

Connections

A Project of the Shluchim Office

PARSHAS VAYIKRA
ZAYIN ADAR 2 5765

Connecting Tzeirei Hashluchim around the World!

VOLUME 1
ISSUE 24

PARSHAS VAYIKRA



Vayikra means "And He called." It is the name of the third Sefer of the Torah and the first word of that Sefer.

When we look at the word Vayikra, we can see that it has an unusual sized letter. The last letter of this word, the alef, is very small.

This is not the only alef in the Tanach which is of a different size. In the Sefer of Divrei HaYomim, there is another irregular alef. It is in the word Adam, in the possuk which tells us the order of the generations beginning with Adam HaRishon, the very first man.

The alef in the word Adam is not small like the alef in the word Vayikra. Quite the opposite. This alef is oversized, larger than the other letters.

We can learn something about Adam HaRishon from the oversized alef in his name. Adam knew he was very special, because he was created by HaShem's own hands. He felt very sure about himself, so sure of himself that he wasn't careful and he made the mistake of eating from the eitz hada'as.

Every person should know how special he is, but he should not become proud or careless. Moshe Rabbeinu surely knew that he was special. After all, he was the only one to speak to HaShem "face to face." Yet, Moshe felt more humble than any other person. He used to tell himself: "All that I have is a gift from HaShem. If HaShem had given these opportunities to someone else, he surely would have been much better than me."

Moshe Rabbeinu considered himself smaller and less important than others. That's why there is a little alef in the word Vayikra. Rashi tells us that HaShem's calling Moshe was a sign of special care. HaShem loves humble people. Because Moshe was so humble, HaShem called to him and showed him special attention.

We are all children of Adam and each of us has a spark of Moshe Rabbeinu in his neshamah. To be as great as Adam could have been, we have to act small and humble, as Moshe did.

Please tell me What the Rebbe Said (Adapted from Likkutei Sichos, Vol. XVII, Parshas Vayikra)

Chinuch Yaldei Hashluchim

Rabbi M. Shemtov
Rivky Lokshin
Dabrushy Pink
Aydla Vechter

Connections Proof Readers:

Rabbi A. Lipsey
Mrs. G. Junik
Rabbi L. Zirkind

Na'ad Hashluchim:

Rabbi Y. Deren
Rabbi O. Goldman
Rabbi Y. Greenberg
Rabbi B. Levertov
Rabbi Y. Shemtov



**You'll find me in this week's Parsha.
If you take away 2—I'll be in a corner
If you take away 50—I'll come closer
What am I?**

Please send your answers to connections@shluchim.org
Last week's brain buster: I have 4 letters and my end is a neighbor. What am I?

Answer: משכן

Congratulations to Piny Spiro, 8, from Haarlem, Netherlands for solving the brain buster.



FROM THE DESK OF...
DR. GETZEL

Hi, Juniors!

Purim is just around the corner and I'm so excited that I can't stalk traight. I'm getting all up-mixed with my words. Have you started your Purim chapping- I mean shopping? If you have, I'm sure that you went to the supermarket with a long list of nash, nash and nash to fill your Mishloach Manos.

I'm a professional supermarket flopper- I mean shopper. That's right. Besides for my other jobs as inventor, seeing specialist, and Shabbos food taster, I also do all the shopping for Mrs. Getzel. I've been shopping for a long time. (I started on the day of my Upshernish when we realized that we didn't have scissors so I had to crawl to the supermarket and buy a pair!) Over my many years of experience, I've seen many strange and interesting supermarket lists. I've seen short ones, ones with pictures, back-of-envelope ones, and long megillah ones (Sometimes Mrs. Getzel gets her Yomim Tovim mixed up and gives me the long megillah ones around Pesach time, Sukkos time, and just about any other time!). But this week's list was the wackiest one I've seen yet.

It looked like this:

Purim Shopping List

a penny or a nickel

a story on a scroll

a lollypop and pickle

some mashke and a roll

and don't forget the miricol (it's supposed to be miracle but then it wouldn't rhyme!)

"Hmmm," I hummed. Mrs. Getzel sounded all up-mixed. She must have been spending too much time around me. But I was an expert supermarket hopper and I knew I could figure this one out. I grabbed a grocery cart, put on my magnifying, laser-vision, super spying lenses and began the search by tackling aisle #1.

Two hours, eleven minutes, and sixteen seconds later, I decided that even professional soup-or-marker shoppers could ask for help sometimes. I stopped right where I was (I had to because I couldn't stop where I wasn't), put on my most professional sounding voice and announced: "HEEEEEEEELP!"

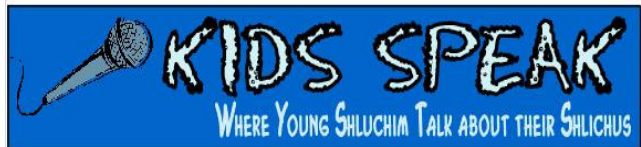
Before I could blink a nose, I mean an eye, I was surrounded by helpful snoppers. Ooops. I mean helpless shoppers. The hopeless shopfulls helped with my shopping list and of course I invited them all to my house for a grand Purim party. With all my new

friends, I'm sure this is going to be the best Purim ever!

Have a very happy, mitzvah-filled, nash-eating, friend-making, downside-up Purim!

Dr. Getzel

P.S. Mrs. Getzel's list named all of the Mitzvos of Purim: Al Hanissim, Matonos L'evyonim (tzedakah), Mishloach Manos, Megillah, and a Seudah. Can you match each mitzvah to its rhyme?



SHNEUR ZALMAN MATUSOF, age 7

MADISON, WISCONSIN

My name is Shneur Zalman Matusof. I am 7 years old. I live in Madison, WI. and I am home schooled.

I love being on Shlichus. I know that I am helping to bring Moshiach closer.

I go on Mivtzoim with my family. On Sukkos we go on campus and I ask people to shake the lulov and esrog. On Chanukah we hand out menorahs. It makes me happy. In front of our Chabad house we have a big menorah. We never know who will see it...One summer, when my sister was a counselor in another city, she had a camper that came from Madison. His father told my sister that the reason he was sending his son to a Jewish camp was because he saw a beautiful big menorah in front of the Chabad house in Madison. I hope I can bring the Rebbe a lot of nachas.

HEY KIDS!

**SEND US A REPORT ABOUT YOUR SHLICHUS AND WE WILL IY"H PUBLISH IT IN OUR FUTURE CONNECTIONS!
E-MAIL US AT CONNECTIONS@SHLUCHIM.ORG
PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, AGE AND LOCATION OF SHLICHUS.**



POCKET CALENDAR

ט' אדר



On this day, in ש"ת/19, 1940, the רבי פריערדיקער arrived in America.

The רבי פריערדיקער announced upon his arrival that he was going to open the first Chabad-Lubavitch ישיבה in America. He said, "America is not different [from Europe]." Just as Europe had many ישיבות for hundreds of years, so too would it be here in America.

Upon hearing this, many people came to the רבי פריערדיקער and tried to dissuade him, giving examples of important Rabbis who had also tried to establish ישיבות in America and didn't succeed.

The Rebbe replied, "I did not come to America to relax, but rather, פרטית brought me to America to start rebuilding אידשקייט." He refused to go to sleep that night until he was assured that the ישיבות would open as he wished. The following day, Lubavitch תומכי תמימים in Brooklyn opened with ten students.

The רבי פריערדיקער wrote and spoke at great length about חינוך and the important job of teachers.

The רבי פריערדיקער explains that the arrival of the רבי in America was the beginning of the important efforts to spread חסידות and אידשקייט to the entire world.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that when a child starts to learn חומש, he should start from ויקרא פרשת ויקרא? That is because ויקרא talks about the קרבנות. The Rebbe says that קרבנות are heilig and children are heilig - so they go together!

Now can you guess what we are going to talk about in this פרשה? You've got it - קרבנות.

We finally (after all those פרשיות) finished putting up the משכן. Now we get to start using it. It is time to bring קרבנות to ה'.

Do you remember that our own homes are like miniature משכן's? And the children have to help make their homes a place where ה' feels comfortable? Well, how are we supposed to bring a קרבן at home?

In the המקדש בית, the first thing that they did in the morning was (you guessed it) bringing a קרבן. They brought the קרבן once in the morning and once at night. Really, this קרבן should have been brought all day long, but this was not possible. There were other things that had to be done. So the קרבן was brought first thing in the morning to show us that we should think about it all day.

We start our morning by saying מודה אני. This is our way of bring a קרבן. It reminds us that ה' is the One who gave us back our נשמה, and everything that we do should be for ה'. We should really spend our whole day Davening to and thinking about ה'. But there are other things that we have to do. So we start out our day with מודה אני, and this counts for the rest of the day.

Remember: keep in mind your מודה אני all day long. That means that before you do anything, think: Is this what ה' wants? Is this what I should be doing right now?

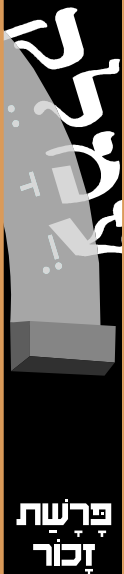
If you do this then, hopefully, we will be able to bring real קרבנות in the third המקדש בית very soon!

ARE YOU A PARSHA EXPERT?

This week we read the second of the four special פרשיות זכור - פרשת זכור. פרשת זכור describes how עמלק attacked the אידן who were on their way from מצרים to ארץ ישראל. Reading פרשת זכור reminds us of what עמלק did to us, and it also reminds us of ה's commandment to destroy עמלק - "תמחה את זכר עמלק מתחת השמים".

Our חכמים tell us that we should read פרשת זכור on the שבת before the יום טוב of פורים. This is significant, as המן was a descendant of עמלק, and פורים celebrates the downfall of המן and the nullification of his evil decree to destroy the אידן. However, the commandment to destroy עמלק applies to every איד in every generation, because עמלק doesn't just pose a physical threat to בניי, but a spiritual one as well.

The battle against עמלק is an internal battle. In order to fulfill the מצוות properly, one must do so with warmth, joy, and enthusiasm. עמלק symbolizes coldness, performing deeds simply out of habit, which can lead to doubt, ח"ו. Our task is to do the מצוות wholeheartedly, with שמחה and gratitude to ה' for giving us the opportunity to serve Him. In this way, every one of us at every time is destroying עמלק.



Stories Of Yalde

ר' of Berdichev לוי יצחק with פורים



The last rays of the sun had already disappeared, it was the end of תענית אסתר and the beginning of the יום טוב of פורים. The שול of ר' לוי יצחק of Berdichev was filled to overflowing. Everyone waited patiently as ר' לוי יצחק went up to the בימה to begin מעריב and then the reading of the מגילה.

The שמש approached ר' לוי יצחק and whispered something in his ear. The Rebbe immediately went out from the שול into an adjoining room.

There, a poor woman was standing with a chicken that had just been shechted. When salting the chicken before cooking it, she had noticed what seemed to be a broken bone and had come to ask the Rebbe if it was kosher. ר' לוי יצחק examined the chicken and found it to be not kosher. "Oy, what will I do? My husband is sick and my children are starving. I spent my last few coins on this chicken, hoping the soup would help my husband and satisfy my children. What shall I do?" the woman sobbed.

"Do not worry, my daughter. ה' helps everyone and will certainly help you, too," said ר' לוי יצחק compassionately. "Now go to the שול and listen to the מגילה," he added.

When the woman had left, ר' לוי יצחק put on his coat and went quickly to his home. There he gathered up everything his wife had prepared for the פורים סעודה the next day: fresh hamentashen, fish, chicken, soup, challah, and all kinds of delicacies. He tied it securely in a large, white tablecloth and made his way to the home of the poor woman.

ר' לוי יצחק entered the house and immediately heard the voice of the sick husband.

"Is that you Sara? What happened with the chicken?" he asked in a weak voice.

"A good פורים, happy פורים," answered ר' לוי יצחק. "ה' has sent you a פורים gift." The Rebbe set the table neatly and then hurried back to the שול. The davenning and מגילה reading had not continued without the Rebbe; despite the late hour, no one wanted to miss hearing ר' לוי יצחק read the מגילה.



That year, the מגילה reading seemed to take on new meaning for those gathered in the שול, especially when the Rebbe read the words about sending משלוח מנות - gifts of food to one's friends - and giving extra צדקה to the poor. Everyone understood that these

אזהבת ישראל are about having מצוות.

When ר' לוי יצחק's wife returned home, she was more than a little surprised to find that everything she had prepared for the פורים meal was missing! She entered her husband's study and found him learning from a ספר with deep כוונה, his face aglow. The Rebbetzin immediately understood what had happened. She managed to pull together a suitable meal from leftovers here and there.

When the poor family told the town excitedly that אליהו הנביא had visited their house and brought משלוח מנות from ה' the townspeople also understood where their Rebbe had been. He had substituted for אליהו. That year, the unusually generous people of Berdichev were even more generous than usual. They sent food in abundance to ר' לוי יצחק for his festive פורים meal, and extra food and צדקה to all the poor of the city.



(Adapted from L'chaim Weekly)



תפילה במקום קרבנות



Kids! Fill out the answers to the puzzle below, and fax it to the Shluchim Office at (718) 221-0985 or e-mail it to connections@shluchim.org no later than Wednesday, March 23rd, 'י"ב אדר ב'.

Level 1 - Ages 5-7

Check the box by the correct answer (Hint: Some questions might have more than one correct answer)

1. WHEN DO WE SAY אשרי?

- שלש רגלים
 מנחה ON WEEKDAYS
 מעריב ON WEEKDAYS
 קבלת שבת

2. WHEN DO WE SAY לכה דודי?

- שבת ON שחרית
 יום כיפור
 קבלת שבת

3. WHEN DO WE SAY כל נדרי?

- שבת ON שחרית
 יום כיפור
 שלש רגלים

4. WHEN DO WE SAY הוא?

- אלוקינו
 שבת ON מוסף
 שבת ON שחרית
 שלש רגלים

5. WHEN DO WE SAY 7 למנצח TIMES?

- שבת ON מוסף
 מעריב ON WEEKDAYS
 שופר BEFORE BLOWING THE

6. WHEN DO WE SAY אתה בחרתנו?

- שלש רגלים
 מנחה ON WEEKDAYS
 קבלת שבת

7. WHEN DO WE SAY שמע?

- שבת ON שחרית
 מעריב ON WEEKDAYS
 מנחה ON WEEKDAYS

8. WHEN DO WE DAVEN עשרה עשרה?

- קריאת שמע על המטה
 שבת ON מוסף
 מנחה ON WEEKDAYS

9. WHEN DO WE SAY לכו נרננה?

- שבת ON מנחה
 שלש רגלים
 קבלת שבת

10. WHEN DO WE SAY ברוך שאמר?

- שבת ON שחרית
 שבת ON שחרית
 ראש השנה



Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Last Week's Winners:

Level I: Chayale Turk, age 6 Chicago IL & Levi Greenberg, age 7, Solon, OH

Good Luck!

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

תפילה במקום קרבנות

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

ב"ה

Kids! Fill out the answers to the puzzle below, and fax it to the Shluchim Office at (718) 221-0985 or e-mail it to connections@shluchim.org no later than Wednesday, March 23rd, 'י"ב אדר ב'.

Level 2: Ages 8— 12

Find all the following words and then, starting from the top left corner, write all the left-over words on the spaces below.

N	O	W	W	K	S	M	H	E	N	D	M	M	N	T
H	E	R	E	A	I	H	I	S	I	N	U	I	I	O
K	B	E	I	B	S	H	A	M	A	M	S	N	D	I
K	O	D	A	B	S	H	A	C	A	W	A	C	R	H
E	D	R	A	O	V	T	E	N	H	L	F	H	E	A
I	N	S	B	L	N	T	E	A	D	A	E	A	I	L
O	F	B	R	A	I	N	G	I	N	G	R	H	K	I
O	R	B	B	S	N	M	A	N	O	L	L	I	S	N
S	W	R	H	S	A	O	E	N	E	M	O	O	S	N
S	O	H	I	H	O	A	S	L	C	H	C	O	K	M
K	E	S	S	A	W	T	L	O	L	A	H	E	W	I
L	L	A	B	B	R	A	A	I	N	G	K	O	R	B
A	N	O	S	B	H	A	G	H	A	I	N	I	N	T
H	E	T	H	O	I	R	D	B	C	E	I	S	H	A
M	I	K	D	S	M	A	A	R	I	V	A	S	H	!

- Shacharis
- Mincha
- Maariv
- Musaf
- Kabbolas Shabbos
- Hallel
- Kol
- Nidrei
- Korbanos
- Korban Tamid
- Olah
- Chatos
- Asham
- Shelamim

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____



Last Week's Winners:
 Level 2: Menachem Greenberg, age 10, El Paso, TX & Yossi Lifshitz, age 11, Blue Ash, OH