



Tiferet

ת פ א ר ת



TIFERET UPDATES

This Week in Tiferet

Welcome Back!

This week we welcomed back our returning Shana Bet students, here to continue their learning and growth in Tiferet for another half-year! We are sure this will be a year of continued growth for them, and for all of the Shana Alef students who meet them!

We also welcomed our three new madrichot for 5773 – two of whom are returning Tiferet alumnae: Laura Barnett (5769) and Nina Gruenfeld (5770). Together with Daniella Lieberman, these three young women are a great new addition to the Tiferet staff.

תורת תפארת

On The Road

Rav Azriel Rosner (arosner@tiferetcenter.com)

Parashat Ki Teitzei

Parashat Ki Teitzei is one of the mitzvah-filled parshiyot in the Torah, as Moshe Rabbeinu gives his last address to Bnei Yisrael. One of the many mitzvot found in this week's parsha is in פרק כ"ד, 'פסוק ט

"זכור את אשר עשה ה' אלקיך למרים בדרך בצאתכם ממצרים"

"Remember what G-d did to Miriam on the road, when you left Egypt."

The pasuk is referring to the incident in פרק י"ב, במדבר, when Miriam spoke lashon hara against her brother, Moshe, and was punished with tzara'at. The Sifrei and most of the mefarshim explain that the commandment in Ki Teitzei is to remember the sin of Miriam, and to be especially vigilant about avoiding lashon hara.

But what about the last phrase in the pasuk - "on the road, when you left Egypt"? What does this phrase add to the commandment, since lashon hara is certainly forbidden in all places?

Rav Shimshon Raphael Hirsch explains that this phrase was added to teach "the importance of the laws of tzara'at, for the whole nation paused in its journey to the promised Homeland due to them – 'on the road, when you left Egypt' – and waited for Miriam for seven days." According to Rav Hirsch then, these three words serve to even further stress the seriousness and severity of the sin of lashon hara.

Perhaps we can suggest something a bit different though. The phrase "on the road, when you left Egypt" conjures an image of people in transition, having left the land where they were born and grew up, but still on the road, not having arrived at their final destination. At that time, Bnei Yisrael were essentially homeless, unsure of themselves and certainly unsettled. And when one is unsettled and uncomfortable, one is more likely to make mistakes of judgment, which ordinarily require calm and collected forethought to avoid.

As many of us transition from the summer to the beginning of the new year, we look forward to new opportunities and challenges which can arise from new situations. But we also must be aware of the danger of transitions, that while we are still finding our way, we may err and hurt ourselves or others. Let's make sure that the changes we face in this new year turn out to be positive ones by remembering this important story and mitzvah.

Shabbat Shalom!

MAZAL TOV!

Mazal Tov to Jennifer Becker (5766) on her engagement to Yoni Lazarus! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Shira Baron (5766) on her marriage to Jeremy Stern! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Moshe and Liz (Fersht) Neiman (5766, 5767) on the birth of their daughter, Ahuva! May they be zochim to raise her l'Torah, l'chupa u'l'maasim tovim!

Mazal Tov to Melissa Gelman (5767) on her marriage to Joshua Genet! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Jessica Kfare (5767, 5768) on her marriage to Elie Niedober! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Rebecca Cherna (5768) on her marriage to Ami Schwarcz! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Zack and Kori (Venick) Pomerantz (5768) on the birth of their daughter, Dahila! May they be zochim to raise her l'Torah, l'chupa u'l'maasim tovim!

Mazal Tov to Yael Disenhouse (5769) on her marriage to Moshe Hillel Lipson! Mat they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Lauren Sigman (5770) on her engagement to Shalom Bienstock! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Kimmie Kfare (5770) on her engagement to David Warmflash! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Tehilla Goder (5770, 5771) on her engagement to Eli Shulman! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Daniella Schwartz (5770, 5771) on her marriage to David Liechtung! Mat they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

Mazal Tov to Rivkah Herman (5771) on her engagement to Chezky Brach! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

SAVE THE DATES!

**November 10, 2012
Alumnae Shabbaton
in Stern College**

**January 10 - 13, 2013
Alumnae
Learning Program and
Shabbaton in Tiferet!**