

YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

Weekly Update

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg
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Parshas Eikev

פרשת עקב

י"ח אב תשס"ט—7-8 August

Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting: 6:41pm
Candle lighting: 7:51pm
Mincha - Friday: 7:00pm

Sof Zman Krias Shema: 9:36am
Shacharis: 8:45am
Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishis: 7:35pm
Maariv: 8:53pm

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday: 8:00am
Shacharis (Mon., Thu.): 6:40am
Shacharis (Tue., Wed., Fri.): 6:50am
Mincha/Maariv (Sun.-Thu.): 7:50pm

Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting: 7:42pm
Mincha - Friday: 7:00pm

Calendar of Shiurim

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	8:15am	Parsha Chabura	D. Dorman	ROTATES
Shabbos	8:15am	Mishlei Shiur	R. Steinberg	OFF WEEK
Shabbos	After Mincha	Seudah Shlishis	R. Steinberg	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Chabura	J. Weinberger	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
Sun.-Fri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Sefer Hamaspek L'Ovdei Hashem	R. Steinberg	
Monday	8:30pm	Hichos Tzedaka	R. Steinberg	Resumes Oct. 19
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	Resumes in Sept.

*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

THIS SHABBOS

Kiddush and Shalosh Seudos:

Kiddush is community sponsored.

Seudah Shlishis is community sponsored.

Chabura:

The Shabbos Afternoon Chabura will be given this week by Rabbi Josh Weinberger on *Korbanos*.

RABBI STEINBERG AWAY

Please note that Rabbi Steinberg and his Family will be away starting Monday, August 3, for two weeks. If the need arises to speak to the Rabbi please call Shul President Sherman Frager at (25) 820-8221.

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

ONGOING EVENTS

Chevra Mishnayos:

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Tohoros.
See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

Women's Tehillim Group:

The Tehillim Group meets Mondays at **10:45am** at 8 Concord Circle.

Women's Chovos haLevovos Group:

The Chovos haLevovos Group meets Tuesdays at 9:30am at 8 Concord Circle.

D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Berel Wein

Even though Moshe in his review of the life of the Jewish people in the desert of Sinai over the past forty years recounts all of the miracles that occurred, he does so not for the purpose of narrative but rather to teach an important moral lesson for all ages. That stark lesson is that after all of the miracles that God may perform on our behalf, our fate is in great measure in our hands. And the lesson of all of Jewish history is summed up in the verse "For not by bread alone—even miraculous bread such as the manna—shall humans live, but rather by the word of God, so to speak, the values, commandments and strictures of Torah shall Jews live."

All attempts to avoid this lesson, to substitute other words, ideas and ideologies for the words of Torah have turned into dismal failures. But reliance upon miracles is just as dangerous a path. My teachers in the yeshiva would say to us, then pious young men, that prayer helps one to become a scholar in Torah. But they emphasized that sitting and studying Torah for a protracted time with concentration and effort may help even more in the quest for true Torah scholarship. Moshe uses the constant miracles of the desert to drive home the point that much of the responsibilities of life are in our hands and our decision making processes. In essence the clear conclusion from his oration is that God helps those who help themselves.

In our post-Tisha B'Av mood and run-up to Elul and the High Holy Days it is important to remember how much of our fate truly lies in our own actions. The small choices that we make in our everyday lives add up to our life's achievements and accomplishments. That is what Rashi means when he states that "these are the commandments that one grinds under with one's heel—eikev!" The small things that we think to be unimportant at the moment often translate into major decisions and sometimes even have irreversible consequences. The question always before us is do our actions measure up to the standards of God's word, so to speak. We live not "by bread alone" or by miracles alone, but by our own choices and our very own behavior and deeds.

While recently driving on a New York City highway—an exercise in patience and utter futility—I missed the exit that I was supposed to turn off on. Miles and a quarter of an hour later I was able somehow to retrace my journey and exit at the proper place. I felt that it was a miracle that I was able to do so. It was, in fact, my negligence of not exiting correctly from the highway originally that forced the necessity of of this "miracle." Moshe teaches us that this is truly a daily occurrence in our lives. His message to us is as clear and cogent today as it was to our forbearers in the desert of Sinai long ago.

From: <http://www.torah.org/learning/rabbiwein/5767/eikev.html>

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