

**SEASON 2** EPISODE 20

February 3rd, 2018

Candle Lighting:

Las Vegas 4:50 Lake Tahoe 5:03 San Diego 5:04 Los Angeles 5:06 Phoenix 5:42

# have a Nageela Shabbos

**Parshas** Yisro

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

### It's Become Aparent...

by Rabbi Dani Locker

When I was young, my parents taught me\_The Ten 'Commandments. They were:

- 1. I am G-d
- 2. Honor Your Parents
- 3. Honor Your Parents
- 4. Honor Your Parents
- 5. Honor Your Parents
- 6. Really, Really Honor Your Parents
- 7. Honor Your Parents a whole lot.
- 8. You'd better Honor Your
- Parents or else!
  9. Don't kill anyone
  10. Don't be jealous of other people's parents.

I've heard a couple of other versions of The Ten Commandments, but it was always a little surprising to me that honoring parents made it to the BIG 10! Of course, it's important to be respectful.

It's also important to make sure your shoes are tied, and to shut off the tap while brushing, but those didn't make the list!

In all seriousness, just Ithink about it. The Ten Commandments are fundamental building blocks of society. No murder or theft, belief only in the One true God, honesty in court. If an honest, moral person has a lousy relationship with his parents - OK, it's not good - but it's not the end of the world... is it?

At this point, your parents have snatched this paper out of your grasp and tossed it unceremoniously in the trash. Assuming you manage to smuggle it back out, you can read the answer, and then try to explain to your parents that I'm on their side being a baront muscle 'side, being a parent myself.

Clearly, honoring our parents is pretty huge. According to the great Ralbag (that's the name of a Rabbi, BTW), a failure to honor our parents can lead to absolute disaster! He claims that if people don't honor their parents, if can lead to war, and complete breakdown of society. How does that work?

It makes perfect sense to me! Have you ever been on a diet before? Cookies are usually not high up on the "great diet food" list. The truth is that eating a cookie (yes, I, too was shocked to find out that the word cookie can be written in the singular form) isn't terrible for your health, and won't make you gain 37 pounds (eating 37 pounds of cookies might, although all that chewing is bound to burn some calories). Yet for someone on a diet, eating even one cookie, leads down a path of no discipline. A path of more cookies. A path that could easily lead to

Continued on page 3

# Stump The Rabbi

## Eye Know, Eye Know

Hi Rabbi,

Is it OK for me to go into McDonalds to buy something Kosher, like a drink? My camp counselor told me she won't walk into a store like that because people might think she's doing something wrong. I don't understand that. Why should I care what other people think about me? I was taught that all that matters is to know that I am doing the right thing and to forget about the opinions of others.

Thanks,

Marissa Yinovsky

Dear Marissayin,

You don't hear many jokes start with, "Two Jews walked into a McDonalds..." But here's a story that happened to me. On a really hot summer day, I was making the long drive from upstate New York back into the city. I was hot and I was tired, and I really needed something cold and caffeinated. I went into the highway rest area where they have bathrooms and vending machines, but the only place to get a coffee was at the food counter. I walked up to the counter and made my order.

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

Have a question? Please send it in to stump@nageelawest.org

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

Me: "May I have an iced coffee please?"

Worker: "I'm sorry sir. We don't serve iced coffee."

Me: "Okay. Do you have coffee?

worker: "Yes, sir. We have coffee."

Me: "Can I have a coffee.... With ice in it?"

worker: "Yes, we can do that!"

I'm not joking. This story actually happened.

You're right marissa, that when it comes to doing the right thing, we should not care what other people think. But if it looks like we're doing something wrong, then we do care what other people think. There's one main reason we're concerned. People learn from those around them. If people see you doing something that looks wrong, they'll think it's OK. Even if nobody you know will see you, the "everybody does it" mentality has an effect. If you are seen doing things that seem wrong, it will open the door for people to use "everybody does it" to justify their own mistakes. It is for this reason that it's not recommended to enter a restaurant that serves food that's not kosher. However, if it's a place that is known for its Kosher items, that would be fine. So, no problem getting your Americano at Starbucks even though they may also sell a chipotle chicken panini. Similarly, it's cool to pick up a kosher slurpee even if the machine is right next to the hot dog rollers at 7-11. I bring my kids to Chuck E Cheese even though their pizza is certainly not something we would eat. Yet it's normal for kids to go there to play

If you're traveling, and it's normaltoenterarestaurant at an airport, highway rest stop or amusement park to use the bathroom or get a drink, then it would also be completely fine. There are also situations where it may be completely ok. Let's say your really close friend or neighbor is having a birthday party in a restaurant, and they'll be insulted if don't show up. I suggest you ask a Rabbi specifically before joining an event like that, but it will usually be ok if it's clear that you're not going to eat.

It's a good idea to keep this in mind. We should always act in a way that we could not possibly be ashamed of. Then we'll be in good shape.

Have - a- Nageela Shabbat,





Sinai had a hard childhood as a small hill.

e never thought he would amount to much!

Ouch. Have a better pun?

Send it in to dlocker@nageelawest.org



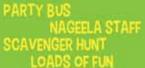
#### Continued from page 1

complete dietary disaster.

Of course the actual act of disrespecting parents (while reprehensible) won't destroy the world. Yet, exhibiting a lack of respect for authority figures, and a lack of basic gratitude is a cookie that's headed toward disaster. It's like a car windshield. It's strong as long as there are no cracks. Once the smallest of pebbles cracks that windshield, the crack will grow and spread until eventually the glass shatters (which makes it hard to eat more cookies). Im getting a few lessons from this. First of all, small things can result in big changes. Refusing to bring your mom a cup of water, or not making your bed when she asks may not seem like a lot, but if we ignore the small stuff, we will end up facing much greater challenges. Second of all, we see the importance of how we treat our parents. It's a not a small deal, it's a biiiiiiiiiii deal! Can't I be a good person and have a lousy relationship with my parents? Maybe for a while. Eventually, though, it will catch up to you, and the extent to which you give your parents respect will carry over to many larger areas of life.

 ${f I}$ f you give a Mom a cookie, she's going to want a cappuccino...







SHABBATON

MARCH 2ND - 3RD

INFO & REGISTRATION @ NAGEELALV.ORG All Elementary and Middle School Students are invited to a weekly INDIVIDUALIZED

**LEARNING** 

Every Tuesday / 3:30pm Chofetz Chaim of LA - 1540 S. Robertson



Starts Feb. 6th







to Nageela family members celebrating their birthdays this week!

Maya Bega Wyatt Rozea VictoriaL'oren Sefia Chananya Hoschander Gitai Gazala

