



Tiferet

ת פ א ר ת



TIFERET HASHABBAT

This Week in Tiferet

On Thursday, our students gained a tremendous amount from a tiyul to the Gush Etziyon region. We started the day with a presentation at **Machon Tzomet**, where we learned about their fascinating inventions to make technology and halacha compatible. Afterwards, we visited **Sdei Dov**, a thriving new settlement in the area. We visited the museum in **Kfar Etzion**, where we learned about the struggles over the generations to settle this area, and we hiked the beautiful **Nachal Tekoa**. Finally, we ended the day with

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תורת תפארת

Who Made the Menora?

Mrs. Devori Weichholz

Parashat Teruma

Once upon a time there was a king who promised a great reward to anyone who would climb a ladder and reach the top of a tower. The problem was that the ladder was at a ninety degree angle and the top of the ladder was a few feet away from the top of the tower.

There was no way that a person could climb to the top of the ladder and then reach the top of the tower. The king insisted that whoever tried must wear a helmet. People would try but after going up a few rungs on the ladder they would look up to the top of the tower and wonder to themselves why they were trying this seemingly impossible challenge. Realizing that success was hopeless they would give up and descend from the ladder. One man decided that he would give it a try. He sweated and persevered as he slowly ascended to the top of the ladder. When he finally reached the top he understood why the helmet was necessary. The top of the helmet was magnetized with a very strong magnet. On the top floor of the tower was a strong magnet. When he reached the top of the ladder, the helmet "miraculously" was pulled to the top of the tower. (Rav Gifter)

Parshat Terumah describes the construction of many of the vessels of the Mishkan. When explaining the Menorah there seems to be two contradicting Rashi's. In 25:31 Rashi explains that the Menorah was made by itself. Moshe had too difficult a time figuring out how to construct the Menorah. Therefore, Hashem instructed Moshe to throw the gold into the fire. Miraculously, the Menorah emerged.

A few Pesukim later, 25:40 Rashi explains that Moshe was confused as to how to construct the Menorah. Therefore, Hashem showed Moshe an image of the Menorah out of fire for Moshe to then understand how to properly build it.

These two Rashi's seem to be contradictory. Was the menorah made by G-d through miraculously emerging from the fire, OR, based on an image that Hashem showed Moshe, did he construct the Menorah by himself?

The Sefat Emet explains that both Rashi's are correct. Moshe could not figure out how to properly construct the Menorah. Hashem then showed Moshe a picture of how the Menorah

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Mazal Tov

Mazal Tov to Chani Spirn (5770, 5771) on her engagement to Nachum Cooper! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

This Week in Tiferet (continued)

Chesed, resupplying the **Pina Chama**, a hospitality center for soldiers, at Tzomet Hagush. Truly a day of Torah, Chesed, Eretz Yisrael and Am Yisrael!

תורת תפארת (המשך)

should be fashioned. Hashem tells Moshe to go try and build it. Moshe tries but can't succeed. He returns to Hashem, explaining that he can't build it. Hashem says ok, take the gold and throw it into the fire. The Menorah then was formed.

Why didn't Hashem just help Moshe build the Menorah in the first place? When Moshe was having a hard time, why didn't Hashem just jump in then? Why does Hashem first instruct Moshe, then show him a diagram and have Moshe work at it when in the end Moshe's efforts appear to be unsuccessful?

The Sefat Emat explains that the process of the building the menorah stands as an example for our journey in our spiritual growth. The process of trying and working toward a goal, even if seemingly unattainable, is an essential part of our Torah progression and spiritual development. The journey of our spiritual growth may seem overwhelming. A person may think, 'How will I ever accomplish all that I set out to do?' The answer is that we must try. When we put in the effort, Hashem will miraculously help us reach the end result. We need to make a sincere effort as Moshe did with the Menorah and only then will we miraculously achieve our goal.

May Hashem grant us all the strength and will to persevere through our journey and may we merit miraculous results. Good Shabbos.

(Based on an idea from Rabbi Frand)



"Not Your Average Donation" Rebecca Tepp (5774)

In Parshat Teruma it states, ויקחו לי תרומה מאת כל איש - Let them take for me a portion from each man (שמות כ"ה: ב). Why does the Torah say to *take* a portion? Why not *give* a portion? The classic answer is that the giver is always receiving more than he gives. When Bnei Yisrael were donating to the building of the Mishkan, they were "taking" because they were benefiting from their donations.

The building of the Mishkan was a physical recreation of Har Sinai because of the feeling of Hashem's presence (Ramban). However, at Har Sinai, Hashem brought His Shechina down to Bnei Yisrael and Bnei Yisrael simply prepared themselves to receive it. With the Mishkan, Bnei Yisrael must actively create a space for Hashem's Shechina by donating the materials necessary for the building. (25:8) "ועשו לי מקדש ושנתי בתוכם" they shall build for me a sanctuary so I may dwell among them. Bnei Yisrael did not just need to make the physical space building the Mishkan. They needed to bring Hashem into their lives by performing Mitzvot.

Many times we spend a lot of time and energy on the technical details of the Mitzvah and forget the purpose of the Mitzvah—to bring us closer to Hashem. This is why it says in the Pasuk to take from ourselves a Mitzvah—we need to donate ourselves to Hashem in every Mitzvah we do. (This Dvar Torah is based on Torah Tapestries by Rebetzin Shira Smiles)