



Tiferet

ת פ א ר ת



TIFERET HASHABBAT

This Week in Tiferet

Tiferet spent a beautiful Yom Tov of Shavuot together in Ramat Beit Shemesh. We were privileged to hear shiurim all through the night by our Rebbeim and teachers, as well as a guest shiur by Rebbetzin Yehudis Landau, and our alumnae, Yael Weitzman. We were also thrilled to host so many of our alumnae who came back to Tiferet for the chag, to learn Torah and spend time in the special Tiferet environment. Also, in the spirit of Zman Matan Torateinu, this week we celebrated two siyumim of our students – Miryam Fischer on Masechet Megila and Shaindy Stern on all of Tanach! Kol Hakavod to both of them and to all of our students!

תורת תפארת

A Not Separate Peace

Parashat Naso

Rav Yehoshua Landau

Parashat Naso discusses the topic of theft as well as the topic of sotah. What do these two disparate topics have to do with each other? The Rambam writes that one must first work on improving harmony within the home, and through that one will surely achieve harmony within society.

Rav Hench Leibowitz זצ"ל, the Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim, asks why these two halachot are necessarily related? If I have issues with my friend in shul, what difference does it make how I get along with my spouse? Shouldn't we consider each relationship to be entirely separate?

The answer is that the dynamics within the home develop and reinforce the most basic tools for human relationships. An atmosphere of shalom bayit breeds sensitivity, consideration, and selflessness. These refined character traits continue with a person even outside the home.

In Pirkey Avot (2, 9), Rabban Yochanan ben Zakkai asks his five talmidim to go out and find "דרך ישרה שידבק בה אדם" – the straight path that a man should cleave to. Rav Yehoshua claims the most fundamental path in life is establishing the personality trait of a "חבר טוב", a good friend. Why did Rabbi Yehoshua choose this trait as the one that one should cleave to? Why is it even more important than a "לב טוב", a good heart, which another one of the talmidim chose?

Rabbeinu Yonah explains that the character trait of being a good friend does not remain limited to that particular friendship. When you foster a loving relationship with another individual, it will lead to love with all society. Our spouse is that "good friend" that is the catalyst for tranquility in our community.

If we want there to be "shalom b'chaylech" we must first have "shalva b'armenotayich".

Special Package Michal Raskas (5775)

There is a large part of the parsha that's very long, detailed and seemingly unnecessary. It talks about the korbanot which the nesi'im brought. It goes through every single person, passuk after passuk saying everyone brought the same EXACT korban.

The Torah could have simply stated one time that everyone brought the same korban and just write the total sum of how many people brought it. Why does the Torah spend so much time listing every single person and what they brought if they all brought the same thing?

HaRav Avi Schneider shares with us a beautiful insight. Many of us believe that for us to be special we have to be different. That we have to make some drastic statement in order to stand out and be noticed. We want to be "one of a kind". The Torah is trying to teach us that it's not about what you're doing, it's about how you're doing what you're doing.

For instance, as Jews, we have the obligation to daven every day. We wake up each morning and recite the same exact words as one another, from the same exact book and bowing at the same exact times. So what makes that so special? What makes it so special is how each one of us takes those same exact words and connects to those words in completely different ways. Or what's going through our minds as they're rolling off our tongues and even how long it takes us to say those words. The experience we both have are worlds apart from each other. That's the point. That we're given the same script but we turn it into something unique. We make it our own.

When you're a parent, everything about each one of your children stands out to you. You don't compare the performance of one child to the other because what they did individually stood out to you. It doesn't matter if what they did was big or small. You have pride because it's YOUR kid. Now let's say all of your children were playing on one team together. It would be a bit more challenging to judge the performance of each child individually. Rather it would be done collectively.

We're all Hashem's children and He is the ultimate coach. He has the ability to look at each of us as his ONLY kid. He's watching YOU and only YOU. You don't need to stand out by being different. But by being strong and committed to what you do.

Therefore, the nesi'im are all mentioned because to Hashem the key is not to be different, but to be special.

Mazal Tov!

Mazal Tov to Jen Fisher (5768) on her engagement to Yoel Hubert! May they be zochim to build a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael together!

