

have a Nageela Shabbos

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

Candle Lighting:
Henderson 4:11
Las Vegas 4:11
Reno/ Tahoe 4:20
San Diego 4:28
Irvine 4:28
Los Angeles 4:29
Scottsdale 5:05

Season 4
Episode 7

Just Too Busy by Rabbi Dani Locker



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A well respected Rabbi was traveling, and he arrived in a new town that he was unfamiliar with. Confused, he wandered the streets, looking for the local synagogue. After a half hour of fruitless searching he was about to give up, when he noticed a Jewish man hurrying by.

“Excuse me sir. Could you please...”

“NO TIME!” The man shouted as he rushed past.

“But could you please tell me how I can find the...”

“I can’t help you now. Sorry. I’m late for services. Gotta run!” And he zipped off.

The visiting rabbi realized that if this speedster was on his way to services, he could simply follow him, and he’d find the synagogue. He hopped into a taxi and exclaimed, “Follow that Tallit bag!”

Several hairpin turns, overturned fruit stands and airborne stunts later (I mean, it’s a chase scene. It’s GOTTA have those elements), they pulled up at the town’s local synagogue where prayer were just about to begin.

When the services were over, the visiting Rabbi approached the now calmer local dude, who was leisurely slurping at some instant coffee.

“I have a Torah question to ask you,” said the Rabbi.

In Parshat Vayishlach (last week, FYI), the Torah mentions that Jacob fought ‘a man’ and the sages identify this ‘man’ as the spiritual

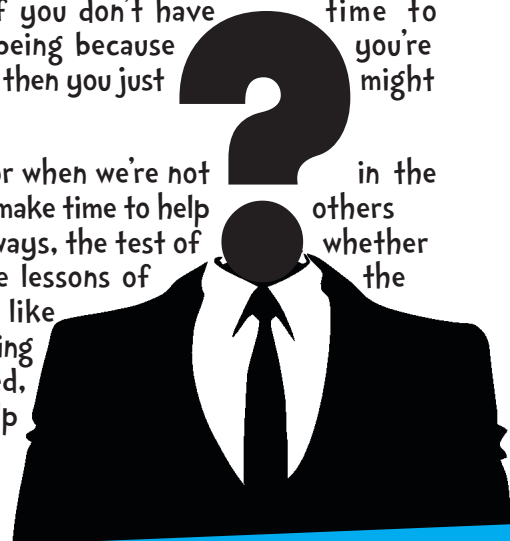
representative of Esav. The angel of evil, basically. Yet in Parshat Vayeshev, as Joseph is searching for his brothers, he meets ‘a man’ and this time, he is identified as the Angel Gabriel (one of the Good Guys). Why is that? Why do we assume the MAN Jacob met was evil, and the MAN Joseph met was good?”

“The local dude looked up from his coffee, which was getting lukewarm by now, and shrugged. “No idea. Why don’t you tell me.”

The Rabbi continued. “When Joseph met ‘a man,’ this man asked him if he was lost and helped him find his way. That’s how you know he was a good, holy ‘man.’ When Jacob met ‘a man,’ this man said, “Let me go. I don’t have time, for it’s morning, and I need to go praise God with the other angels.” If you don’t have time to help another human being because you’re too busy praising God, then you just might be on the wrong side.

When we’re busy, or when we’re not in the mood, do we still make time to help others whether we have absorbed the lessons of the Torah or not. Being like God means always making time for people in need, and making sure to help them, with a smile.

And good coffee.



Row, row, row your boat...
Sponsors are a dream!

to sponsor an episode
of Nageela Shabbos,
please contact dlocker@
nageelawest.org



Tremendous thanks to
Beth Jacob of Irvine,
Rabbi Ciner and the entire
community for hosting our
Shabbaton last week.
Your warm welcome made
it a happy, memorable and
growth- filled weekend!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday to Nageela family members
celebrating this week!

Naomy Bernheim
Sarah Bernheim
Brian Berko
Sydney warnick

Raphi Berrebi
Israel Slomianski
Sam Lipke
Alec Milton

HAPPY UNBIRTHDAY TO
EVERYONE ELSE!

Quick Fix

Just chilling?

A lot of things seemed to go wrong in Jacob's life. He had loads of trouble with his twin bro, a rough relationship with his father- in- Law and drama among his wives.

He finally wanted to settle down and chill a bit, and then his sons started trouble. Eventually, ten of his sons ganged up and sold his youngest son into slavery (Jacob didn't even know the whole story; he thought his son was dead).

The Midrash points out that this was Jacob's mistake. He just wanted to rest a bit. Life is about growing, moving and doing. There's plenty of time to rest in the eternal next world.

DEEP THOUGHTS

How do you write zero
in Roman numerals



Jew^{nior} NCSU ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK:

Monday: LV Summerlin:

OFF FOR WINTER BREAK!

See flyer above for Tuesday Chanukah event details.

Monday: Tarzana Jr. LNL - 6:30pm

Thursday: Irvine Jr. LNL 6:15pm

Thursday: Los Angeles City Jr. LNL 5-6:30

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Las Vegas Juniors Werewolves NYE Party

Dec. 31st, 10pm

Gravady All Nighter - Las Vegas

Feb. 15th, 11:30pm

Winter Regional Shabbaton Weekend:

Jan. 17th-19th (MLK weekend) San Francisco! SEE FLYER- Registration has opened!

Join your city's Junior Board

NuKids on the Block

Hi Rabbi,

Are there any Jewish sources that discuss whether it's morally acceptable to launch preemptive military strikes? How about nuclear warfare?

Thanks,

Andrew Baumenfeld

Dear A. Baum

My baby has a pacifier with the brand name NUK. Doesn't that bother anyone?

Let me begin by saying that I am not qualified to render decisions about something as serious and as dangerous as war, and certainly not about nuclear weapons. I'm happy to discuss the ideas behind them, though.

An interesting rule can be found in the Torah. If someone is breaking into a house and the resident kills the home invader, he is not guilty of murder. This is because we can assume the robber might kill anyone in his way, so it's considered self defense. The Talmud explains that if someone is coming to kill you, it's the right thing to kill that person first.

I'm going to make a leap here and assume that your question is discussing a military strike against a military target which is planning on killing you. In that case, it is certainly permitted to make a preemptive strike. Once again, please don't go killing anyone based on reading this. That's all I need.

"Tommy, why did you kill Billy?"

"The Rabbi told me to."

Nuclear weapons are a much more complicated discussion. Really any weapon that threatens people who aren't actually trying to harm you. Like with many complex

questions, there's a difference of opinion. One

opinion is that, of course, one may not kill someone just because they live next door to a killer. So self defense is no excuse for nuclear weapons. Setting off a nuke would definitely kill thousands of people who aren't dangerous.

Others argue that if the threat of nukes is the only way to ensure your country's survival, then it's still self defense, even if it will harm innocents. Because this is a complicated debate and the answer is unclear, I recommend removing nuclear weapons from your Chanukah gift list. Go ahead, get it out of your Amazon cart. I'm waiting.

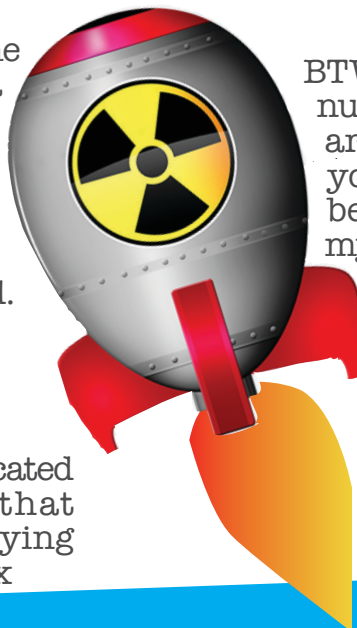
BTW, it's perfectly fine to launch nuclear weapons, because those are not dangerous at all. Unless you count mispronunciation to be dangerous (or if you've met my mother).

Have-A Nageela Shabbat,



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.



the Rabbi



When you live in a big city, you've got to work hard to protect your private parking spot. Here are some creative signs people have used to do just that.

Park-kour

(noun) The art of protecting your parking spot in an awesome way.

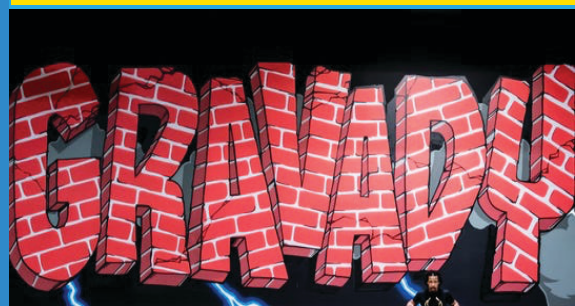


My pen doesn't always work.

I find that very inkonvenient.

OUCH! GROAN!

got a better joke? Email it to clodcker@nageelawest.org



THE ANNUAL GRAVADY ALL NIGHTER

Date has been changed.
New date: Feb. 15th
Seeya then!



Nageela West breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach by providing out-of-the-box social and educational programs for Jewish children across the west coast. Through afterschool activities, weekend retreats and our signature summer camp, we engage elementary and middle school children in a fun and meaningful experience.

Our "questions encouraged" mindset makes Nageela a comfortable learning and growing environment for Jewish children of all backgrounds.

WINTER REGIONAL WEEKEND
Jan. 17-19

for 6-8 graders
San Francisco Bay Area

Transportation from Arizona, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Portland, San Diego and Seattle

REGISTER NOW FOR THIS NEXT LEVEL EVENT!

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