

MUSSAR MOMENT

RABBI YERACHMIEL FRANK

ESTABLISHED IN LOVING MEMORY OF RUBIN FELDMAN BY MRS. GLORIA FELDMAN & FAMILY



This week's parsha starts with the mitzvah of *shmittah*, the Sabbatical year. Every seventh year, in Eretz Yisrael, working the land is prohibited. The Torah calls this year "*Shabbos l'Hashem*", a Shabbos for Hashem. What is this term teaching us?

The great *Mashgiach* of the Mir Yeshiva in Europe, Rav Yerucham Levovitz (1873-1936), quotes, in the name of the *Ra'aved* (Rav Avrohom ben Dovid 12th century), the following foundational idea relevant to most of the mitzvos commanded by Hashem to mankind. Hashem gave us the earth in order to live, work and accomplish during our lifetime. With the passage of time, we tend to think we own this world, we are the bosses and there is no one else involved, forgetting the Creator of the world and the only source of any abilities or accomplishments of mankind. Without Hashem, one can't move, think or bring any results. There is no such thing as a self-made man.

Therefore, Hashem, through his *mitzvos*, provides constant reminders to take away the false notion of, "*kochi v'otzem yadi*" - it is all my strength and powers. There are laws how to and when to work our fields, conduct our businesses. There are laws on how to buy and sell, mitzvos on harvests or profits. There is a *mitzvah* to share with others, including charity. Many *mitzvos* and laws in the Torah bring out this fundamental principle that we are not in charge; it is all due to Hashem's kindness and without Him, nothing happens.

It is interesting to note the Hebrew word for "thanks" is "*Modeh/Hoda'ah*" which means "to admit." It is very difficult to admit and acknowledge that someone else helped us, whether Hashem or a human being. Our nature is, "I did it myself, without you." When a person thanks someone else, they are admitting that they received from the other person.

Based on this, Rav Levovitz explains the meaning "*Shabbos l'Hashem*" regarding the mitzvah of *shmittah*, and also every Shabbos where it also uses the expression "*Shabbos l'Hashem*". The purpose of Shabbos each week and *Shemitta* is in order for us to realize that everything that happened during the week and all that we accomplished is all due to Hashem; Hashem is the boss. Similarly, each seventh year we take a step back and contemplate that Hashem is the one who allowed everything to grow during the past six years, and all we did was the *hishtadlus*, the effort. This is also the purpose of blessings we recite over food, drinks, mitzvos - to focus on the source of all blessings which is only through Hashem.

As we go through the day, involved in activities, accomplishing and seeing results whether in ruchnius,
(continued on next page)

MOMENTS OF GREATNESS

Peter, the owner of a tile company in New Jersey, shared the following incident:

"A few years ago, the Talmudical Yeshiva of Philadelphia hired my company to redo the floors in their study hall. We gave them a price, and when they agreed to it, we ordered the sand and tiles we needed, and began the job.

After we finished, the yeshiva paid the sum we had agreed upon, but before I left, one of the Rabbis came over to me and handed me a check for another \$400. When I asked him what it was for, he explained, "Rabbi Shmuel Kamenetsky, the dean, noticed that you ordered additional sand while you were in the middle of the job. He realized that you initially miscalculated the amount you would need, and the the job ended up costing you more than expected. He made some phone calls to find out how much the extra sand cost you, and he is giving you this extra money to cover it. He insists that you accept it."

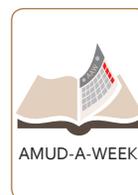
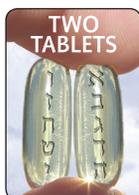
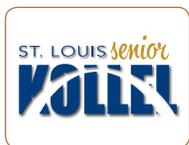
Peter was extremely moved. "Never in my life have I received money for something that I didn't ask for. What an amazing rabbi!"



AMUD-A-WEEK SCHEDULE YEAR 4, WEEK 5 — SUCCAH 13A

Rabbi Mendy Rosner

Maggid shiur of the week for the Amud, **R' Hillel Anton**



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ZMANIM CANDLELIGHTING: 7:55 SOF ZMAN KRIS SHEMA MA: 8:44 GRA: 9:20 AM
SHABBOS ENDS 9:00 PM RABBEINU TAM: 9:27 PM

ALEF TO TAV: INSIGHTS INTO THE ALEF BEIS

RABBI YAAKOV BERKOWITZ



Letter: Shin
Spelling: Shin, yud, nun
Numerical value: 300

The shape of the letter *shin* resembles a molar, hence the name *shin* which, with different vowels, spells *shain* - or tooth. The “heads” on top of the letter resemble the crowns of the tooth, and the pointed bottom is the tooth’s root. The name of this letter, *shin*, also means “learn”, as seen in the word “*v’shinantam*”, and you should study diligently. *Shinun* means to review one’s Torah study constantly. Just like the molars chew the food, enabling it to be digested into the body in the best way possible, reviewing the Torah which one learns enables it to be “digested” by the brain, integrating it into one’s body.

There is a *halacha l’Moshe m’sinai*, a law transmitted orally by Moshe from Sinai, which teaches us that there are to be two *shins* on the *tefillin* which is worn on the head. One side of the *tefillin* has an ordinary *shin* with three heads and the other side has a *shin* with four heads. Rav Mordechai Yoffe (1530-1612) explains in his sefer *Levush Malchus*, that the three heads correspond to the three Patriarchs and the four heads on the other *shin* correspond to the four Matriarchs. Furthermore, the double *shin* on the *tefillin* alludes to the verse *sas anochi al imrasech* (Psalms 119:162). The two *shins*, equaling 600, allude to the fact that *tefillin* are only worn six days each week.

KOLLEL KASHA KORNER

RABBI YAAKOV SILVERMAN



Which five names of members of the same immediate family start with the same letter?

Last (two) week’s question: What are the three times the Torah mentions dogs?

Answer: 1. The dogs did not bark when the Jewish people left Mitzrayim (Shemos 11:17) 2. The Torah tells us what to do with flesh from a killed animal (Shemos 22:30) and 3. We are prohibited from bringing a korban from an animal that was exchanged for a dog (Devarim 23:19)

To contact Rabbi Silverman email ysilverman@stlkollel.com

MUSSAR MOMENT

CONTINUED

the spiritual realm, or gashmius, the physical realm; whether with smarts, strength or money, let us honestly reflect, “Is it really all me, or did Someone else provide the idea, the material, or something else that allowed me to accomplish what I did?” Ultimately, upon reflection, we will come to admit that we are helpless without Hashem.

Rabbi Yerachmiel Frank has been with the St. Louis Kollel since its inception. He has distinguished himself in the Bais Medrash and the community as a highly regarded individual and is currently the Rosh Chabura of the Kollel. He is also the Chair of Talmudic Law & Tradition established in loving memory of Rubin Feldman by Mrs. Gloria Feldman & family.

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT!

RABBI SHLOMO EISENBERG



Q. During our lunch break, it is common for many of the coworkers to sit around eating lunch together in the conference room. Am I allowed to eat my kosher food (ex.chopped liver) on the same table as someone eating some Chipotle or any other non kosher food?

A. When individuals eating kosher meat and dairy are sitting next to each other, one would need some sort of *heker* (reminder) in order not to taste the others food (Y.D. 88:2). An example of a *heker* would be placing something between them that is not usually placed on the table. However, when it comes to eating next to someone partaking in non kosher food, no *heker* is required. In such circumstances, a *heker* is unnecessary because, different than kosher meat and milk that one can momentarily forget that he is eating one or the other, there is no concern that one will partake of the non-kosher food if it is offered to him. (Shach Y.D. 88:2).

Q. In my local JCC, we have a dairy and meat cafe right next to each other with a common seating area. Am I allowed to eat a hamburger and sit at the same table as a random person, who I never met, eating a slice of pizza?

A. As explained above, a *heker* is normally needed when one person is eating meat and the other person is eating dairy. However, in your situation a *heker* would not be necessary. The Rabbis are not concerned that one will partake from the food of the other if they don't know each other. Friends, relatives and coworkers may feel comfortable sharing food from the others plate, but a random stranger will feel awkward doing the same (Y.D. 88:2) However, you must be careful that your food doesn't touch his food in any way, which may render everything *treif*.

Please contact your Rav for final ruling.

To contact Rabbi Eisenberg email seisenberg@stlkollel.com.

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SPOTLIGHT ON *Mini Yarchei Kallah*

This past Sunday, over 50 members of the U. City & Chesterfield community came together at Agudas Israel for part two of the the joint Mini-Yarchei Kallah. After a delectable breakfast with bagels, lox & cream cheese and more, including a new tasty addition to the Yarchei Kallah menu - iced coffee, everyone got together to prepare the sugya before the terrific shiur superbly delivered by the Rosh Kollel of the Chesterfield Kollel, Rabbi Avrohom Morgenstern.

It was a pleasure to host the Chesterfield Kollel and hear the high-level shiur from Rabbi Avrohom Morgenstern.
- Baruch Mandelbaum

Sunday's joint Yarchei Kallah between the Chesterfield and the St. Louis Kollel's was a wonderful experience. Achdus created through the vehicle of Torah should be a zchus for our entire community. Rabbi Morgenstern's shiur was beautifully organized and delivered with lomdus and clarity. Looking forward to more joint programs in the future.. - Dr. Dov Zeffren



A wonderful way to further our joint goal of spreading Torah in St. Louis.
- Rabbi Yisrael Mayer Frank

I really enjoyed learning the sugya together with our friends from Chesterfield. The topic was masterfully presented by Rabbi Morgenstern and there was a great kol Torah in the Bais Medrash. I look forward to more opportunities to learn together in the future. - Alex Lyss



It was so beautiful to see the two communities come together over Torah. The learning and shiur was truly refreshing, as was the iced coffee.
- Rabbi Yaakov Silverman



PIZZA NIGHT AT NUSACH HARI

Sunday, May 26TH

All-You-Can-Eat Pizza Buffet

5:00PM - 7:00PM

650 Price Road. \$12. Bring your family and friends to enjoy a delicious dinner of pizza, pasta, salad, and garlic bread, dessert and beverage! Also, a movie for the kids! Please place your carry-out orders by 10:00 am on Sunday morning. Email orders preferred to jeff@nhbz.org (you will receive an email confirmation) or as a last resort, call 314-991-2100, ext.2.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



SUNDAY, MAY 26
 BBQ for Amud-a-Week participants and families. Franks, Burgers, Fries and more! + Moonbounce and ices for the kids. 5 - 6:30 pm. \$10-20 per family. @ U.City Shul. Sponsorships welcome RSVP to yberkowitz@stlkollel.com




WEDNESDAY MAY 29 - SENIOR KOLLEL

St Louis Senior Kollel presents "Aging Gracefully: Uncovering Our Emotional Well-Being"

A Live Webinar Lunch & Learn
With Basya (Barbara) Friedman, M.Ed
 Wednesday, May 29th
 St. Louis Kollel ~ 8200 Delmar - 63124
 Complimentary Lunch at Noon
 Webinar Begins at 12:30pm
 For Men & Women | Sponsorships Available
 Call 314 726-6047 or email office@stlkollel.com for more information and lunch reservations (choice of tuna or turkey)




MONDAY AND TUESDAY JUNE 3 & 4 SAVE THE DATE!
 Special Women's Pre-Shavuot event with *Sara Aliza Scheinberg*

Monday evening, June 3rd
 7:00-7:30 - dairy dinner
 7:30-8:30-"Striving for Sinai"-Tapping in to the holiness of the giving of the Torah as women today

Tuesday morning, June 4th
 10:45-11:05-brunch
 11:05-12:00-"Standing at Sinai"-Applying the lessons we learned at Sinai to the relationships in our lives

\$15 for 1 class. \$20 for both!
 Scholarships available
 RSVP requested. For questions or to RSVP please email cbregman@stlkollel.com

Additional class:
 Parenting class Monday evening from 8:45-9:45 PM

Sponsored by Mrs. Ellen Abramson in loving memory of Dr. Neil Abramson on the occasion of his yahrtzeit




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