

Thought of the Week

"There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has denied me nothing but you, since you are his wife. How then can I perpetrate this great evil? I will have sinned against G-d!" (39:9) Yosef refused to acquiesce to Potiphar's wife's advances and he attempted to explain to her why it would be wrong for him to comply with her wishes. Yosef presented the following two arguments: It would be the ultimate display of ingratitude for him to take advantage of the trust his master had placed in him. Furthermore, since the prohibition against adultery is one of the Noachide laws, he would be sinning against Hashem. Yosef's sense of priorities requires explanation. Why does he mention the injustice against his master before his sinning against Hashem? Furthermore, Rashi cites the Talmud's view that Yosef would have submitted to the advances of the wife of Potiphar, were it not that he saw the image of his father before him. How does this coalesce with the reasons which Yosef himself gives?

In his introduction to Even Sheleima, the Vilna Gaon teaches that the ultimate goal of the observance of mitzvos is to inculcate the Jew with ethical and moral values. The mitzvos help hone a person's sensitivities to live a life of moral fortitude and integrity. Only then can a Jew reflect the attributes of his Creator.

Yosef was primarily concerned that committing adultery would be a betrayal of the trust vested in him by his master. This ultimate breach of trust would indicate a complete lack of integrity. Violating the Noachide laws is only a secondary concern, since observance of the Noachide laws does not require a person to be a G-dly being. However, being a descendant of Avraham, Yitchak and Yaakov demands such behavior. Seeing the vision of his father reminded Yosef of his roots and emphasized to him his obligation to act in a manner which reflected his mission in life, to imitate his Creator. The actions of a Jew should not be governed only by what is permitted and prohibited, but, more importantly, by Hashem's requirement of him that he be a moral and ethical human being.

Adapted from <http://www.torah.org/learning/rabbizweig/5772/vayeishev.html> by Rabbi Zweig.

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

בס"ד

Young Israel of the Main Line

273 Montgomery Ave
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
www.yiml.org
www.chaseplanet.us/yiml

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg
610-667-3255
rabbi@yiml.org

Sherman Frager, President
610-667-7063



Parshas Vayeshev

פרשת וישב

Stone Chumash page 198; Haftarah, page 1142.

December 16-17, 2011

כ"א כסלו תשע"ב



Shabbos Schedule



Light Candles, Mincha and Kabbalas Shabbos: 4:18pm

Parsha Chaburah by Reuven Kovacs: 7:55am

Rabbi's Mishlei Shiur: 8:15am

Shacharis: 8:45am

Sof Zman Krias Shema: 9:36am

Shabbos Groups, upstairs, for ages 2 and up. Children under 2 must be supervised by a parent. 9:45am

Kiddush is community sponsored.

Mincha: 4:15pm

Medical Halacha Shiur given by Dr Daniel Eisenberg.

Chabura given by Ori Eisenberg on the topic of Chanuka for the Homeless.

Maariv: 5:22pm

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

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis: Sunday:	8:00am
Monday:	6:40am
Tuesday:	6:50am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (Chanukah):	6:40am
Mincha/Maariv: Sunday:	4:25pm
Maariv: Monday through Thursday:	7:45pm
Candle Lighting, Mincha and Kabbalas Shabbos:	4:21pm

Weekday Shiurim

Daily Mussar Shiur:	15 minutes before Shacharis
Mishna Brura:	Mon and Wed after Maariv
Gemora Bekius Shiur:	Tues, Wed, Thurs at 8pm.
Sefer Bereishis Shiur:	Monday at 8pm.
Nefesh HaChaim:	Thursday at 10:10pm

Women's Learning Experience – Winter Schedule

Monday 9:00am: Tehillim for Cholim.
Monday 9:30am: Rabbi Steinberg - Geshar HaChaim.
Monday 10:45am: Rabbi Brisman - Shabbos Kitchen Halachas.
Tuesday 9:30am: Rabbi Shmidman - Sefer Tehillim, at LMS.
Tuesday 8:00pm: Stacey Goldman - Women in Tanach, at 161 Highland Circle.
Wednesday 9:30am: Steve Goldman - Sefer Devarim.
Wednesday 2:50pm: Rabbi Greenspan - Parsha Va'eschanan.
Thursday 9:30am: Rabbi Gold - Parsha HaShavua.
Classes at 8 Concord Circle. Suggested donation of \$5 per class. Babysitting is available, reservations must be made. Contact Janis Fine 610-888-0477 jfine@comcast.net.

Chevra Mishnayos

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



▪ Mazel Tov to Rabbi Eli and Sarah Back on the bris of their grandson, Yaakov Shmuel Weil.

Bnos and Pirchei

Pirchei and Bnos will meet from 2:45 to 3:45pm at LMS. Bnos membership \$36/girl. Meira Friedman at 610-617-9529. Pirchei, grades k-8. Rabbi Ari Silver at 610-668-6833 or SilverDollar@verizon.net.

Torah Youth is sponsored by Rabbi and Mrs. Zeffren in honor of the local Pirchei and those that help run and support it.

Torah Youth Annual Chanukah Mesiba on Sunday, December 18th from 2 to 3:30pm at Lower Merion Synagogue. \$12 a person, \$40 family max. Contact Rabbi Ari Silver.

Kollel Yom Rishon-Yom Iyun & Kohelet Beit Midrash Dedication

Kohelet Yeshiva High School invites you to join us for a special Kollel Yom Rishon & Yom Iyun in honor of the Dedication of our Community Beit Midrash on Sunday, December 18, 2011. Shacharit is at 9am, followed by the dedication, program, and brunch buffet from 10am to noon. Rabbi Dr. Meir Soloveichik, director of Yeshiva University's Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought, will speak on "Light and Truth: The Message of the Menorah." Admission is free and open to everyone and includes special Middle School learning programs.

YIML joins other community institutions in wishing Kohelet Yeshiva High School mazel tov on this momentous occasion of the Beit Medrash dedication.

Bikur Cholim of Philadelphia

Please support the wonderful chesed work of Bikur Cholim of Philadelphia with a generous donation. Checks can be given to Rabbi Steinberg or mailed directly to: Malki Schwartz 224 Old Lancaster Rd. Merion Station, PA 19066.