

Thought of the Week

Rashi points out that the section of the parsha that deals with the observance and holiness of Shabat was related to the Jewish people in a public manner with all of the people in attendance. Moshe gathered all of Israel to him to declare the concept of the sanctity of the Shabat.

We are taught that almost all of the other precepts, values and commandments of the Torah were taught by Moshe firstly to a select group of his relatives and then to the elders of Israel and then finally they taught the general public the understanding of Torah and the workings of the Oral Law. Apparently this method was deemed insufficient when it came to the core principle of Judaism which Shabat represents.

Shabat needed a public forum and its importance needed to be emphasized in front of the entire gathering, similar to the granting of the Torah itself at Sinai or the final covenant with Israel at the end of Moshe's life as recorded for us in the book of Dvarim.

In my opinion, the Torah alludes in this fashion to the fact that the survival of the Jewish people is dependent not only on the private observance of the Shabat by every Jew but that Jewish society must recognize and incorporate within itself a public observance of Shabat as well. It is not only the Jewish home that must be recognizable as being special and holy on Shabat but the Jewish street must also be so recognizable and special on Shabat as well.

The private Shabat observance has made positive strides over the past few decades. The public Shabat however has regressed both in Israel and in the United States. The JCC centers in almost all major Jewish communities in the United States have abandoned the Shabat.

Many of them claim that it is because the majority of their clientele is no longer Jewish. The irony of this excuse is apparently lost on them. The reason that the Jews have abandoned JCC centers is because those Jews also previously abandoned the Shabat. Here in Israel the public Shabat many times is observed mainly in the breach of the existing Shabat laws rather than in observance and conformity with them.

Again, the irony of those who want Israel to be a Jewish state but are not at all supportive of a public Shabat is exquisite. For it is the public Shabat more than any other public sign of Jewishness – flag, language, culture, etc. – that defines Israel as being a Jewish state.

And its continued erosion by greedy kibbutz shops, city malls, open businesses and nightclubs – and, by the way it appears that Friday night, leil Shabat, is the most violent and crime ridden night of the...

[continued inside...]

בס"ד

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Parshas Vayakhel

פרשת ויקהל

Stone Chumash page 516; Haftarah, page 1163.

February 25-26, 2011

כ"ב אדר א' תשע"א



Shabbos Schedule



Candle lighting:	5:30pm
Mincha - Friday:	5:30pm
Parsha Chaburah by Israel Pendrak:	7:55am
Rabbi's Mishlei Shiur:	8:15am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:26am
Kiddush this Shabbos is community sponsored.	
Mincha:	5:25pm
Chabura given by Chaim Saiman on Shochad	
Devarim: "Soft" Bribery and other forms of judicial corruption.	
Medical Halacha Shiur given by Dr Daniel Eisenberg.	
Maariv:	6:34pm

To subscribe to the YIML email list, visit
<http://mail.chaseplanet.us/mailman/listinfo/yiml>

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis: Sunday:	8:00am
Monday and Thursday:	6:40am
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday:	6:50am
Mincha/Maariv: Sunday:	5:40pm
Maariv: Monday through Thursday:	7:45pm
Mincha and Candle Lighting Friday:	5:37pm

Weekday Shiurim

Daily Mussar Shiur:	15 minutes before Shacharis
Mishna Brura:	Mon and Wed after Maariv
Melachim Aleph Shiur:	Monday at 8pm
Halacha Shiur:	Tuesday at 8:30pm.
Nefesh HaChaim:	Thursday at 10:10pm

Check with Dr Daniel Eisenberg to confirm.

Chevra Mishnayos

The Chevra Mishnayos is learning Seder Nashim. See shul bulletin board to sign up or email eisenber@pol.net with your name and the masechta (and chapters) you intend to learn.

Women's Learning Experience - Winter Session

Mon at 10:30am: Tehillim for Cholim.
Mon at 11:00am: Rabbi Greenspan - Parsha haShavua.
Tues at 9:30am: Rabbi Shmidman - Sefer Tehillim, at LMS.
Tues at 8:00pm: Stacey Goldman - The Imahot, at the Werrin home, 161 Highland Circle, Bala.
Wed at 9:00am: Rachael Biberfeld - Michtav m'Eliyahu.
Thu at 9:30am: Rabbi Steinberg - Geshet HaChaim.
All classes at 8 Concord Circle, unless otherwise noted. For information or free babysitting, call Janis Fine 610-888-0477.

Questions? Comments! Sponsorships\$ weeklyupdate@yiml.org

Thought of the Week, continued...

week – have only made our country not only less Jewish but less safe, less civilized, more emotionally unsatisfactory and less secure. Most of the children here in Israel receive no education regarding Shabat, its history and importance in Jewish history and life. That is a sure fire recipe for diminishing our chances to have a Jewish state here in our holy land. The public Shabat should be strengthened in all ways in order to guarantee a meaningful future for Jewish generations that are yet to come.

Adapted from <http://www.rabbiwein.com/Weekly-Parsha/2011/02/519.html> by Rabbi Wein.

Pirchei and Bnos

Bnos will meet from 3:30 to 4:30pm at LMS. For information, contact Meira Friedman at 610-617-9529.

Pirchei will meet from 3:30 to 4:30pm in the Social Hall of LMS. This week's Pirchei has been sponsored anonymously. Contact Rabbi Ari Silver at silverDollar@verizon.net.

Torah Academy's Annual Scholarship Dinner

Torah Academy's Annual Scholarship Dinner is planned for Sunday February 27th, 2011 at 5pm to be held at the Westin Hotel Philadelphia. This years distinguished honorees are Susan & Sherman Frager together with Excellence in Education recipients, Mrs. Rita Maurio and Coach Kenny Myers. For more information, contact Tanya Libesman at tlibesman@torahacademyonline.org or 610-642-7870 x255.

Community Announcements

There is an ad being placed in the ad journal for Torah Academy's dinner in memory of Risa Goldman, z"l. To contribute to the ad, please contact Mira Korn 610-617-9552. YIML is a proud affiliate of Koshersync.com, the Main Line's Orthodox Community Organization Calendar. Koshersync.com is a free service which serves to synchronize Orthodox events throughout Philadelphia's Main Line. Before planning a simcha or event make sure to check the website for possible conflicts.