

Toldos 5781
November 20, 2020

NAGEELA SHABBOS

Have-a

SEASON 5 EPISODE 6

a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



Can You Spare Some Change?

by Rabbi Dani Locker

A friend of mine decided that when he turned 18 he was going to legally change his name. I wanted to say, "LOL, no you're not," but the term LOL hadn't been invented yet. My friends and I were all surprised when he actually did it! He went through the paperwork and he legally changed his name to... I actually have no idea. He wouldn't tell us. He taunted us by telling us it was an awesome name but he wouldn't reveal what it actually was. We even tried looking through the newspapers (when you change your name you've got to put a

classified ad in the paper announcing it) but newspapers weren't invented yet either. OK, that last part isn't true. It drove us nuts for years, and to this day, I don't know what his legal name is.

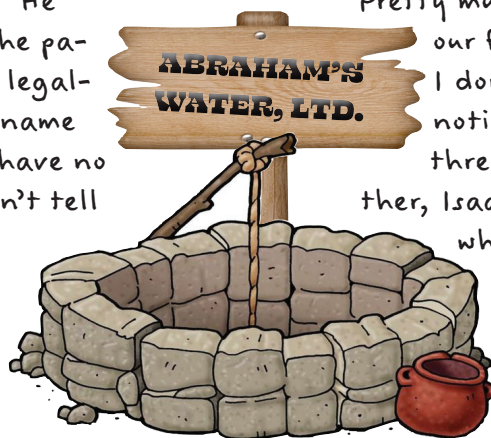
Pretty much the opposite of our forefather Isaac.

I don't think I ever noticed that out of our three primary forefather, Isaac is the only one who did not change his name!

Abram became Abraham, Jacob became Israel, yet Isaac remained Isaac for all of his

180 years on Earth.

One possible reason for this is because consistency is the



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| Henderson | 4:11 |
| Las Vegas | 4:11 |
| Reno/ Tahoe | 4:22 |
| Irvine | 4:27 |
| San Diego | 4:26 |
| Oakland | 4:36 |
| Park City | 4:46 |
| Scottsdale | 5:04 |

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way Isaac served God. Abraham and Jacob were innovators. Abraham went from a person who recognized God at a young age and transformed into a world changer, and earth shaker. He taught and traveled and influenced and took care of the needs of many. He became the 'father of nations.' Jacob started off as a gentle scholar, but then became a fighter and defender of truth and Torah. They both represent change, because it's really important to be ready to grow and become a new person.

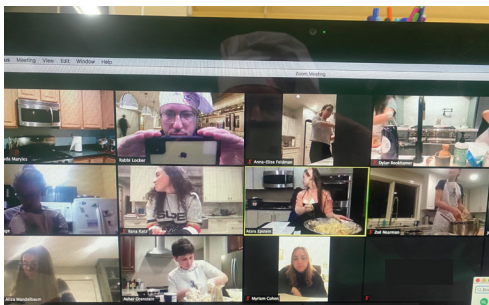
Isaac represents strongly holding on to tradition. Let's give an example: Abraham and his team had dug a number of wells in the area of the Plishti nation. Unfortunately, some of the locals had closed up these wells, or filled them with dirt. When Isaac wanted to dig wells, he didn't just dig anywhere. He went to the same spots his father had dug the wells. Not only that, but he named each one of the wells with the same name his Dad had used. The Torah makes a point of telling this to us to show us that Isaac's strength

and his philosophy was to promote and strengthen the valuable traditions and lesson we learn from our ancestors. It's not always important to innovate. Sometimes, innovation has negative side effects.

Our world keeps advancing. New developments are always coming out in medicine, technology, and many other areas. We are constantly reminded of how incredibly good progress is, and how much more advanced each generation is from the one before. Yet progress also comes with drawbacks. We lose a sense of respect for our parents, teachers and previous generations; thinking we're smarter and more advanced than they are. Isaac's lesson is to remember that our forefathers were giants, and any progress and innovation we experience should be done while sticking to the values and teachings our forefathers taught, and not reinventing the wheel. Or our names.

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CHAI LIGHTS



What a week it's been!

Amazing virtual Challah bake this past week with our Park City, Utah group! Sunset beach campfire and song session in San Diego and outdoor ice skating in Las Vegas!



Bernardo Halperin
Joseph Lerner
Ori Roth
Hillel Nissim
Michaela Gazala
Rabbi Smith
Josh Leyton
Chase Corman



Our forefather Isaac was blind, which made him sad...

He really wished Esau better!

OUCH! GROAN!

Do you have a better joke? I sure hope so! Send it to dllocker@nageelawest.org

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.

Stump the Rabbi



#148 Short Term Survival

Hi Rabbi,

Thank you for doing this online Q&A event. My question is: Some species of animals have gone extinct. If God knew they were going to go extinct, why were they brought onto the ark?

Thanks,

Xana T. Ink-th

Dear XT ink-th,

Thank you! This is a really interesting question. It's rare that I get a new question that nobody has ever asked me before, but this is definitely in that category.

Let me ask you a question. Does anyone live forever? Of course not.

Do we value their lives, even if they may be short? Of course we do. Now, I'm not trying to compare extinct animals to people. My point is that every creature in this universe has a purpose. NOT ONLY every species, but every single ant, vulture, quail or Ven-ezualan Poodle Moth has a purpose in creation and is

here for a specific reason.

Do I know the purpose of sea pig? Real thing, BTW. Nope. But I can tell you with confidence that if a species existed for any amount of time it is because the species as a whole, AND each individual member of that species was important. A creature dying, or a species going extinct doesn't erase the value that creature had.

Even though God knew that a species would go extinct in the future, it is worth saving them even for a few generations. We believe a similar concept with humans. Let's say a person is seriously ill and they're on life support. The doctors say this person will die in a few days. Now somebody comes and kills the patient. You know what we call that? Murder. Every minute and every day of life is precious. Certainly



REGISTRATION IS UNDERWAY FOR
CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2021 IN
JEWTAH

3 WEEKS, SPORTS, HORSEMANSHIP, NATURE,
FRIENDSHIPS, CREATIVE SPECIALTIES, WATER
SPORTS, JEWISH PRIDE AND EXCITEMENTS!

2

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DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST
GIRLS SESSION

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST
BOYS SESSION

Find out about our summer 2021 and see photos from 2020 at nageelawest.org

Stump the Rabbi; continued

generations are valuable, even if the species won't survive forever. So while I don't know precisely what reason the dodo had for surviving on the ark, I think it's cool that there were dodos on that ark!

Have a Nageela Shabbat,

the Rabbi



WHY DO WE
PARK IN A
DRIVEWAY,
AND DRIVE
ON A
PARKWAY?



Mazel Tov to Camp Nageela
West camper Jonah Arazi who
is celebrating his Bar Mitzvah
this week!

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@NAGEELAWEST



PICKLE



JEW S



BIBLICAL TYPOS

Nageela West Coast

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.

