

Candle Lighting:
 Phoenix 5:40
 Las Vegas 5:51
 San Diego 6:01
 Los Angeles 6:04
 Tarzana 6:05
 N.Lake Tahoe 6:07

have a Nageela Shabbos

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

Season 3
Episode 4

Changing Lightbulbs

by Rabbi Dani Locker

How many boring people does it take to change a lightbulb?

One.

.....

How 'bout this one: How many good people does it take to change a generation?

Several times in history, great people were warned that a disaster was coming. When Abraham was told about the destruction of Sodom and its neighbors, he prayed and begged God to save those five cities. When God told Moses He was going to destroy the Jewish people (after they worshipped an expensive cow), he prayed and begged God to save his nation. Noah was warned about a really big leak that would destroy the world...

and he was silent. The Torah doesn't mention Noah praying for his generation at all. Why not? What was different about Noah's generation than Abraham's or Moses'?

Moses prayed because there were loads of good people who might have been harmed. Abraham prayed when he **THOUGHT** there were at least ten good people in Sodom. Once he figured out that there weren't even ten good people there, he stopped praying. Noah knew that there weren't ten good people left in the world. In fact, he only counted eight. Noah and his wife, his three sons and their wives. Eight good people couldn't save the world. They needed a minion.

Wait, how did he count eight good people? We know that at least one of his sons was a pretty nasty character. How can Ham be counted as one of the eight good people?



Praying with a minion

When you've got Noah as a dad, you can never be counted out! Ham might have been a pig (get it? Ham, pig... oh, don't look at me in that tone of voice), but as long as he had his father to learn from he could be counted on to turn around.

Being around good people makes a huge difference. Just being around Noah could have changed Ham, and just having ten good people could've

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Which US state was Noah a resident of?

Ark and Saw...

OUCH! GROAN!

got a better joke? email it to dlocker@nageelawest.org

C.U. LATTE
A Socially Jewish
Event for kids 4-8 grade

Wednesday,
October. 17th
2:30-4pm
at Starbucks

899 Tahoe Blvd, Incline Village
Please RSVP to tahoejewishyouth@gmail.com
Suggested Donation \$5 per child

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Question of the Week

Adapted with permission from
Question of the Week by Rabbi
David Zaback. Dedicated in
memory of the author.

ANSWER ON BACK PAGE



Photo of the Week

Tarzana Towers

Our Los Angeles area growth plows ahead, as more than a dozen children attend the first weekly Tarzana NageeLatte, where students learned about unity, tower building and the architecture of plastic drink receptacles. For more info, please contact dbsmith@nageelawest.org

Green Valley NageeLatte will be off on the 17th due to Lake Tahoe event

OCTOBER 17TH- Lake Tahoe Kickoff
October 27th- Las Vegas Shabbaton
November 13th- Phoenix Kickoff Event
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND
Los Angeles Shabbaton

↑ dates

changed the world. I'm taking two main lessons from this discussion:

1. Hang around good people. They'll affect you in surprising and awesome ways.

2. When we improve ourselves we really end up helping all the people around us by extension. Wanna help your friend or sibling make good

decisions in life? Make better decisions yourself, and it'll do something for their choices, too.

So, how many good people does it take to change a generation? Ten.

How many good people does it take to change ten? One. Just one.

It's pretty common for Jews to have two names, like "Sara Chaya" or "Moshe Dov." It wasn't always like that. Most people in the Torah just had one name. Avraham, Devorah, Shlomo...

Who was the first person to get a second name, and when did it become common practice for Jews to give second names?



Awesometastic birthday wishes
to Nageela family members
celebrating their birthdays:

Eli Ephraim
Sean Shamama
Tova Locker
Yonah Pollack
Moriel Shabtai
Alyssa Dixon

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**stump 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*

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

Me Zoo Keeper

Hi Rabbi,

I just got a mezuzah for my room as a Bat Mitzvah present! Hooray! It's in a really nice case, and I can't wait to put it up. Just wondering, is there a special way to put it up? Where do I put it? Does my room need a mezuzah, or should I put it on the house's front door? Is there a blessing for me to say? Does it have to be put up by a Rabbi?

Thanks,

Dora Post

Dear Dora,

Mazel Tov on the Bat Mitzvah and on the new Mezuzah! It's great that one of the first steps you're taking as a responsible Jewish adult is to add another important mitzvah to your life. Way to go!

Here are a few ideas about mezuzah, and hopefully they'll answer your questions:

First of all, for any readers who haven't read Stump the Rabbi Season 2, Episode 12 (you can find it after Shabbat at Nageelawest.org), a mezuzah is a parchment scroll with two paragraphs from the Torah handwritten on it. It's put on our doorposts to remind ourselves (and others) that this is a Jewish place, and that God is the boss. There are very specific ways to display your mezuzah.

Did you know that if you have an American flag at your home or school, there are laws about how to display it? The US Flag Code (I didn't make it up, it's real) has tons of details about how to raise and lower the flag, when, and more. Here are two random laws about the flag:

(d) The flag of the United States of America, when it is displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, should be on the right, the flag's own right, and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.
(e) The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of States or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.

My point is that there are a lot of technical rules. Mezuzah has similar rules, because when you're representing something (or SOMEONE important, you've got to do it right! The mezuzah should be about 2 thirds of the way to the top of the door frame (unless it's a super high door), and it should be on the right side as you walk IN to the room. Although the home's

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front door is the most important, it's best for every door in the house to have it's own mezuzah (except closet doors and bathroom doors) including garage doors. For you to put a mezuzah with a beautiful case on your bedroom door is a great idea! When you put up a mezuzah anywhere, you should say the blessing ending with "Likboa Mezuzah," to install a mezuzah. If you're putting up more mezuzot at the same time, you just make the blessing once and it works for all of them.

The person putting up the mezuzah does not have to be a Rabbi, but needs to be an adult, so YOU can do it, now that you're a Bat Mitzvah! There is a question about how to position the mezuzah. Some say to put it straight up, like a soldier. Others say that it should be horizontal, which is more respectful (the tablets in the holy ark were laying down horizontally, too). Most Sephardic Jews put it straight

up, and Ashkenazi Jews make it slanted (with the top facing inward) to compromise. If you're not sure whether your family is Sephardic or Ashkenazi, email me back, and I'll try to help you figure it out. The lesson of the slanted mezuzah is that in building a Jewish home, compromise is really important.

One more thing. You can attach a mezuzah any way you want. Some people like to use double sided tape. Don't use superglue, because you need to take it down to get checked every few years. Many people use hammer and nails. Which reminds me... do you know what kind of nails you should NOT bang with a hammer?

Fingernails.

Have-A Nageela Shabbat,

the Rabbi

HEY, DON'T PEEK! THINK FIRST!

Yaakov (Jacob) was later named Yisrael and both names are used. Back then, names were given because of their meaning, so one meaning was enough for most people. In later generations, it became common to name after relatives. If a family had a child and multiple relatives to name after, they might use both names together. Also, many Jewish double names are translations, like "Dov Ber." Dov means bear in Hebrew, and Ber... well that should be obvious. This practice probably didn't start until around 1000 years ago.

Answer of the Week

This past week, we participated in a very unusual Bar Mitzvah celebration. Excited about Jacob's Bar Mitzvah, a number of his relatives, including his mom, grandma, aunt and cousins decided to get involved. You see, none of them had celebrated their own bar or bat mitzvahs when they were children, so they took the chance to study and celebrate as a family! Each one of them met with Rabbi Locker, and developed a study plan. At the party, they each stood up and spoke about what they learned, and how, as responsible Jewish adults they plan to incorporate that Torah wisdom into their lives.

It was moving and beautiful as Jacob was joined by 7 relatives from age 16 to 66, all taking the next step in their Jewish journey, together!



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.

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

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