

## CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM WISHES YOU A WONDERFUL

# Shabbos Parshas Re'eh

### FRIDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 30TH

- » Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv 7:00 PM
- » Candles 7:36 PM
- » Shabbos Begins 7:54 PM

### SHABBOS DAY, AUGUST 31ST

- » Shacharis followed by Kiddush 8:30 AM
- » 15-min Pirkei Avos Shiur for Women following Kiddush
- » Women & Children S"Y 6:00 - 7:30 PM
- » Beis Medrash Learning - 6:20 PM
- » Mincha 7:20 PM
- » Sunset 7:52 PM
- » Talmud Shiur: Gemara Avoda Zara following Mincha
- » Maariv 8:34 PM
- » Shabbos Ends (50 min) 8:42 PM
- » Rabbeinu Tam (72 min) 9:04 PM

**A WISE MAN WOULD SAY: "IF YOU ALWAYS GIVE, YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE."**

### REFUAH SHELAIMA

#### Men

- » Hillel ben Simcha (Jeff Lubin)
- » Daniel Ze'ev ben Miriam (Brother of Josh Rothstein)

#### Women

- » Sipke Grune bas Lillian (Mother of Jeff Luftig)
- » Tali bas Aviva (Daughter of Aviva Bass)
- » Shoshana Gittel bas Chaya Leah (Sister of Naomi Goldberg)
- » Naama bas Devorah Miriam (Granddaughter of Rabbi & Rebbetzin Rich)
- » Chana bas Hendel (Friend Of Yael Bodenheimer)

### SHABBOS KIDDUSH SPONSORED BY

- » the members of Guarantee Kiddush Club

### CTC SCHEDULE OF SHIURIM/TEFILLAH (Week of Sept 1, 2024)

- » Gemara Zevachim, Mon - Fri, 6:00 - 6:30 AM
- » **Shacharis, 6:30 AM**
- » Amud HaYomi Sanhedrin: Sunday - Friday, 12 - 1 PM, On Zoom with Rabbi Yaakov Rich. Email Rabbi Rich for the link.
- » **Mincha/Halacha/Maariv 7:30 PM**
- » Marriage Chabura for men, Sun following Maariv for 30 mins
- » Mesillas Yesharim, Mon - Thur following Maariv for 30 mins
- » Gemara Bava Basra following Marriage Chabura or Mesilas Yesharim

#### Women

- » Parsha Shiur for Women with Rabbi Michael Bodenheimer,

Sundays, 8:00 - 8:30 PM

### REBUILDING PROJECT by Marshall Lestz.

*(We are excited to share this column with you each Shabbos in the spirit of helping to repair our relationships and thereby contribute to rebuilding the Beis HaMikdash.)*

### UNSOLICITED POSITIVE FEEDBACK (Is that even a thing?)

I was in the car with my daughter the other day and a truck drove past us with one of those familiar "How's My Driving? Call 1-800-XXX-XXXX" messages on it. She asked me what exactly that meant. So I told her that if you wanted to report how the driver was driving, you call the company and tell them, so they can then have a little chat with the driver about it. So she says, "But don't companies want people to call them? Isn't calling them a good thing?" I was a little confused at first, and then it hit me-- her innocence caused her to totally misunderstand the point of calling. She actually thought people would call the company and tell them how GOOD the drivers were doing! I explained that people call those numbers to complain, not give compliments. We both got a big laugh out of the thought of someone calling up a company and saying: "Hi, I just wanted to report that one of your drivers made a sensational U-Turn today! Beautiful! GREAT use of his left blinker. I was totally inspired."

But seriously, isn't it funny to think that we actually have vehicles driving around inviting us to complain?!... As if we need MORE incentive to be negative?! We need the exact opposite! Ideally we should be looking for opportunities to give POSITIVE feedback! And if not to anonymous drivers, then how about to our friends and family?

What if, for example, we imagined our spouses with little invisible stickers on them that said stuff like, "How's my driving...carpool? How's my errand running, my handyman skills, my doing the laundry, my patience, my bill paying, my cooking, my filling out school forms, my problem solving, my desire to grow?"-- and all the other positive things we can think of. We could have imaginary "How am I doing?" stickers for our children, parents, friends, teachers, Rabbis, and work colleagues too.

Our friends and loved ones aren't likely to ask us how they're doing with a certain mundane activity, or a positive character trait, so let's take the initiative and tell them! Expressing our gratitude, appreciation and praise makes US greater, our relationship stronger, and will likely give the other person a big unexpected lift.

From now on, every time we see one of those "How's my driving" messages on a truck, let's remind ourselves to express our gratitude for the good that surrounds us, and pay less attention to all the stuff that drives us crazy.

Buckle up for an amazing day, everybody. Keep on Building!

### TIDBITS

This week is Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Elul. Rosh Chodesh is on Tuesday & Wednesday, September 3rd-4th. The molad is Tuesday afternoon 2:37 PM and 12

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# *Shabbos Parshas Re'eh*

chalakim. Some are particular to observe Yom Kippur Katan particularly for the month of Elul, to inaugurate the month as a month of Teshuvah. Yom Kippur Katan is Monday, September 2nd.

On the second day of Rosh Chodesh, we begin adding LeDavid Hashem Ori at the end of davening. Nusach Ashkenaz adds LeDavid at Maariv and Shacharis, and will begin on Tuesday night during Maariv. Nusach Sefard adds LeDavid at Shacharis and Minchah, and will begin with Shacharis on Wednesday. The Shofar is sounded along with LeDavid at Shacharis on weekdays. LeDavid is added through Shemini Atzeres. Many Sefardim begin saying Selichos on the second day of Chodesh Elul.

The first opportunity for Kiddush Levana is next Motzaei Shabbos, September 7th. The final opportunity is late Tuesday night, September 17th at 2:38 AM EST.

As the precarious situation in Eretz Yisrael unfortunately continues, each person should increase reciting tehillim and performing other mitzvos as a zechus for the many Acheinu Beis Yisrael in travail and captivity as well as for the soldiers in battle.

Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Elul is this Shabbos, Parashas Re'eh, August 31st. Rosh Chodesh Elul is on Tuesday & Wednesday, September 3rd-4th.

RE'EH: The blessings for those who keep the mitzvos and the curses for those who reject them • Upon entering the land, you must accept the mitzvos upon yourself at Har Gerizim and Har Eival, and recognize their accompanying reward and punishment • Drive out the nations and destroy their gods • In a designated place [the Beis Hamikdash] you will serve Hashem • Laws of Korbanos • Do not practice idolatry • Keeping kosher • Laws of a Jewish slave • Firstborn animals • Yomim Tovim • See Taryag Weekly for the various mitzvos.

Haftarah: The haftarah (Yeshaya 54:11-55:5) relays the promise that Hashem will one day redeem us from exile. During all the years of exile He will safeguard us from the spiritual and physical oppression brought by other nations.

Parashas Re'eh: 126 Pesukim • 17 Obligations • 38 Prohibitions

1) Destroy avodah zarah. 2) Do not destroy holy items. 3) Fulfill vows for korbanos or bedek habayis on the first chag after the vow is made. 4-5) Bring korbanos to the Beis HaMikdash; do not bring korbanos elsewhere. 6) Blemished korbanos should be redeemed and purchased anew. 7-9) Do not eat Ma'aser Sheini outside of Yerushalayim. 10) Do not eat a Bechor animal outside Yerushalayim. 11) Do not eat Kodashim outside their designated place. 12) Do not eat from a korban olah. 13) Do not eat meat of a korban before the sprinkling of its blood. 14) Do not eat Bikkurim prior to placing them in the Temple Courtyard. 15) Do not withhold the Levi'im's gifts. 16) Perform Shechitah prior to eating meat. 17) Do not eat Eiver Min Hachai (meat from a living animal). 18) Bring korbanos personally to the Mikdash. 19-20) Do not add or subtract mitzvos from the Torah. 21) Do not listen to a prophet of avodah zarah. 22-26) Do not heed or befriend a meisis (one who influences others to sin); do not absolve your hatred for him; do not save his life or

defend him in judgment. 27) Do not missionize for idolatry or become missionized. 28) Review witnesses' testimony. 29-31) Burn down an idolatrous city; do not rebuild it or benefit from its spoils. 32-33) Do not cut yourself or pull out hair in grief. 34) Do not eat disqualified Kodashim. 35) Check birds for signs of kashrus. 36) Do not eat flying insects. 37) Do not eat Neveilah. 38) Separate Ma'aser Sheini. 39) Give Ma'aser Ani. 40,42) Do not collect a debt after shemittah, rather consider it dismissed. 41) Collect debt from a non-Jew promptly. 43-44) Do not withhold charity or kindness from any Jew; give charity generously and graciously. 45) Do not refrain from lending before shemittah. 46-47) Do not send away a servant or maid-servant empty handed; rather, provide them with gifts. 48-49) Do not work with a korban animal or shear its wool. 50) Do not eat chametz after midday on Erev Pesach. 51) Do not leave over meat from the korban Chagigah. 52) Do not sacrifice a korban pesach on a private Bamah. 53) V'samachta B'chagecha. 54-55) Go up for Aliyah L'regel and do not come empty handed.

Let us seek foreign gods whom are foreign to us and serve them (Devarim 13:3)

Rav Chatzkel Levenstein zt"l would explain that this pasuk admonishes an idol worshiper: Aside from the gravity of the sin, a lack of focus and basic "seichel" caused him to overlook the obvious and serve a powerless idol and an entity with no real power. Man's greatness is seen in his ability to override his inclination and desires and act according to his intellect. Any deficiency in this regard is a display of animal-like behavior and a lacking in the greatness of man.

Rav Chatzkel would comment that upon beginning the month of Elul, one must contemplate the absurdity of coming before Hashem on the upcoming holiday of Rosh Hashanah to ask of him for continued blessing without contemplating and making an accounting of his deeds and activities. Only after stopping and thinking what one can offer Hashem is it possible to ask Him for a sweet new year.