



# CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

An intimate space... Grow at your pace.

April 5-6, 2019 ▪ 1 Nisan, 5779 ▪ Shabbos Tazria, HaChodesh, Rosh Chodesh Nisan  
Mincha: 7:00P / Candlelighting: 7:32P ▪ Shabbos Ends 8:41P

**KIDDUSH** this Shabbos is sponsored by the Martins, Bushes, Cajases, Hardgroves, Kings, Krengels, Luries, Nises, Rothsteins, Sutkins, Wilsons, Wortriches, and Eliyahu Rich in honor of and in tremendous appreciation to Rabbi Yaakov and Rebbetzin Susan Rich. **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, April 5<sup>th</sup>

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv-7:00P
- » Shabbos Candle Lighting-7:32P

### Shabbos Day, April 6<sup>th</sup>

- » Mishnayos shiur with Rabbi Reuven Wortrich-Canceled
- » Shacharis followed by Kiddush-8:30A
- » Chumash Shiur for Men & Women-6:05P (45 min shiur)
- » Beis Medrash Learning for Men-6:50P
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos for men-7:20P
- » Sunset-7:50P
- » Maariv/Shabbos Ends-8:41P

## ■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

- » Sunday Shacharis-8:00A
- » Weekday Mincha/Maariv-7:35P
- » Weekday Shacharis-6:40A

## ■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

### Men

- » Refalal Tevya ben Sara (Uncle of Rebekkah Bodoff)
- » Yechezkel Yehuda ben Asnah Shaynah (Howard Denmark)
- » Matan Rafael Nasanel ben Esther (Matan Elfenbein)
- » Itai ben Shoshana (Son of Ehoud & Shoshana Wilson)

### Women

- » Zvika bas Chana Esther (Aunt of Josh Rothstein)
- » Tikva bas Salima (Tikva Zbolon)
- » Rivka Basya bas Devorah (Rebekkah Bodoff)
- » Necha bas Leah (see Irwin Harris)
- » Leah Esther bas Yenta Leah (Lori Jarmel)
- » Yenta Leah bas Shayna (Mother of Lori Jarmel)

## ■ WHAT'S NU

### » FOR PESACH

- » **Shabbos Hagadol in Shul:** Shabbos HaGadol, April 12-13, 2019, Looking to change over your kitchen more than one week before Pesach? Interested in pampering yourself and your family in advance of the Chag? Would you enjoy full-service, delicious, catered meals together with others in a relaxing, social environment? If you answered yes to any one of the above questions, then this event is for you. Congregation Toras Chaim invites you to participate in Shabbos Hagadol in Shul Dinner & Lunch. The finest catered cuisine, full-service meals, with great ambiance. We tried to be mindful of the expense without sacrificing luxury. **Cost: \$36 per adult, \$18 per child, per meal. (No family max)** We need commitments well in advance to make this program work. Your payment is your commitment. If you are interested...Email Rabbi Rich [rabbid@toraschaimdallas.org](mailto:rabbid@toraschaimdallas.org) and let him know. Second: Make your payment a) by check or cash in person to Ben Nise or Rabbi Rich, or b) by credit card here. We are excited about this event and look forward to celebrating Shabbos Hagadol in Shul together with you.
- » **Pre-Pesach Car Cleaning by Nechemyah Rich:** Call or Text (469) 925-9033. Sedan \$30 | Mini van \$40 | Van \$50. \$3 extra/car seat, \$7 extra windows/Console area.
- » **Elegant Endings Desserts for Pesach by Shoshana Rich:** 1) **9 x 13 Chocolate Cake- \$18.** Pamper your sweet tooth. A delicious, decadent dessert. 2) **9 x 13 Strawberry Ice Cream- \$18.** A refreshing end to any great meal. 3) **12 Meringues- \$12.** You can't help but go *mmm* when you eat our meringues. 4) **12 Pieces of Mandel Bread- \$15.** An old family favorite. Made with shmura matzo meal. 5) **12 Chocolate Chip Cookies- \$12.** Traditional chocolate chip cookies. Unusually good. Made with shmura matzo meal. 6) **9 x 13 Mango Ice**

**Cream- \$18.** Fresh, fruity and slightly tangy. Perfect palate cleanser. **Please have your orders for Pesach in by Sunday, April 7.** For the rest of our menu please visit our website [elegant-endings.com](http://elegant-endings.com).

## ■ THE EYE OF A MICROSCOPE: RABBI LABEL LAM

When a (nega) affliction of tzoras is on a person you shall bring him to a Cohen. (Vayikra 13:3)

Does the Cohen have a monopoly on administering care for the nega of tzoras? The answer may be very simple to understand and yet not easy to accomplish.

The Mishne in Avos advises: "1) Make for yourself a teacher, 2) Acquire for yourself a friend, and 3) Judge the whole of the man to the side of merit. Each part of the three fold Mishne is a study by itself but the secret is revealed when putting all the pieces together. Which one of these is not like the other one? You guessed right. The last one!

A person needs to find a teacher who can offer objective criticism. Since nobody is perfect we need constant correction to get ever closer to our goals. A teacher like a doctor is someone that we have to seek out and make ourselves available to in order to gain the insights necessary to improve. It is self evident that in order to remain strong in a program of personal development we need a support system of at least a friend who can encourage us and to help us remain loyal to the advice of the wise teacher.

Where does it fit into the equation the idea of judging the entirety of the man to the side of merit? Let's try a few approaches.

1) Sometimes a person cannot find a qualified teacher or friend because he tends to see and be distracted by the faults of a person, and we all have shortcomings. By not having the ability to see the better aspects of a man he remains bereft of a much needed teacher and friend.

2) At times a person will get excited about his teacher and friend, his rebbe and peer group and thereby look condescendingly upon others. This parochial attitude is not the full benefit of having an "A Team" around you. Remember that they are your medicine and somebody else needs his particular rebbe and friend to cure his ills.

3) The emphasis may be best placed on the words "yourself". The Mishne demands that since we do not naturally notice our own faults, we should turn our glance inward at ourselves and not at others. Unless someone recruits you as his rebbe or hires you to be his friend then we dare not dedicate our time studying the faults of others.

4) It could very well be that as one improves the faults of others that are often a signal of what we struggle to avoid within ourselves will become less apparent. In that sense working on ourselves improves the portrait in our minds that we have of others.

I have a wonderful friend and learning partner who used to chastise if I ever launched a critical comment about somebody else. He'd say, "Turn the microscope on yourself!"

When someone had a case of nega tzoras he needed to come in contact with a wise and holy Cohen who could show him what he needed to fix within himself. Since the cause of the nega tzoras is known to be loшон hora, talking badly of others, that same person is removed from the community to perhaps gain the habit of seeing others from a distance as through a telescope while learning to see himself more clearly with the eye of a microscope.

## ■ TORAH TOTS: TAZRIA

The Parsha starts off with a tribute to childbirth. But way before a baby is ready to be born, Hashem has a whole system set up in Shamayim (heaven).

It all begins with a call to Layla's office. Layla is the Malach

(angel) in charge of the neshoma (soul) factory. From his office high above Gan Eden, this Malach can see all the precious neshamot basking in the warmth of Hashem's greatness.

Suddenly the phone rings. It's the boss, - Hashem. "We've got a baby girl due to arrive in Brooklyn in about nine months. Send me a neshoma model 32471 and make it snappy!" Well, as you can imagine, there's no neshoma too eager to leave the comfort of the garden for the perils of life. It's a struggle, but Layla finally tears the little one away from its favorite basking spot.

Kicking and screaming, neshoma model 32471 appears before Hashem. "There I was, a pure untainted link to your Holiness," the neshoma argues. "Why blow all that purity on a human life?" Well, someone's gonna have to have a talk with the olam hazeh PR department. Hashem explains to the neshoma that it's got life all wrong.

With the aid of charts, graphs and slides, Hashem explains to 32471 that life is what you make of it. "If you think Gan Eden is bright, just see what a couple of mitzvot under your belt will do for your tan - you'll be wearing sun glasses it'll be so sunny! You see, a neshoma alone is nothing compared to a body & soul team. Together, they can rack up enough mitzvot to buy a mansion on the exclusive end of Gan Eden."

Well, that convinces the neshoma to make a merger with an unborn baby. Now it's time to do a little pre-programming. Hashem decides the unborn child's fate; boy or girl, healthy or sickly, genius, dope or in-between, rich or poor and even who it will marry.

Practically a person's whole life is pre-programmed. But there is one important detail that Hashem leaves you to figure out for yourself. Only you can decide whether you will become a tzadik or a rasha. It is the job of every person to become as great a tzadik as possible. Of course, some people fail miserably. On the other hand, some people endure many struggles to be G-d fearing. They are willing to even sacrifice their lives for Hashem.

Before model 32471 is born, a Malach will teach it the entire Torah (Rashi too!). The Malach shows the baby travel brochures of both Gan Eden and Gehinom. The Malach's parting words urge 32471 to become a tzadik, not a rasha. With that, the Malach slaps the baby on the lips. Instantly, 32471 forgets all the Torah (Rashi too!) that it has been taught.

Chazal teach us that the birth of a child is a greater Nes (miracle) than the parting of the Yam Suf (Red Sea). But the greatest miracle of all is that in a world that is filled with miracles, Hashem took the time to program each and every one of us with our own special purpose and plan.

#### ■ PARSHA QUESTIONS: TAZRIA

1. When does a woman who has given birth to a son go to the mikveh? 12:2 - At the end of seven days.
2. After a woman gives birth, she is required to offer two types of offerings. Which are they? 12:6 - An olah and a chatat.
3. What animal does the woman offer as a chatat? 12:6 - A tor (turtle dove) or a ben yona (young pigeon).
4. Which of these offerings makes her tahor (ritual purity)? 12:7 - The chatat.
5. Which of the sacrifices does the woman offer first, the olah or the chatat? 12:8 - The chatat.

6. Who determines whether a person is a metzora tamei (person with ritually impure tzara'at) or is tahor? 13:2 - A kohen.
7. If the kohen sees that the tzara'at has spread after one week, how does he rule? 13:5 - The person is tamei.
8. What disqualifies a kohen from being able to give a ruling in a case of tzara'at? 13:12 - Poor vision.
9. Why is the appearance of tzara'at on the tip of one of the 24 "limbs" that project from the body usually unable to be examined? 13:14 - The tzara'at as a whole must be seen at one time. Since these parts are angular, they cannot be seen at one time.
10. On which days is a kohen not permitted to give a ruling on tzara'at? 13:14 - During the festivals; and ruling on a groom during the seven days of feasting after the marriage.
11. In areas of the body where collections of hair grow (e.g., the head or beard), what color hair is indicative of ritual impurity? 13:29 - Golden.
12. In areas of the body where collections of hair grow, what color hair is indicative of purity? 13:37 - Any color other than golden.
13. If the kohen intentionally or unintentionally pronounces a tamei person "tahor," what is that person's status? 13:37 - He remains tamei.
14. What signs of mourning must a metzora display? 13:45 - He must tear his garments, let his hair grow wild, and cover his lips with his garment.
15. Why must a metzora call out, "Tamei! Tamei!"? 13:45 - So people will know to keep away from him.
16. Where must a metzora dwell? 13:46 - Outside the camp in isolation.
17. Why is a metzora commanded to dwell in isolation? 13:46 - Since tzara'at is a punishment for lashon hara (evil speech), which creates a rift between people, the Torah punishes measure for measure by placing a division between him and others.
18. What sign denotes tzara'at in a garment? 13:49 - A dark green or dark red discoloration.
19. What must be done to a garment that has tzara'at? 13:52 - It must be burned.
20. If after washing a garment the signs of tzara'at disappear entirely, how is the garment purified? 13:58 - Through immersion in a mikveh.

# Good Shabbos

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#### ■ CLASSES

- » Gemara Yevamos for men (M-Fr, 6-6:40A)
- » Professional's Kollel-9:00A-11:00A
- » Gemara Nazir for men (Sunday-Wednesday 8:30P)
- » Menuchah Principle for Men: Thursday nights in shul
- » Gates of Prayer for Women: TBD at Ariella Bush's home
- » Chumash for men & women (Shabbos: Check Schedule)
- » Beis Medrash Learning for men including "Shabbos Malkusa" Chaburah-(Shabbos: Check Schedule)