

YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

Weekly Update

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Parshas Shemos

פרשת שמות

כ' טבת תשס"ח—28–29

Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting:	3:44pm
Candle lighting:	4:25pm
Mincha - Friday:	4:25pm
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:43am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishis:	4:20pm
Maariv:	5:28pm

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday & Tuesday:	8:00am
Mincha/Maariv Sunday & Tuesday:	4:30pm
Shacharis (Mon., Thu.):	6:40am
Shacharis (Wed., Fri.):	6:50am
Maariv (Mon., Wed., Thu.):	7:45pm

Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting:	4:31pm
Mincha - Friday:	4:30pm

Calendar of Shiurim

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	7:55am–8:15am	Parsha Chabura	ROTATES	Special Shiur!
Shabbos	8:15am	Parsha Shiur	R. Steinberg	Special Shiur!
Shabbos	After Mincha	Chabura	J. Weinberger	OFF WEEK
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Sunday	After Shacharis	Sefer Hachinuch	M. Buchbinder	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
Sun.-Fri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Chovos haLevovos	R. Steinberg	
Monday	9:00pm	Advanced Gemora: Makkos	R. Steinberg	
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

THIS SHABBOS

Medical Halacha Shabbaton:

- Rabbi Dr. Avraham Avraham, author of the Nishmas Avraham,
- Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Halperin, Director, Schlesinger Institute for Medical-Halachic Research).

8:00pm Friday Oneg and Shiur: *Electricity and the Hospitalized Patient*, 345 Bala Ave.

8:00am *Rav Auerbach's Approach to Lifesaving*.

3:30pm *DNA in Halacha*.

After Mincha *Organ Transplantation from a Live Donor*.

<http://www.chaseplanet.us/dchase/yiml/yimlMedicalEthicsShabbaton5758.pdf>

All submissions, suggestions, and sponsorships should be directed (by Wednesday evening) to the editor of the Weekly Update, פלוגי בן פלוגי (weeklyupdate@yiml.org).

THIS SHABBOS (MORE)

Kiddush:

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by. . .

Aleeza & Gershon Ben Shalom in honor of both their parents' wedding anniversaries: Fran & Sid Schwartz, and Susan & Robert Caplan; and by

Melissa & David Keleti for Hakaras Hatov to the community that has welcomed them so warmly, and in honor of their impending stay in Eretz Yisroel.

Bnos and Pirchei:

Both Bnos and Pirchei will IY"Y meet this week from 2:30pm to 3:30pm at LMS.

MAZEL TOV!

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Yaakov & Nili Couzens and family on the birth of a baby boy Thursday. The Sholom Zachor will be 7:30pm Friday night at the their home, 22 Maple Ave.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton:

Shabbos, Jan. 26, Parshas Yisro.

Look to hearing more details in the coming weeks!

ONGOING EVENTS

Chevra Mishnayos:

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Moed.

See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

Women's Tehillim Group:

The Women's Tehillim Group meets Mondays at 9:45am at 345 Bala Ave.

D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky

Moshe, the humblest man who was ever on the face of this earth, the man who consistently pleaded with Hashem to spare the Jewish nation from his wrath, emerges this week for the very first time.

First impressions are almost always last impressions, so I wondered what are Moshe's first actions? Surely they would typify his future distinction.

Open a Chumash and explore the young lad who is found on the Nile, spends his youth in Pharaoh's palace, and finally "goes out amongst his brothers." He sees an Egyptian smiting a Jew and then, in a non-speaking role (at least without speaking to any human), he kills him. That is Moshe's foray in communal activism.

His first words seem diametrically opposed to his ensuing persona. The next day, Moshe "went out and behold, two Hebrew men were fighting." He immediately chastised the wicked one, "Why would you strike your fellow?" (Exodus 2:13). His admonition provokes an angry response from the quarrelers. "Who appointed you as a dignitary, a ruler, and a judge over us? Do you propose to murder me, as you murdered the Egyptian?" (ibid. v. 4). Moshe's hallmark compassion and concern seems to be overshadowed by his forceful admonition. Is that the first impression the Torah wants us to have of Moshe?

In his youth, Reb Zorach Braverman, who later was known as a brilliant Jerusalem scholar, once travelled from Eishishok to Vilna, Lithuania. Sitting next to him was an elderly Jew with whom he began to converse. Reb Zorach commented to the old man that it was sad that in a city as large as Vilna there was no organized Torah youth group.

The old man became agitated. In a tear-stained voice he responded, "Whom do you expect to organize these groups," he asked incredulously, "the communal leaders who are destroying Judaism in Vilna? They do nothing to promote Torah values!"

The man went on to condemn a group of parnasim who had assumed control of the community affairs and constantly overruled the Rabbinical authorities in every aspect of communal life as it related to observance of Jewish law. Reb Zorach became incensed. Who was this man to deride a group of community elders? He responded vociferously. "Excuse me," he interrupted, "but I think you should study the new sefer (book) that was just published. It is called Chofetz Chaim and deals specifically with the laws of slander and gossip. It details all the transgressions listed in the Torah for gossip as such! In fact, I have it here with me."

The old man asked to see the book. He took it and immediately opened it to a section which specified the rare instance it was a mitzvah to speak out against a group of people, in the case when they act defiantly against rabbinic authority.

Reb Zorach remained quiet and silently took back the book. The trip ended and the old man and Reb Zorach went their ways in Vilna. It only took a day until Reb Zorach found out that he was seated next to none other than the Chofetz Chaim himself.

Of course, Moshe was the compassionate advocate for Klal Yisrael. But the Torah chooses to define his leadership in a clear and unambiguous manner in strong and controversial encounters. His first act was to kill an Egyptian who was smiting a Jew, and his second was to chastise two Jews who were fighting so strongly that they threatened to report his former act to the Egyptian authorities. After the Torah establishes an ability to reprove and even rebuke sin, only then does it tell us of Moshe's compassion in protecting the daughters of Yisro, in tending sheep by running after a tiny lamb who lost its way in the scorching desert.

Often I hear quotes, "if Rav Moshe were alive today," or "if the Chofetz Chaim were alive today," followed by a notion that these beloved, departed, sages, with their celebrated love and compassion for all Jews, would surely ascribe to unmitigated love and acceptance of anyone's notion of Judaism as an acceptable alternative.

It's just not true. Great leaders and Torah visionaries do have tremendous love for all Jews, but they do not compromise on Torah law or on Torah values. They are vociferous advocates of right versus wrong. Though one minute they may be chasing lost sheep, running after a small child who dropped a small coin, or translating a letter for an indigent immigrant, they would not hesitate to strike the Egyptian and chastise their fellow Jew who raised his hand against another, physically or spiritually. What truly makes a great man is not only knowing how and when to hold them, but also knowing how and when to scold them.

From: <http://www.torah.org/learning/drasha/5761/shemos.html>