

Parshas Pekudei
5779

March 8th,
2019

Episode #
99

NEXT WEEK,
EXPANDED
100th EPISODE!

Candle Lighting:
Las Vegas 5:24
San Diego 5:33
N.Lake Tahoe 5:41
LA/ 5:37
Tarzana 5:38
Shushan 6:01
Scottsdale 6:11

have a Nageela Shabbos

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

Season 3
Episode 23

Stop, Don't stop by Rabbi Dani Locker



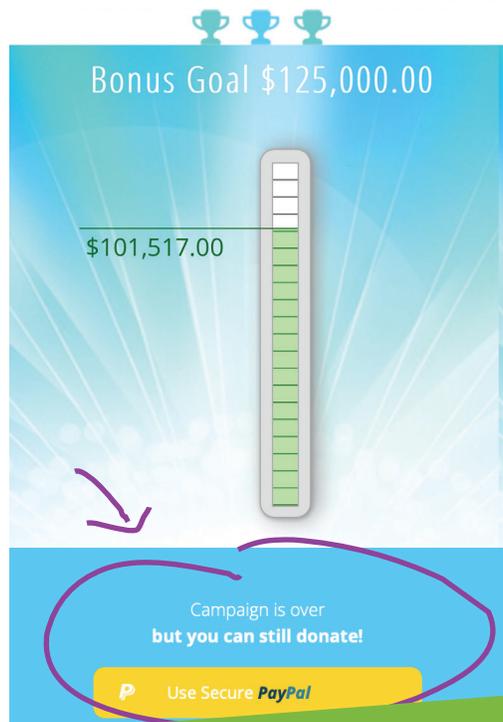
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Last week, Camp Nageela West ran a fundraising campaign, with a goal of \$100,000. With God's help, and the support of many, many donors, we reached our goal! This is exciting, and we could spend all day speaking about the wonderful people who helped us, and the great things we plan on doing with the funds raised. But that is NOT what I'm going to write about. What happened when we reached our goal? Take a look at the screenshot. Did we tell people, "Hey, we've got enough money. Stop donating. No really, stop. Nooooo. We did not do that! We placed a message that donations are still accepted, and we put a button linking to PayPal. There's so much good that can be done, and so much need for funds... it's limitless!

That's not what Moshe did. He began collecting money and supplies to build the Mishkan (if you don't know what a mishkan is, you haven't been reading NAGEELA SHABBOS often enough), and the people enthusiastically donated. Soon they had collected enough, but the people still wanted to contribute more! They wanted the privilege of being a part of this

historic, holy project. Moshe actually commanded them to stop. "Sorry, everyone, donations are no longer being accepted."

Why was there a command to stop? What's the big deal if they bring more? I would understand if Moshe would've said, "You don't NEED to bring any more. We're good. Campaign has been successful." Why did he forbid bringing more donations?



The commentary Ralbag explains it this way: Moshe was afraid that people would give so much, they'd become poor through their donations! If others would see people becoming poor from doing a mitzvah, they might be discouraged from doing a mitzvah as well. "Look at our friend Martin. He donated to charity, and now he's so poor, he's using an iPhone 6! Moshe wanted to avoid this problem, and so he made sure to cut off all donations before anyone could use up all their money.

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I think the lesson here is something we don't think about very often. It's the ripple effect. You've probably heard the example of a rock being thrown into a pond. The splash it creates right where the rock lands might be large, but small ripples can be felt and seen pretty far away. Every single choice we make and action we take has effects far beyond ourselves. A guy who was donating to the Mishkan was probably only thinking of the beautiful prayers and service he was facilitating. He almost certainly would not have realized that perhaps thirty years in the future, someone else might hesitate to do a mitzvah because he thinks it'll make him poor. It took a vision like Moshe's to see all future problems that might originate from a mitzvah. We must try our hardest to think of every detail and result of our actions. It's not enough to simply say, "This looks like a good deed." We've also got to think ahead about what the long term and far reaching results of our actions might be. Will someone's feeling be hurt because I'm doing this? Will this help people make fun of Torah? Will this, overall, cause more positive than negative? With God's help, we'll make awesome decisions, and help make ourselves, and the world, a little bit better every day.

In case you're still wondering, I'm not worried... you can feel free to donate to us as much as you want... just make sure to keep your phone.



Photo of the Week

Tarzana, King of the Jungle

Did you know that there are three separate Nageela programs in Tarzana, for multiple ages and locations?

Sunday, March 17th, all kids in the LA Valley area are invited to a Nageela pre- Purim party. See the graphic for details.

Treats for Troops is a wonderful event bridging social action, patriotism, Purim, Jewish values, and high flying fun! FREE event, Monday, March 18th @ Gravady, LV.

Tuesday, March 19th, Treats for Troops comes to the Reno/ Tahoe area! Stay tuned for details!

Camp Registration is now in full swing! If you know anyone looking for the greatest Jewish summer experience of their lives, please check out nageelawest.org or contact us for details.

 **dates**

Quick Fix

By

Rabbi Dov Ber Smith

Where do you think G-d "hung out" the most:

- (a) The Tabernacle built by Moses (in the desert)
- (b) The First Temple which was definitely bigger and unbelievably expensive
- (c) The Second Temple which was even more expensive and more beautiful?

Get this!! The Torah testifies that it was at the Tabernacle that G-d's glory presided and "hung out" the most.

Why? Very simple: The people. The Tabernacle had the best Jews! They were people who believed in Judaism, were proud of their

heritage, and acted in the right way.

Meaning, it's not the physical beauty or size that matters the most. It's your heart. It's your soul.

You want G-d in your life: just open your heart. Be proud to be a Jew and **LIVE IT!** The heart is the greatest start!!



stump the rabbi



Why did the donut
maker take so many
breaks?

He was glazy!

OUCH! GROAN!

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

Start Your Engines

Hi Rabbi,

I play piano and I really enjoy it. I'm not professional or anything, but I think I'm pretty good. When I came to the Shabbaton, I sat down at my host's house and started playing the piano, but someone told me I shouldn't play on Shabbat. I don't understand why not. Isn't music important for Shabbat and praying and stuff? They said 'cause I might fix it. But I have no idea how to fix a piano! Duct tape? Please explain.

Thanks,

Simon P. Honickman

This question had a pretty long answer, so we split it up...

Two weeks ago, in episode 21, we published part 1. Today, we answer part 2

Dear Simphonic Man,

Kyle Jansen is the real deal. He's been racing cars ever since his daddy first let him drive at age 6. At 17, he won his first NASCAR race, and now, Kyle is just about to break Richard Petty's record of seven championships. I'd rank him right up there with Lightning McQueen. Late one night, Kyle Jansen decides to go for a drive. Not for a stock car racing run around a track, but just a simple trip to the mall in his hometown. He gets behind the wheel of his typical sports car, and hops onto the freeway. He easily and expertly maneuvers around other cars, obstacles, and pixelated cows, at around 90 miles per hour. Until he sees flashing lights in his rear view mirror.

"Sir, do you have any idea how fast you were going?"

"Why, yes, officer. I was going 87 miles per hour on the curves and 93 on the straightaways."

"Sir, are you aware that driving at those

speeds is extremely dangerous?"

"No, officer. With all due respect, 93 is not dangerous for me at all. I did 208 at Talladega. I'm Kyle Jansen, a professional racecar driver. And by the way, I spelled racecar backwards just for fun!"

"Mr. Jansen, I'm afraid I'm going to have to give you a ticket for speeding. And I'm pretty sure you spelled racecar normally."

"But why, officer? As you can see, it's not dangerous for me at all! And read racecar the way I spelled it, and then read it backwards!"

"Sir, the law puts a limit on the speed you can legally drive on a freeway. You're welcome to drive as fast as you want at the track, but here, you've got to follow the law. Even if it's not dangerous for you, since these speeds would be dangerous for many people in many situations, **even you have got to follow the law.** You're right about the spelling, though."

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So Kyle Jansen drove the rest of the way home at 57 MPH and was careful to signal every time he switched lanes. He remained safe for the rest of that night (the next day, he was attacked by a rabid goldfish, but that's a story for another time).

So you see, Simon my friend, that when laws are created, they apply to everyone, even those who might not really need them. Society runs and flourishes because of neat, clear rules that everyone has to follow. Which brings us back to your piano tuning dilemma. Because of the reasons we discussed in our last episode (if you don't remember, you can always find the archives at nageelawest.org), Jews who keep Shabbat simply don't play any instruments on Shabbat, to prevent musicians from repairing and tuning their instruments. You might not have a clue how

to tune your fish (or your piano), making you unlikely to violate any serious prohibitions. Yet when a rule like that is instituted, it must apply to everyone.

By the way, do you know when racecar drivers take a nap?

When they get tired.

Have-A Nageela Shabbat,
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.

NAGEELA WEST PRESENTS

TREATS FOR TROOPS

Monday, March 18th
5-9pm
@ Gravady
Extreme Air Sports
FREE ADMISSION
for first 50 RSVPs
includes 2 hours of jumping
when you bring (at least) 2 non-perishable food items

Creating & Packing
Thoughtful Purim care
packages for Jewish US troops
serving overseas
RSVP at NageelaLV.org/special-events



MARCH 17TH, TARZANA

NAGEELA WEST PRESENTS THE

ULTIMATE PURIM BASH



LAS VEGAS EVENT: MARCH 18TH
RENO/ TAHOE EVENT: MARCH 19TH



Awesometastic birthday wishes to Nageela family members celebrating their birthdays:

- | | |
|------------|------------------|
| Sofia Leos | Jacob Zalk |
| Aviv Kohen | Judah Hafter |
| Tal Kohen | Simi Maryles |
| Jacob Lev | Menachem Roberts |

mazel tov!

to Nageela staff member **Yocheved (Yoey) Sternberg** upon her engagement!



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.

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