



Young Israel of Bal Harbour

9580 Abbott Ave., Surfside, FL 33154

<http://www.yicbh.org>

SHMOOZE NEWS – Parshas Vayeshev December 5, 2015

Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein
President Aaron Weinberg

Shabbos Mevorchim; Rosh Chodesh Teves, Saturday-Sunday

**Chanukat Habayit Celebration Sunday, Erev Chanukah,
December 6, 2015; Mincha 3:45, followed by festivities
Youth Program for all ages on second floor, starting at 4 PM**

וישאלו האיש לאמר מה תבקש

**“The man asked him, saying, what is it that you seek?”
Bereishis 37:15**

The word לאמר, which is usually translated as “saying”, is more correctly translated as “to say”, meaning the person is to repeat the communication. How does this interpretation fit into the above verse, which would then read, “A man asked him to say “what is it that you seek?” The Kotzker Rebbe cites the Midrash that the “man” whom Yosef spoke to was the Angel Gabriel. The series of events that were to follow -- Yosef being sold into slavery by his brothers; being tempted by a seductress; being unjustly imprisoned in a dungeon; and finally becoming viceroy of the Egyptian empire -- would be enough to bring out the absolute worst in a person. These events could have easily elicited hatred, rebellion against G-d, lust, resentment and vanity. Gabriel provided Yosef with a principle that would enable him to maintain his spirituality and not be corrupted by these challenges. The magic formula was for him to constantly ask himself “what is it that I seek?” When a person has a singlemindedness of purpose, he is unlikely to be distracted or deterred from pursuing his goal

Shabbos

Candle Lighting	5:11PM
Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos	5:15PM
Daf Yomi	8:00AM
Talmud Sotah	8:15AM
Hashkama Minyan	7:15AM
Shacharis	9:00AM
Shiur	4:15PM
Mincha	5:00PM
Havdalah	6:15PM

Weekday

Shacharis

Sun	8:00AM
Mon- Friday	7:00 AM

Mincha

Sun-Thur	5:20 PM
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LEGACY.
COMMUNITY.
FAMILY.

The weekly Shmooze News is dedicated by:

Jack and Susan Gluck in memory of Milton & Edith Gluck z"l and Nicholas Brecher z"l;

Stuart Harris in honor of Penny Harris; and

Aaron and Susan Weinberg in memory of Jack & Helen Weinberg z"l
and Morris & Nellie Fischer z"l.

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even by major upsets. Incidents that can produce moral degeneracy are less likely to affect a person who has a clearly defined a purpose in life and is dedicated toward fulfillment of that purpose. If we find ourselves responding to the trials of life with less than desirable character traits, we might ask ourselves, do we have a specific goal in our lives or perhaps we are drifting rather than steering. The Angels advice to Yosef is one we should heed ourselves, again and again what is it that we seek? The proper answer to this repetitious question should determine not only the course of our lives, but also our reactions to various challenges to our spirituality.

(Sefer: Living Each Week Rabbi Dr. Abraham Twerski)

Wishing all of you an inspiring Shabbos!
Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein

The festival of Chanukah begins the 25th day of Kislev. It is called חנוכה which is a contraction of two words חנוכה (they rested on the 25th from their enemies). Another reason for the name חנוכה is to commemorate the rededication of the Bais Hamikdash from the defilement of the enemy. In addition, the building of the Mishkan (Tabernacle) was completed on the 25th day of Kislev.

The difference between Chanukah and Purim.

On Purim there is a requirement for משתה ושמחה (feasting and rejoicing). On Chanukah there is a dispute on whether such a requirement exists. Some are of the opinion that Chanukah is only days of praise and thanksgiving. The reason for this difference between Chanukah and Purim is that on Purim, Haman's evil decree against the Jewish people was for their physical annihilation. Even if the Jewish people were to betray their faith, Haman would not have spared them. Therefore, when G-d saved us our sages decreed that we should show and express our thanksgiving and praise through feasting and rejoicing to show that the Almighty saved us physically. However, by Chanukah the evil decrees of the Greek King Antiochus were not for the physical destruction of the Jewish people but for their spiritual destruction. The purpose of his persecution was to force us to betray our faith as we say in על הניסים - להשיכם תורתך ולהעבירם מחוקי רצונך (To compel them to forget your Torah and violate the decrees of Your will). If the Jewish people would have submitted to become a conquered nation following the faith of the Greeks, the enemy would allow us to live. Therefore, when G-d brought about our victory our sages did not designate these days as a time for physical rejoicing through feasting but as days of praise and thanksgiving.

The minhag (custom) of eating cheese

Some have a custom to eat dairy on Chanukah. The reason is to recall the miracle that occurred with dairy foods. There was an evil decree that every betrothed woman prior to her wedding was required to have relations with the Greek Governor. Yehudis the daughter of Yochanan Kohen Gadol fed him cheese until he was very thirsty. She then fed him wine until he was very drunk and fell into a deep sleep. She then cut off his head and brought it to Jerusalem. When the Greeks saw that their leader was dead, they fled. Although work is permissible on Chanukah women have a custom to abstain from work at home, while the Chanukah lights are burning. The reason that they have accepted this custom is because it is the women specifically that benefited from the defeat of the enemy, because they were released from the evil decree. In addition, the downfall of the Greeks was brought about by a woman.

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Classes and Events

- Talmud Shiur 6:30AM Mon-Fri in the Beis Midrash.
- Daf Yomi with Rabbi Citron, every day after Shacharis.
- Ladies Tehilim group will meet Monday 10:30 AM on the second floor.
- Father and Child Learning Saturday night at 7:00PM in the social hall, sponsored this week by anonymous.
- Lunch and Learn begins Monday December 7th, 11:30AM in the Beis Midrash. If you would like to sponsor please call the Shul's office.
- Women Rosh Chodesh Luncheon, December 14. Speaker: Vivian Perez
- Beis Midrash Night every Thursday 7:30PM-8:30PM; with Talmudic Scholar from Talmudic University. Cholent and kugel are served; sponsorships are welcome.

- Classes for women by Rebbetzin Baumann starting Thursday December 17, 10:00AM-12:00PM.
- Jan. 13 -- Rabbi Dr. Aaron Rakeffet, Wed. evening, 8:00PM.
- Jan. 16 -- Rabbi Elchanan Zohn, Geust Speaker Shabbos afternoon.
- Jan. 20 -- Rabbi Zecharia Wallerstein, Wed. evening, 8:00PM.
- Jan. 27 -- Rabbi Eli Mansour, Wed. evening, 8:00PM.
- Feb. 1,8,15,22,29 – Lectures on Modern Orthodoxy; Maxine Jacobson (Mondays).
- Save the Date: Annual Dinner, Sunday February 14, 2016.
- Save the Date; Purim and Purim Seuda, Thursday March 24, 2016.

Congregational Family and Shul News

- Kiddush is co-sponsored: Marty & Golda Jacobs, commemorating the Yahrtzeit of Martin's mother, Tsippa bas Moshe Yaakov z"l, Celia Jacobs z"l ; and by Eddie & Phyllis Chernoff In honor of their daughter Deidre, her husband Ahron Greene, and daughter Gitty.
- Mazel Tov to our esteemed member families, and may they have much nachas always:
 - Miriam and Morty Kriger upon the marriage of their grandson Akiva Goldstein to Chani Bitterman.
 - Roslyn and Larry Jaffe upon the bar mitzvah of their grandson Yosef Ness; mazel tov also to their children Charlie and Dorith Ness and the whole family.

Building Fund News

Our deep thanks and gratitude to the following families for their generous donations to our new building fund:

- Anonymous - \$94,000.
- Howard and Diane Cole, for increasing their donation to \$25,000.
- Seymour and Carol Pinewski for their donation of \$20,000.
- Shalom and Rina Fireman for their generous donation of \$18,000.

Youth Program News and Upcoming Events

- High School teens are invited to Learning and Frozen Yogurt every Wednesday night. Please contact Rabbi Fried for timing and location details.

If you are interested in sponsoring Kiddush or Seuda Shlishis please contact Stuart Harris or Yakira at (305) 866-0203

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Shul and Community Interest Announcements

New Mailing Address: Our new mailing address is : 9580 Abbot Ave, Surfside Fl 33154; or you can continue to use our PO Box 545985, Surfside, Fl 33154-5985.

Shabbos/Holiday Schedule: To view the schedule please go to our website www.yicbh.org and click on Holidays/Shabbos Info

E-Mail Addresses: Please use the following e-mail addresses to contact the Rabbi, Office, Youth Director, and Gabbaim, respectively:

Rabbi@yicbh.org; yakira@yicbh.org; Rabbifried@yicbh.org; gabbai@yicbh.org

Our Siyum on the Tanach is being postponed till Shavuot., when we will have a community wide celebration. Although most of the Neviim and Kesuvim have been taken, the majority of the Chumash has not. Please click below to view what was taken and what is still available.

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/images.shulcloud.com/689/uploads/Classes/Tanach%20chapters.pdf>

End of Year Tax Planning

Our Young Israel now offers the opportunity for families to directly donate appreciated stock, which may offer tax benefits. Please check with your tax adviser, and if your situation warrants, please contact the office.

Upcoming Shabbatons at our YI

- Dec. 18-19 -- Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton, Rabbi Yakov Horowitz
- Jan. 8-9 -- NCSY Shabbaton
- Jan 22-23 -- Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton ;Rabbi Elazar Muskin, Rav of YI Century City
- Feb. 19-20 -- Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton; Rabbi J. J. Schacter

Community Announcement: Rabbi Dr. Avraham Steinberg

Rabbi Steinberg, world renowned expert on Jewish Medical Ethics, and author of Encyclopedia of Jewish Medical Ethics, will be speaking and answering questions at Beth Israel Cong., 770 W. 40th St., Miami Beach, on Monday, Dec. 14th, 7:30 – 9:00 PM. Please send questions to airiment@aol.com.

We can now accept on-line donations via our shul website directly through PayPal. Please use this link <http://www.yicbh.org/payment.php> , or first go to the website (www.yicbh.org) , click on Membership & Donation, and press Donate.

Please submit all insertions for the Shmooze News to yakira@yicbh.org
by Noon Thursday