

Parsha Press

PARSHAT TERUMAH

A Selfless Act Jaelyn Ramras

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

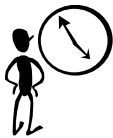
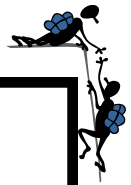
A Selfless Act	1
Lefi Kocham Ani Mevakesh	1-2
A Gift From G-d	2-3
Shmirat Halashon	3
Story of a Gadol	3
Parsha Quiz	4
Mazel Tov	4

Parshat Terumah teaches us that every human is created with two opposing drives. One is to behave generously and give everything to others including your time and your heart. The second is to behave selfishly and keep everything to yourself and not care for others but rather only care for yourself. In this week's parsha, the Jewish people were confronted with two options- whether to be selfish or whether to be selfless and give up everything they had. The Jewish people had the opportunity to give gold and silver to the mishkan- the beautiful structure that Hashem told Bnei Yisroel to build in order to serve Him while they traveled through the desert. No one was forced to give to this collection- it was volunteers only. It was a hard challenge to give up your utmost prized possessions to be destroyed and melted for the mishkan. Bnei Yisroel rose to the occasion and gave up everything for the mishkan- they did a selfless act to benefit the community. Bnei Yisrael were so selfless that they even gave more than the builders needed. There is a special secret of giving that most people do not know because if they did they would give a lot more- it feels great for the giver. Not only do you add to the person you are giving to but you also add to yourself; it makes you feel very good. As the grade trips approach, most people are inclined to room with friends. Before you pick your room, you should remember that there are those who do not have as many friends as you and may not have a room. Maybe for this grade trip you should do a selfless act and go out of your way to be a giver and give someone, who does not have a lot of friends, the time of her life. Maybe you should not care only about yourself having a good time but also care for others. And maybe by giving some one else a good time, you will also have a good time and develop a friendship that will last forever.

-Based on an article from Aish.com

"Lefi Kocham Ani Mevakesh" Mrs. Taib

The Medrash tells us that when Moshe Rabeinu was commanded to build the Mishkan, he trembled and asked Hakodosh Boruch Hu how man could possibly make a house for Hashem if, as we are told in Tehillim, "even the heavens cannot contain You"? Hashem's response was truly remarkable. "Lo lefi kochi Ani Mevakesh, ella lefi Kocham". I do not require of Am Yisroel to make

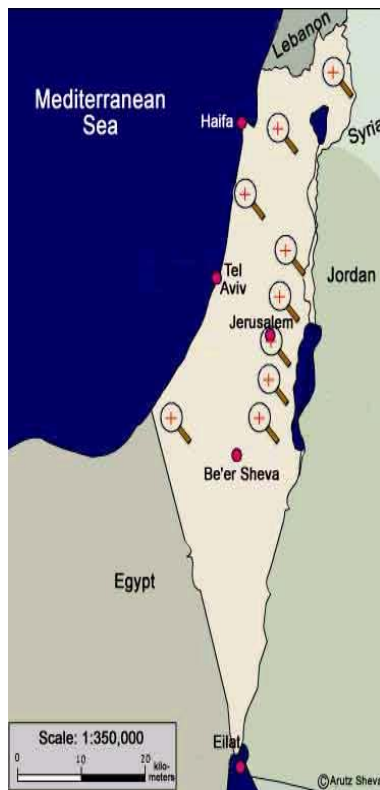


Shabbat Starts:
5:08

News From Israel

- In an interview with Ariel Sharon, he said that he is ready to release Palestinian prisoners who were involved in attacks so that in return, terrorists will hold their fire during Israel's withdrawal of the Gaza Strip.
- According to army sources, at least 17 mortar shells were fired at several Gush Katif communities. No one was wounded.

-Jpost.com



Arutz Sheva.com

“Lefi Kocham Ani Mevakesh” (cont.)

anything in keeping with my capacity. I only ask of them to build a mishkan in accordance with their capacity. Lefi Kocham. These words of the medrash teach us that each one was expected to build according to his own unique capabilities. No one is expected to do more than he is capable of, but, by the same token, each individual is required to reach his own potential, his and no one else's.

The medrash continues by telling us that when Hashem told Moshe to bring a Korbon on the Mizbayach, Moshe asked “If all the animals in the world were gathered, would that be enough to sacrifice to you?” Hashem said, “It is not as you think. For me one lamb a day would be sufficient, for the rich man an ox and for the poor man a sheep.” However, if the rich man brings a sheep, that would be considered a Chilul Hashem. If one has a higher potential, he can not satisfy his requirement with anything less than his true capability.

The medrash is teaching us a powerful message for our own lives. Hakodosh Boruch Hu gave each and every one of us our unique Kochot. We are not expected to do more than is within our capability, but we must also strive to reach the fullest of our own potential. Each and every one of us “Lefi Kochainu”.

A Gift From G-d Jenny Deluty

In Parshat Trumah, Bnei Yisroel are instructed to obtain materials and begin building the Mishkan. It was an incredible undertaking to build a house for Hashem. Hashem told Moshe later that the building of the Mishkan did require Divine assistance. (Rashi, Shemot 39:33). We learn from this that only with the help of Hashem does the impossible become possible. Sometimes, it is only after the fact that one realizes, Hashem's guiding hand in their life.

This same concept can be applied to Eretz Yisrael. To return to a barren land after 2000 years of exile, and to transform what had become a virtual wasteland into a living habitation and an advanced country – and all this in less than 60 years – is nothing short of a great miracle. This is especially true (Continued on pg 3)

(continued from pg. 2) given all the obstacles along the way and opposition from the rest of the world. Clearly, it is only with Hashem's help that Israel is the thriving homeland that it is today. Also, not only does Israel thrive physically but spiritually as well. As one drives from community to community, it is astounding how many synagogues and Torah study halls have been built over the years.

We must continue to have our goals in mind just as Bnei Yisroel were determined to build the Mishkan. Then, Hashem will help us succeed. We will be able to make a gift (terumah) to Hashem from the very gift that He first gave to us, as the Jews did in this week's parsha when they contributed to the Mishkan.

-Adapted from OU.org

Story of a Gadol

Many stories are told of R' Yaakov Kamenetsky's tremendous middah of humility. Much could be learned from trying to follow in the footsteps of this tzaddik.

Here are but a few examples:

R' Yaakov would almost run through the Beit Midrash to find his seat in order not to have people stand for him.

After spending summers learning in camp with some of the young bachurim, R' Yaakov would say that it would soon be Yom Kippur and if he in any way slighted these boys or did not show them the proper respect, he asked for their forgiveness.

R' Yaakov was once in a doctor's office and seated near him was a non-religious boy. Realizing that there was a language barrier between them, R' Yaakov played catch with the boy. In this way, he hoped to make a favorable impression of a religious Jew.

R' Yaakov would crawl under a car to get a ball if a child threw it there accidentally. He once asked a child to teach him how to play with the yo-yo.

R' Yaakov did not think of himself as "holier than thou" or greater than another. He was a gadol ha'dor who was also an anav. How much better would we be if we would follow in the footsteps of such a man?

-Adapted from 5 Great Lives

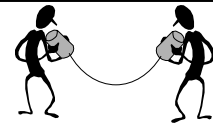
"Quote of the Week"

Don't be fooled by the calendar. There are only as many days in the year as you make use of.

SHMIRAT HALASHON

There is no difference regarding this prohibition, whether the listener is one's relative or someone distant, or even one's wife—unless it is something of which he must inform her for a constructive purpose

**Chofetz Chaim:
A Daily Companion**



Fast Facts on Davening toward the *Makom Hamikdash* Batya Matla Herzberg



- ❑ The *makom hamikdash* was designated for *kedusha, korbanot, and tefillot* from the time of the world's creation
- ❑ According to R' Yaakov Emden, the *tefillot* from *chutz la'aretz* pass through the *makom hamikdash* before ascending to heaven
- ❑ When one *davens* he should face *Yerushalayim, the Beit Hamikdash, and the Kodesh Kodeshim*
- ❑ It is customary to situate the *aron kodesh* in a shul toward the direction to which the people should *daven*
- ❑ The *Beit Hamikdash* was one of the seven things created before the creation of the world
- ❑ Adam, Kayin, Hevel, and Noach all brought *korbanot* at the site of the *Beit Hamikdash*
- ❑ The *makom hamikdash* was also the location of *akeidat Yitzchak* and the place where each of the forefathers established and *davened* his respective *tefilla*

-Based on an article from Torah Lada'at
Rabbi Matis Blum

Mazel Tov



Mazel Tov:

Shira Pearlman on the birth of a niece, Atara Yaffa
 Eliana Baruch on the Bar Mitzvah of her brother Benjamin
 Shira Markowits on the engagement of her sister Chaya Sarah to Aaron Robby
 Mrs. Storch on the birth of twins (a boy and a girl)
 Megan Leifer on the birth of a niece
 Rebecca Feiner '02 on her engagement to Rafi Rosenblum (Estee Shor's nephew)

February 13

Jaelyn Ostreicher

February 16

Tara Friedman

February 15

Tara Eisen

Eleanor Feldman

February 17

Allyssa Brody

Avigayil Chesner

February 18

Daniella Dobe Friedman

Parsha Quiz



פרשת תרומה

עליות חמישי וששי
 כ"ו: ל"א - כ"ז: ה'

כ"ו

ל"א—פרכת

ל"ה - ושמת את השולחן

ל"ו - ועשית מסך

כ"ז

ג' - מזלגתיו

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