



Tiferet

ת פ א ר ת



TIFERET UPDATES

This Week in Tiferet

Tiferet students spent **Rosh Hashana** together in Tiferet this year. We were pleased to be able to host a minyan in the Tiferet Beit Midrash, so that our students were able to spend the holiday together in their own home-away-from-home. Our students also were hosted for meals by Tiferet faculty members, as well as members of the Ramat Beit Shemesh community, who were anxious to share Rosh Hashana with our students.

תורת תפארת

Finding Balance

Mrs Karen Hochhauser (karen.hochhauser@gmail.com)
Parashat Vayelech – Yom Kipur

While all the Tfillot of Yom Kippur are significant, the climax and central point of the day is clearly the recounting of the special work done by the Kohen Gadol in the Beit Hamikdash. We read, in full detail, about the Avodah and are reminded of how much we are lacking without it today. The outline of the Avodah is found in Sefer Vayikra, in Parshat Acharei Mot.

Rashi explains the following pasuk:

וַיְדַבֵּר ה' אֶל מֹשֶׁה אַחֲרֵי מוֹת שְׁנֵי בְנֵי אֶהֱרֹן בְּקֹרְבָתָם לִפְנֵי ה' וַיָּמָתוּ

He writes:

מה תלמוד לומר, היה רבי אלעזר בן עזריה מושלו משל לחולה שנכנס אצלו רופא. אמר לו אל תאכל צונן ואל תשכב בטחב

When the Torah discusses the death of Aharon's two sons, what is it trying to teach us? Rabbi Elazar ben Azariah explained with a parable of a patient that was visited by a physician. The doctor instructed him, "do not eat cold foods, and do not lie down in a humid place."

The Siach Hasadeh, Rebbe Eliezer Halevi M'Pinsk, explains this cryptic comment. He says that when one performs a mitzvah, he needs two things. The first is a sense of excitement, that he should not be "cold" in his observance, but approach the mitzvah with enthusiasm. On the other hand, however, he should not be too "hot" and let his excitement overshadow the Halachik boundaries of the mitzvah.

During Aseret Y'mei Teshuva, we approach the mitzvot with an added level of excitement as we try to better ourselves and approach Hashem with sincerity. But are we not actually being insincere and fake when we do this? Don't we all really know that we will not stay on such a high level throughout the year? The Rambam, in Hilchot De'ot, discusses the famous idea of the golden mean, that a person should develop moderation in his character in order to best perform both Mitzvot Bein Adam L'Makom as well as Mitzvot Bein Adam L'Chaveiro. The way one achieves the golden mean, however, is by pushing himself away from his

The Tiferet administration,
faculty and staff deeply
mourn the passing of
Sheldon Goldman ע"ה,
Beloved father of
Ester Goldman (5767).
יהי זכרו ברוך

תורת תפארת (המשך)

basic nature. If one is stingy,
for example, he should give
extra tzedakah, in order to
achieve balance in the long
run.

For us, Aseret Y'mei Teshuva
is an ideal time to push
ourselves! We are not being
hypocritical; In fact, just the
opposite is true. We are all
trying to develop our personal
שביל הזהב, golden mean.

Rashi is essentially teaching
us the same idea. Before
Aharon learns the Yom
Kippur Avodah, he must
understand that his children
died because they failed to
moderate their behavior.
Excitement about teshuva
and our relationship to
Hashem is crucial, but if it
causes us to ignore Halacha,
it is fatal.

May we all merit a year of
bracha, simcha and Avodat
Hashem on a deeper, more
meaningful level!

MAZAL TOV!

**Mazal Tov to Amanda (Schiff
5766) and Arie Blum** on the
birth of their daughter, Rebecca
Nina! May they be zochim to
raise her l'Torah, l'chupa
u'l'maasim tovim!

**Mazal Tov to Elana (Mehl 5767,
5768) and Eli Katz** on the birth of
their son! May they be zochim to
raise him l'Torah, l'chupa,
u'l'maasim tovim!



גמר חתימה טובה!