



Akivaton



There Will Be No Snif This Shabbat

Shabbat Zmanim LMS

Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/ Maariv.....	6:55 pm
Shacharit.....	7:15/9/9:15 am
Snif.....	No Snif
Mincha.....	6:40 pm
Maariv.....	7:57 pm
Shabbat End.....	8:02 pm

Upcoming Events

- March 18 Gad bowling at Wynnewood Lanes 3-5 P.M.
- March 17-18 Shabbat Hadracha 8th and 9th graders

Our Mission

Our mission is to inspire and empower Jewish Youth with a deep commitment to the Jewish people, the Land of Israel, and the Torah through a wide variety of informal and experiential educational



Bnei Akiva "Escape the Room" event at Kohelet.

Dvar Torah

By Abner Gordan

This week's *Parasha, Ki Tissa*, covers many topics. They include the making of the utensils for the *Mishkan*, constructing the golden calf, and the thirteen *midot* of *Hashem*.

Right after we receive the instructions for preparing incense for future offerings, in the middle of the *parasha* are some very famous *pesukim* about Shabbat.

If you pay close attention to these *pesukim*, you will notice that at first the Torah says that anyone who desecrates Shabbat will be put to death. Then, we read that anyone who performs labor on Shabbat, *laasot melakhah*, will be "cut off from his people."

Two different punishments appear in the same *passuk* for essentially the same wrongdoing. Even if we don't know the exact meaning of "being cut off", it is surely not the same as being put to death.

After that, the section on Shabbat concludes with some



Bnei Akiva Spotlight: The Dicker Family

Q: What Galil is your family part of?

A: We live in Lower Merion

Q: How long has your family been involved in Bnei Akiva?

A: My family has all been involved since each was a child. Yehuda is currently a *madrish* for Zach.

Q: What do you like most about Bnei Akiva?

A: We like how Bnei Akiva educates children about Israel's history in a fun and interactive way.

Q: How many words of יד אחים do you know by heart?

A: All of them

Contact Us

If you have any questions please contact:

- Lower Merion Bnei Akiva:
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Lower Merion Bnei Akiva

famous verses:

וְשָׁמְרוּ בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת-הַשַּׁבָּת, לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-הַשַּׁבָּת לְדֹרֹתָם בְּרִית עוֹלָם. בֵּינִי וּבֵין בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל-אוֹת הוּא לָעָלָם: כִּי-שֵׁשֶׁת יָמִים עָשָׂה ה' אֶת-הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת-הָאָרֶץ, וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי שָׁבַת וַיְנַפֵּשׁ:

First it is written that “the people of Israel will observe Shabbat” (*veshameru . . . et hashabbat*) and then goes on to say that they will “make” or “do” Shabbat (*la'asot et hashabbat*).

The verb *la'asot* appears several other times in the *pesukim* about Shabbat and means “to perform labor,” or “to create,” as in “God created the heavens and the earth in six days”. How are we supposed to “do” or “create” Shabbat?

Many say that it means that we must do work before Shabbat in order to avoid working on Shabbat. Unfortunately, sometime these Shabbat restriction and the work need to do in advance of the day lead to negative associations, and Shabbat gets a bad rap.

Let's get back to our first question - why does *Parashat Ki Tisa* prescribe two different punishments for a person who violates Shabbat? When we do not keep Shabbat, we turn this holy day into a *yom chol*, a regular day – and should be put to death. The reasoning for this punishment appears in the next part of the *pasuk*: because someone who violates Shabbat cuts him or herself off from the community.

When we isolate ourselves on Shabbat, and avoid participating *snif* and *peulot*, we cut ourselves off from the community. It is as if God first says, a Shabbat violator should be put to death, but then goes on to say, no need to execute them – they have already left the community by performing labor on Shabbat and have turned themselves away from their *chaveirim* and *chanichim*.

So the verses about Shabbat in *Parashat Ki Tisa* bring together two great ideas: We need to actively celebrate Shabbat, and the celebration needs to be performed together with other *chaveirim* and *chanichim*. When we celebrate Shabbat together we can jointly fulfill Bnei Akiva's mission to enjoy a life of Torah and Avodah!

Sponsors

This issue was generously sponsored by the Freedman family in loving memory of Bill Walsh, beloved friend.

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact:
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