

have a

# Nageela Shabbos

A weekly publication of **Nageela West** Joyfully Jewish Experiences

## Own it

by Rabbi Dani Locker

Jonathan hurried to answer the knock at his door, and was pleased to see his best friend, Steve standing there. “Hey Steve,” Jonathan greeted his friend. “I wasn’t expecting you to come over today. What’s up?”

“What’s up? Seriously, man? I heard you got a PS4 yesterday! I came to check it out. What games do you have? Are the graphics really as cool as they say?” Steve babbled.

“Oh, Steven. Wait a minute. I have a surprise to show you!”

“OK John, but what about the...”

“Here, take a look,” Jonathan exclaimed. “Check it out! What a surprise, right? I got a PS4! I bet you didn’t know that! By the way, why did you come, I forgot...”

Steve rolled his eyes, shrugged his shoulders, and smiled at his spaced out friend as he answered, “Wow! A PS4! What a good surprise!”

Our Torah portion this week begins with Yitro, the father-in-law of Moshe. He had been living in Midian, but he heard about all the miracles the Jews had experienced so he came to join them in the desert.

“And Yitro heard all G-d had

done for Moshe and the Children of Israel...”

When he arrived, he was greeted by Moshe who then told him... about the miracles G-d had done for the sake of Israel.

Wait a minute. Yitro came because he heard about the miracles. So why does Moshe need to immediately tell him about the miracles?

Take a closer look at the words, and you’ll find the answer. When the Torah describes what Yitro heard, it says “For Moshe and the Children of Israel.” Moshe is mentioned first because he assumed that all the miracles were done because of the greatness of Moshe, and not because the nation had deserved it. Moshe’s response is about the miracles G-d had done “For the sake of Israel.” Moshe explained to Yitro that the miracles had occurred because of the entire people, not just because of himself. Why does Moshe feel the need to immediately explain this? Also, how did he know it wasn’t because of him? He was, after all, the greatest prophet to ever live!

There’s no denying that Moshe was humble. But there may be another reason he felt it was so

*candle lighting:*

Las Vegas 5:06  
Los Angeles 5:21  
San Diego 5:18  
Phoenix 5:57

important to explain to his father-in-law that it wasn’t about him. One of the core values of Judaism is that we are responsible for our own successes and failures. We can’t blame others for our shortcomings, and we must be happy when we accomplish something great. Moshe’s lesson to Yitro, to the Jewish people, and to everyone reading this story is one of empowerment. Don’t blame anyone else. Be the best YOU can possibly be, and your success will be as valuable as Moshe’s! With great graphics. ✨



This week's edition of NAGEELA SHABBOS is in honor of the families hosting this week's Shabbaton. Thank you!

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# STUMP THE RABBI



DID JEW KNOW?

VERY PUNNY

Hi Rabbi,

Everybody knows that G-d gave us ten commandments, right? It's the big stuff. Don't murder, don't steal, Shabbat, stuff like that. I noticed that the last one is out of place. Don't be jealous? Why does that rate getting in the big ten?

Thanks,  
Tentative \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Tentative,

Let me tell you a story about a genie who was released from his bottle by a man whom he recognized immediately as being a jealous guy. "You may have one wish," drawled the genie, a sly glint in his eye, "on the condition that whatever you wish for, I shall grant to you, and grant double to your brother!"

This put the man in a dilemma, because he couldn't agree to let his brother get double what he got. After hours of waiting, the genie got impatient and gave him a time limit. Under pressure, and needing to give an answer, the jealous man gave the genie his wish. "Please poke out one of my eyes."

Jealousy is so destructive, so explosive, that if you're a jealous person, it don't really matter if you've mastered morality, goodness, kindness and every other positive mitzvah. It will eventually ruin everything!

There's another important point to remember about jealousy. Do you remember the very first of the ten commandments? Belief in G-d. Jealousy is the exact opposite of belief in G-d.

Let me tell you another story.

At the doctor's office, a girl waited on the examination table for the doctor to check out her sore throat. The doctor came in, checked her out and told her he knew exactly what was wrong with her. He returned a few minutes later with a container filled with chalky, white pills and instructed her to take 3 pills every day. On her way out, she passed a boy in the hallway with a similar pillbox. When she looked inside, though, she saw large, brightly colored pills the doctor had given him for some other sickness.

"It's not fair! I want the colorful pills!"

She grabbed the boys pills and was about to

The Ten Commandments don't actually contain just ten commandments! They are ten 'statements' but contain between 13 and 15 mitzvot.

Know a cool Jewish factoid? email it to [dlocker@nageelawest.org](mailto:dlocker@nageelawest.org)

**WHAT HAPPENED TO THE JEWS WHO FORGOT THEIR SUNBLOCK AT SINAI?**

**THEY GOT A MOUNTAIN**

**HAVE REALLY CORNY PUN? EMAIL IT TO DLOCKER@NAGEELAWEST.ORG**

chug the entire container when a nurse stopped her.

"The color of the pills makes no difference." the nurse scolded. "The doctor gave you what YOU need for YOUR sickness. Trust the doctor." Everyone gets what they need in life, and trusting in G-d helps us recognize that whatever package we have is exactly the one we should have. When we get jealous of what someone else has, we're announcing, "I don't trust that we each have what we're supposed to have. I know better." So, in a way, jealousy belongs right up there with the other of the ten commandments because it is based completely on how much trust you've got in G-d.

I wish I asked questions as good as yours...

Have a Nageela Shabbat,

*the Rabbi*

Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

Have a question? Please send it in to [stump@nageelawest.org](mailto:stump@nageelawest.org)

Questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed

## nageela week snapshot (Feb 19-Feb 27)

SUN	MON	THU	FRI
NO HEBREW SCHOOL LA SHABBATON SIX FLAGS TRIP!	LV KOLLE'S LAS VEGAS GLOWZONE EVENT 1:30 NO SUMMERLIN NAGEELATTE	NAGEELATTE GREEN VALLEY 5:30	NAGEELUNCH @ ADELSON 12:30

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