

Parshas  
Chayei Sara  
5779

November 2nd,  
2018

# have a Nageela Shabbos

A Kid Friendly Weekly Publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences

Candle Lighting:

Scottsdale 5:16  
Las Vegas 5:25  
San Diego 5:38  
N.Lake Tahoe 5:39  
Los Angeles 5:41  
Tarzana 5:42

Season 3  
Episode 7

## The Eensy Weensy Things

by Rabbi Dani Locker

Here's a little poem I wrote. I hope you like it:

The eensy weensy spider climbed up the water spout  
Because it was small, the rain just washed it out  
It might not be tall and it's legs are not so long  
But the bigger giant spider doesn't have a song

What do you think?

What does it take to prove you're special?

In some parts of the world, trials of adulthood include enduring great pain, military training, or jumping off towers. Ummm, don't do any of those things, by the way.

When we think about 'all time greats' we usually think about incredible, huge things they've done. Athletes are remembered for their epic game winning score or bringing home the championship. World leaders are remembered for winning wars, or for changing their country's laws in some important way. Doctors and scientists become famous for discovering a cure, inventing a great new technology, or performing a breakthrough surgery. Business owners are remembered for their awesome product that changed the way we live, or for being THE biggest, richest, most successful. It's the BIG

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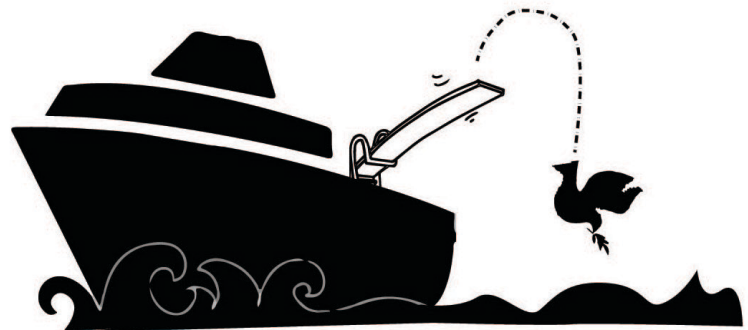


How did Noah get off his boat?

He dove!

OUCH! GROAN!

got a better joke? email it to [dlocker@nageelawest.org](mailto:dlocker@nageelawest.org)



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THINGS that most people are remembered for. Is that what really tells the story of who you are? One or two moments or accomplishments are important, but do they really tell us WHO YOU ARE?

In this week's Torah reading, we get introduced to Rebecca, who later marries Isaac and becomes one of the mothers of our nation. What was that audition like? Did she need to juggle fire, leap tall buildings, say the alphabet backwards? OK. That wouldn't make sense, because we all understand that those things aren't important to God. So what kind of awesomely good and righteous things did she have to do? Perform miracles? Cure people? Create a homeless shelter? Donate a million dollars to charity? Risk her life to save a cat?

Nope.

She offered someone a drink.

Hey, I've done that... that doesn't seem so special! Shouldn't the mother of the Jewish people need

to pass some kind of special test?

Big things are not what shows us who is great. I mean, sure, doing something epic shows something special. But it's living well every day, acting kindly, selflessly... doing the small things. The things that are not impressive or splashy. The things that don't get noticed. Over

And over  
And over  
And over  
And over  
And over again.

So if you've done a small act of kindness or three today, smile, because you're totally, epically great! And the rain probably won't wash you out. Unless you climb up the water spout in a rainstorm. Which probably isn't so smart.



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THANKS  
GIVING  
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Akiva Goldschein  
Robbie Zeligman



to Nageela Head Counselor Aaron  
Deutsch upon his engagement to  
Elana Raskas



to Renee Kenwood who celebrated  
her Bat Mitzvah last week!



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

## Nevermore!

Hi Rabbi,

Why did Noah send a dove out after the storm.  
Why didn't he send any other animal?

Thanks,

Nicole A. Matza

Yo N.A. Matza,

That is an extremely awesome question! Very little is written about Noah's choice to send the dove. Noah coulda sent any bird! Let me just add to your point, that Noah sent out two types of birds. He first sent a raven. It seems from the commentaries that he really just wanted to get rid of the raven, feeling that it had very little usefulness on the ark, and that as a cruel bird, was possibly a bad influence on the people and animals on board. That was his first plan. Then he switched tactics and decided to send a loyal, useful bird to scout for him. The ark had 'landed' on a mountaintop, and Noah couldn't see

the ground below. He needed to know if the land had dried enough to support vegetation. But why the dove?

The dove is called "Yonah" in Hebrew, and the Jewish people are compared to the Yonah in a couple of ways. First of all, most animals don't keep the same mate for their whole lives. The dove finds it's one partner and is always faithful. We are supposed to be faithful to God the same way, not trading him for loyalty to other gods or other priorities.

The dove holds another beautiful lesson for us. When a mother dove flies away from her nest to find food, she never goes too far, and always makes sure she can see the nest and find her way back. The Jewish people are similar. We don't always do what we're supposed to do, but we always try to remain connected enough to God and to Judaism that we can come back to it! You've probably met Jews who have just about zero

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## Photo of the Week

### Long Live Shabbos

Participants in the season's first Shabbaton strike a pose. The descendants Shabbaton focused its theme on our ancestors, and empowering their descendants (us!)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 5th- Engagement party  
NageeLatte in honor of Aaron and Elana!

November 12th- Veterans Day

Event- TBA

November 13th- Phoenix Kickoff  
Event

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND  
Los Angeles Shabbaton

## Mitzvah Minute

A quick intro to one of the Torah's 613 commandments

## Hidden Hatred

#### Source:

You shall not hate your brother in your heart (Book of Vayikra, chapter 19, verse 17).

#### Details:

- You may have heard of the commandment to love every Jew as you love yourself. The mitzvah we're discussing today is a little different. It specifically talks about hidden hatred. You can violate this commandment by hating someone secretly, and pretending to be their friend.
- It is OK to feel hatred toward an evil person.
- Hatred is one of the reasons we were exiled

from Israel 2,000 years ago.

- A key word is "your brother" which helps us understand the reason. When we feel like every Jew is truly family, we are more ready to accept them and love them, even if they've wronged us.
- Hating people is a cause for one's prayers to go unanswered by God.

#### Lessons:

- Sometimes, the most damaging thing can be insincerity.
- Open, honest communication helps solve more problems than pretending they don't exist.

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connection to Jewish tradition, yet they still keep something... a mitzvah or tradition that keeps their Jewish family going for one more generation. That's a dove.

Have-A Nageela Shabbat,

*the Rabbi*



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