women, adults and teens only please) are invited to special catered breakfast on the yahrtzeit of Hershel Krycer, A"H. Special guest speaker will be Rabbi Peretz Shapiro. Breakfast is sponsored by Dr. BJ & Brocha Adrezin. Please RSVP to Rabbi Rich at (972) 835-6016 or rabbi@toraschaimdallas.org so we have an idea of how much food to prepare. Thank you.
- » **Shabbos of Inspiration at CTC:** All Jewish men & women are invited to a "Shabbos of Inspiration" at CTC with special guest speaker, Rabbi Reuven Wolf of Maayon Yisroel, Shabbos, September 9-10, 2016. All events are for men & women and free of charge. *An RSVP is required for the free Shabbos lunch.*

☐ **Schedule of Events** (All events are for men & women and free of charge. RSVP is required for Shabbos lunch.)

Friday Night

- Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv – 7:00 PM
- Speech During Services (15 mins) – 7:30 PM
- Oneg Shabbos (in shul) – 10 PM (after the meal)

Shabbos Day

- Shacharis – 8:30 AM
- Speech During Services (15 mins) – Approximately 10:00 AM
- Kiddush – 11:00 AM
- Speech (45 mins) – 11:45 AM (childcare for children 4 and under will be provided)
- **Luncheon for all Speech Attendees (RSVP REQUIRED)** –

12:30-2:00 PM

- Speech (60 mins) – 6:10 PM (childcare for children 4 and under will be provided)
 - Mincha followed by Shalosh Seudos (including speech) – 7:10 PM
 - Maariv/Shabbos Ends – 8:29 PM
- » **Congregation Toras Chaim is proud to offer the best quality Arba Minim (Lulav & Esrog Sets) at the cheapest prices in town.** All qualities listed in the PDF Order Form are 100% kosher for use for all ages, including the Chinuch/Basic set. Every set is checked by a leading American poseik. Mail or drop off with payment to Rabbi Yaakov Rich, 7119 Bremerton Ct., Dallas, TX 75252. Questions? Call Rabbi Yaakov Rich at (972) 835-6016 or email yrich@toraschaimdallas.org. Please attach check to the PDF form. Unfortunately orders cannot be accepted without full payment. Please make checks payable to Congregation Toras Chaim.

☐ Prices:

- Chinuch/Basic \$45
- Standard \$60
- Premium \$75
- Deluxe \$90
- Special Deluxe \$100

Upgrades:

- Deri Lulav \$15
- Extra Haddasim \$10
- Extra Aravos \$10

- » **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

■ ...OF COURSE: RABBI LABEL LAM

See, I set before you today a blessing and a curse. The blessing, that you will heed the commandments of HASHEM your G-d, which I command you today; and the curse, if you will not hearken to the commandments of HASHEM your G-d, but turn away from the way I command you this day, to follow other gods, which you did not know. (Devarim 1:26-28)

...if you will not heed the commandments of HASHEM your G-d, but turn away from the way I command you this day, to follow other gods, which you did not know: This teaches that whoever worships idols departs from the entire path that Israel has been commanded. From here [our Sages said: One who grants legitimacy to idolatry is as though he denies the entire Torah. — Rashi

This whole business of idolatry can be a bit puzzling. There is a loving tolerant voice inside that may just be wondering quietly, "What's so bad?" Here a person has a longing for spirituality but they are a little misguided and mistaken in how to go about the business of expressing their spirituality. What's so bad? Why is it considered as if they are in denial of the entire Torah? This severe approach may awaken another voice, a cynical tone which says, "How insecure and fragile a system must be that it coerces adherents to remain loyal with threats of curses."

There is a basic assumption that gives life to both of those voices and that premise is faulty. If the purpose of serving HASHEM and only HASHEM is solely for the benefit of HASHEM then we have wrongly pictured HASHEM as the cruel dictator of

North Korea that must throttle and intimidate his flock into a state of allegiance. It's actually the other way around. This is no scare tactic! We live in a cause and effect universe. We are being told for our benefit how to access the true blessing in life and how to avoid the cursed path.

Following idolatry is like hurrying down the wrong highway, imagining foolishly the whole time we are getting closer to our destination. Deviation from good instruction leads to ultimate disappointment. It may feel spiritual but it's false and it dead ends!

Call that that result, on any scale, "cursed". It's more advisable that we preset our minds to follow sagely Torah advice when it is given, and continually draw closer to the ultimate goal with certitude. That's call "blessed".

Within the first few months of marriage our car broke down and we needed a replacement, nothing fancy. My wife and I found our way to a kindly old man who showed us a ten year old car with less than 50,000 miles. It seemed in good enough shape.

Before going deep pocket to purchase it, I decided to consult my Rebbe. He asked me point blank, "Did you drive it?" I told him, "No! The man would not allow me. He didn't have the right paper-work. He drove it around for us and it felt fine!" The Rebbe told me, "If he didn't let you drive it, don't buy it! Something's wrong! I have an explicit Rashi in Chumash Devarim that says "watch out!"

I bought the car anyway. Everything seemed OK- that is until I started to drive it home. On that maiden voyage in the "new" car I began to notice how poorly it handled. I thought I was dragging a dead deer. It felt much older than the mileage indicated.

When I looked at odometer to check I noticed something remarkable. The numbers were rolling backwards. The car was getting younger! Amazing! It became obvious through closer inspection that the glass cover had been removed and the odometer had been tampered with, which is a federal crime.

I went back to my Rebbe to ask him what I was to do. I'll never forget that incredulous look and tone. "You bought the car!?" He told me to write it off as "Rebbishe Gelt" -money spent on learning a serious life lesson.

It's a longer story. We did get the money back but not without aggravation. With the benefit of hindsight, so many years later, we realize that it was a relatively inexpensive course we were treated to in learning the important life lesson to follow instructions and to stay on course to avoid the curse ...of course.

■ PARSHA Q&A: RE'EH

1. What were the sites designated for the "blessings and the curses" to be pronounced by the people? 11:26 - Mt. Gerizim and Mt. Eval, respectively.
2. On what condition will Bnei Yisrael receive the blessings from Hashem? 11:27 - On condition that they listen to Hashem's commandments.
3. Why does the Torah use idolatry as an example when describing one who strays from the path that Hashem commanded? 11:28 - Because those who worship idols are considered as if they have strayed from the entire Torah.
4. What was to be the sign for the Jewish People that they would inherit the Land? 11:31 - The miracles that would occur while

crossing the Jordan River.

5. During the 14 years of the conquest and division of the Land, what types of offerings were permitted on private altars? 12:8 - Vow offerings or free-will offerings.
6. What must one do with consecrated animals that develop a blemish? 12:15 - They must be redeemed and may then be eaten.
7. In what ways does a consecrated animal that develops a blemish retain a degree of kedusha (holiness) even after it has been redeemed? 12:15 - Eating it is permitted, but use of its milk or fleece is forbidden.
8. Why was the tribe of Yehuda not permitted to conquer Jerusalem? 12:17 - When Avraham bought ma'arat hamachpelah, he made a covenant of peace with the Hittites who sold it. His descendants honored this pact regarding the Hittite descendants in Jerusalem.
9. In consecutive verses, the Torah repeats the prohibition against eating blood. What two types of blood are referred to? 12:24-25 - Blood that seeps slowly from the incision as soon as the cut is made and again after it no longer gushes. Blood absorbed into the limbs of the animal.
10. Why were the Jewish People allowed to see the extermination of the Canaanites? 12:30 - To learn not to follow in their depraved ways.
11. What forms of idol worship are punishable by death? 12:30 - Slaughtering or burning a sacrifice on an altar, pouring libations, prostrating oneself, and any normal manner of worshipping that idol.
12. If a person performs miracles in the name of Hashem and then says that the laws of the Torah have been revised, what is done to this person? 13:2-6 - He is put to death.
13. The Torah says, "to Him (Hashem) you shall cleave." How does one fulfill this command? 13:5 - One should emulate Hashem's actions by performing good deeds, assisting in burying the dead and visiting the sick.
14. The trial of a person accused of encouraging others to worship idols differs from the trial of other capital cases. How? 13:10 - If he was acquitted and new information of a condemning nature arises, he is retried. If he was judged guilty, he is not returned to court to plead in his favor.
15. Who has the primary responsibility of inflicting the punishment on one who tried to entice others to worship idols? 13:10 - The person whom the guilty one attempted to entice.
16. What is the "source" of the Jewish People being an am kadosh (holy nation)? 14:2 - The kedusha is inherited from the avot.
17. How should the Jewish People maintain themselves as an am kadosh? 14:21 - By avoiding excesses even in permitted matters.
18. What is the order of priority regarding to whom one should give charity? 15:7 - The most needy, a brother from one's father, a brother from one's mother, the poor of one's city, the poor of another city.
19. What mitzvah recalls the Exodus from Egypt? 16:3 - Eating the korban pesach and the matzah on the night of Pesach.
20. Which four individuals are under Hashem's "special protection"? 16:10 - A levi, convert, orphan, and widow.

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)