

Holy Service With a Smile

"Speak to all the congregation of the children of Yisrael, and say to them, You shall be holy: for I am holy." (Vayikra 19:2)



The generally accepted meaning of being "holy" is to separate oneself, as it seems from the Ramban at first glance. The following question is asked, "If holiness means to separate oneself, what is the meaning of the rest of the verse '...For I am holy'? Does Hashem have an issue and struggle that He needs to separate from other things?" I think it is obvious that unlike people, Hashem is naturally *Kadosh* and separated. So what is the meaning of Hashem's demand that we separate ourselves like He is separated?

I would like to explain it based on something I saw from Rav Baruch Mordechai Ezrachi (1929-2023). There is an expression in English "Once an alcoholic, always an alcoholic." This means that even if a person goes through a 12-step program to cure his alcoholism, his natural tendency to seek alcohol will **always** be there. The only difference is that he will be able to control himself around alcohol. The 12-step program did not actually "cure" his disease of alcoholism, but rather it gave him tools so that he can live with it and overcome the drive, which relieves the pressure on him.

Rav Yisroel Salanter is quoted as saying that it is easier to learn all of Shas than to change one *middah* (personality trait). I believe that he is telling us that in the world of Torah, success is not keeping the beast at bay, but rather success is eradicating the beast, creating a reality where we have no desire for that illicit feeling or conduct. This is accomplished through learning *mussar*, gaining an appreciation of what is good, until we naturally understand and are repulsed by that which is not good. By working on our *middos*, we can create a different appreciation of the world.

There is another way to accomplish this. This is by
(Continued on page 2)

Lifecycles

Mazel Tov to the Rav and Rebbetzin on the birth of a Granddaughter to Dovid Yaakov and Yaeli Zachariash!



PIRKEI AVOS

WITH RAV AVROHOM BARUCH ZACHARIASH

Join Rav Zachariash's immensely popular shiur on Pirkei Avos, continuing throughout the Summer. Each shiur begins *immediately* upon the conclusion of the second *Mincha*. Ezras Nashim will be open for women for both *Mincha* and the shiur.

Shabbos Schedule Parshas Kedoshim

לוח שבת פרשת קדושים

| Erev Shabbos | | ערב שבת |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Mincha 1 | 13:30 | מנחה א' |
| "Early Mincha" | 17:41 | מנחה "מוקדמת" |
| Plag Hamincha | 18:01 | פלג המנחה |
| Candle Lighting | 18:49/19:09 | הדלקת נרות |
| Mincha 3 | 19:11 | מנחה ג' |
| Sunset | 19:29 | שקיעה |
| Shabbos Day | | יום השבת |
| Brachos | 08:15 | ברכות |
| Shochein Ad | 08:45 | שוכן עד |
| Latest Shema – M. A. | 08:20 | סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א |
| Latest Shema – G'ra | 09:11 | סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א |
| Mincha 1 | 13:30 | מנחה א' |
| Mincha 2 | 18:00 | מנחה ב' |
| Pirkei Avos Shiur | 18:24 | פרקי אבות |
| Sunset | 19:30 | שקיעה |
| Ma'ariv 1 | 20:07 | מעריב א' |
| Ma'ariv 2 | 20:30 | מעריב ב' |

(Continued from page 1)

actually abstaining from certain things. Rav Ezrachi explains that the idea that the Ramban teaches us, separating ourselves from certain physical activities, is not referring only to the physical separation, but rather it is a step in separating ourselves from the desire itself.

I would like to share with you an experience that I once had, which illustrates this idea. I was watching a child eat an ice cream cone and I was mesmerized by his elation as he was totally absorbed in this pleasure. My initial reaction was, "Boy, I wish I could enjoy an ice cream like him!" But after having that thought, I had a feeling of revulsion, and I said to myself, "I hope I NEVER enjoy an ice cream like that!" While it may be perfectly fine for a five-year-old child to be totally consumed with a particular pleasure, this type of behavior is inappropriate for an adult.

I recall that after that incident, eating ice cream just wasn't the same as before. I am not saying that it is not tasty or that I don't enjoy it, but I actually removed myself, to a degree, from that pleasure.

A successful "kadosh" would not feel deprived. Instead he would feel elated, but not just because he overcame (though that is not a bad reason to be elated, in its own right), but rather because he understands that he is "better than that."

Similarly, we might see children in an intense fight over something they both desire, yet when we discover the object of the fight we might respond, "That is so petty! Aren't you embarrassed to be fighting over that!?" That viewpoint comes from being removed from that desire.

In short, to be holy does not mean having to fight the battle, rather it means to achieve a level where there isn't even a battle.

That is truly G-dly and it starts with our accepting those abstentions with a smile on our face.



אבות ובנים

17:00-18:00

SHABBOS AFTERNOON!

17:30-18:00 Junior Avos uBanim

Chocolates and Treats for all participants!

YOU can be the SPONSOR of AuB.

Let's give the boys something special on Shabbos

Treats: 50₪

Chocolates: 150₪



Ready to Count the Omer? Come to the Rav's Halacha shiur on Tuesday nights so that you'll be able to answer questions like these! Question from the Q&A book from **RBSsemicha.com**

Q&A: What Day Is It?

Q It was only the 7th day of Pesach but, with all the fun activities at the hotel, Yitzchak Tzvi already lost track of which day of the omer it was. At the end of *shemoneh esrei*, before everyone counted the omer, he turned to his cousin Pinny and asked what night it was. May Pinny respond "Tonight is the 6th day of the omer" if he has specific intention not to fulfill his obligation to count the omer with this answer?

A Yes. If Pinny has this positive intention not to fulfill his obligation to count the omer, then he will not fulfill his obligation with his response to his cousin, and may count with a *brocho* when the rest of the congregation counts. Note that the S.A. suggests that one should say yesterday's count, to avoid the issue, in case a person forgot to make this positive intention not to be "yotzeh."

OC 489 M.B.22



Redeem Your Pesach Pledges!

TOP 3 METHODS PAYMENT METHODS:

- Nedarim Plus terminal next to the front door
- Online at ahavasshalom.org/NEDARIM
- PayPal.me/ahavasshalom

Payment can also be accepted via

- Credit card terminal via Mr. Beer
- American Friends of Ahavas Shalom at ahavasshalom.com/donate (donations in USD)
- PayPal Giving Fund ahavasshalom.com/ppg

Please help our bookkeeper by always writing a note—or sending a separate email—which explains the purpose of your payment/donation. If appropriate, please also include the parsha or date. Thank you!!



GROWTH THROUGH THE PARSHA SUNDAY

WITH RAV ZACHARIASH

MAY 12

20:15-21:00

SHUL HALL • FOR WOMEN

ALL SHIURIM ARE RECORDED AND AVAILABLE ON AHAVASSHALOM.ORG



Netziv Hayom

Sponsor *Netziv Hayom* in memory of your loved ones, a *refuah*, or in honor of a special occasion. All the learning and davening in our shul during that day will be the merit of your choosing. Just 120₪ per sponsorship, which is announced via a notice on the "Netziv Hayom" board in the shul, as well as an announcement in this newsletter. To sponsor a day please contact Mrs. Zakoo Netziv@ahavasshalom.org.



2 Iyar sponsored by the Zachariash Family

לע"נ שאול בן אברהם ז"ל

Thank You!

On behalf of the Kehilla we would like wish *hatzlocho* and *brocho* to Reb **Eliyahu Jacobs** who, after 20 years as our **Shul Cleaner and Maintenance Coordinator**, has handed in his notice. We would like to sincerely thank him for all of his many years of relentless service and *mesiras nefesh*. Don't worry though, Reb Eliyahu will be continuing as our **Maggid Shiur** for both the **Ahavas Shalom Kinyan Mesechta Program** and our **Ohr HaChaim Kiddush Chevra**.



Please join us for a *lechayim* in the Hall after davening.

Don't Be Left Out!



When you have a simcha (or R"L a sad event), it is *so easy* to have it included in the next newsletter! Just send an email to lev@ahavasshalom.org! **Deadline is 11:00 Thursday.** Reminder: Sending an instant message, an email, or speaking to anyone else will probably result in your announcement not making it to the newsletter!

המשך מעמוד 4

גמור שילד בן חמש יהיה לגמרי בעניין של תענוג מסוים, זה לא מתאים למבוגר.

אני זוכר שאחרי זה, אכילת גלידה פשוט לא הייתה כמו קודם. אני לא אומר שזה לא טעים או שאני לא נהנה מלאכול, אבל בעצם סילקתי את עצמי, במידה מסוימת, מהתענוג הזה.

"קדוש" מוצלח לא ירגיש מקופח. במקום זאת, הוא ירגיש מרום, אבל לא רק בגלל שהוא התגבר (אם כי כשלעצמה זו סיבה לא רעה להתעלות), אלא בגלל שהוא מבין שהוא "יותר טוב מזה".



באופן דומה, לפעמים אנו רואים ילדים במאבק עז על משהו ששניהם רוצים, אך כאשר נגלה את מטרת הקרב, אנו עשויים להגיב, "זה כל כך קטנוני! אתם לא מתביישים להילחם על זה?!" נקודת המבט הזו נובעת מכך שאין לנו את התאוה הזו.

בקיצור, להיות קדוש לא אומר שצריכים להילחם בקרב, אלא זה אומר להגיע לרמה שבה אין אפילו קרב.

זה באמת "קדושים תהיו כי קדוש אני" וזה מתחיל בכך שאנחנו מקבלים את ההימנעויות האלה עם חיך.

Yeshivas Bein HaZmanim

Every day during the month of Nissan, our Beis Medrash was filled with the sounds of *bochurim* learning Torah thanks to all the sponsors of *Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim*!



DO YOU DAVEN DURING THE WEEK AT AHAVAS SHALOM OR AT OUR EARLY SHABBOS MINYAN?

THEN BECOME AN **ASSOCIATE MEMBER** ONLY 100₪ PER MONTH via NEDARIM PLUS

ENHANCE YOUR COMMITMENT BY SUPPORTING OUR **SHUL AND BEIS MEDRASH.**

Shiurim with the Rav



The Rav will be giving 2 shiur this coming week:

SUNDAY 21:15: *Mishnayos*.

TUESDAY 20:15: *Hilchos Sefiras Ha'Omer*.

Both shiurim are given in shul and via ZOOM at this link: cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom

Past shiurim are archived at ahavasshalom.org/yt-videos



Gmach Smachot

IF YOU SUFFER A LOSS CONTACT THE GMACH TO BORROW ITEMS NECESSARY FOR A *SHIVA* HOME, ahavasshalom.org/smachot Or call 054-566-5083 OR 050-203-0584

משולחנו של הרב אברהם ברוך זכריש

עבודה קדושה עם חיוך

"דבר אל-כל-עדת בני-ישראל ואמרת אליהם קדשים תהיו כי קדוש אני..." (ויקרא יט:ב)

המשמעות המקובלת של להיות "קדוש" היא להפריד את עצמנו, כפי שנראה מהרמב"ן במבט ראשון. נשאלת השאלה, "אם קדושה פירושה הפרדה, מה המשמעות של סוף הפסוק "...כי קדוש אני"? האם לה' יש בעיות או מאבק שהוא צריך להיפרד מדברים אחרים?" אני חושב שזה ברור שבניגוד לאנשים, מטבע הדברים ה' הוא קדוש ומופרד. אז מה המשמעות של ציווי ה' שנפרד את עצמנו כמו שהוא מופרד?

אני רוצה להסביר על סמך משהו שראיתי מהרב ברוך מרדכי אזרחי. יש ביטוי באנגלית "פעם אלכוהוליסט, תמיד אלכוהוליסט". זה אומר שגם מי שיעבור תוכנית של 12 שלבים כדי להגמל מהאלכוהוליזם שלו, הנטייה הטבעית שלו לחפש אלכוהול תמיד תהיה שם. ההבדל היחיד הוא שהוא יוכל לשלוט בעצמו סביב אלכוהול. תוכנית 12 הצעדים לא ממש "ריפאה" את מחלת האלכוהוליזם שלו, אלא נתנה לו כלים כדי להתמודד איתה ולהתגבר על הדחף, מה שמקל עליו את הלחץ.

מצוטט מהרב ישראל סלנטר, "קל יותר ללמוד את כל הש"ס מאשר לשנות מידה אחת". לדעתי הוא אומר לנו שבעולם התורה, הצלחה אין פירושה להרחיק את התשוקה, אלא לבער אותה, ליצור מציאות שבה אין לנו חשק לאותה תחושה או התנהגות אסורה. זה נעשה באמצעות לימוד מוסר, כדי להפנים הערכה של מה הטוב, עד שאנו מבינים, ונדחים ממה שאינו טוב. על ידי עבודה על המידות שלנו, אנו יכולים ליצור יחס שונה לעולם.

יש דרך אחרת להשיג זאת, בעצם על ידי הימנעות מדברים מסוימים. הרב אזרחי מסביר שהרעיון שהרמב"ן מלמד אותנו, להפריד את עצמנו, אינו מתייחס רק להיפרד מהפעולות הלא נכונות, אלא זהו שלב של הפרדה מהתאוה עצמה.

פעם הייתה לי חוויה שממחישה את הרעיון הזה. צפיתי בילד אוכל גביע גלידה והופנטתי מהשמחה שלו, שקוע לגמרי בהנאה הזו. התגובה הראשונית שלי הייתה, " הלוואי ויכולתי ליהנות מגלידה כמוהו!" אבל אחרי המחשבה הזו, הייתה לי תחושת סלידה, ואמרתי לעצמי, "אני מקווה שלעולם לא אהנה מגלידה כזו!" למרות שזה עשוי להיות בסדר

המשך בעמוד 3

BEIS MEDRASH AHAVAS SHALOM INVITE YOU TO A

YOM IYUN

TUESDAY 6-IYAR (14 MAY)

FEATURING SHIURIM IN ENGLISH

RABBI YAKOV
HABER



10:15-11:00

*Not Today's
Topic*

RABBI AKIVA
TEICHTAL



11:15-12:00

*Jewish Date,
Jewish Identity*

RAV AVROHOM BARUCH
ZACHARIASH



12:15-13:00

*Dangerous
Halachos*

DOORS OPEN AT 09:00 • MINCHA AT 13:15

ALL THREE SHIURIM ARE SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF
PINCHAS FADER'S BROTHER

BARUCH BEN ELIEZER Z"L

"CONTINENTAL" BREAKFAST SPONSORED BY
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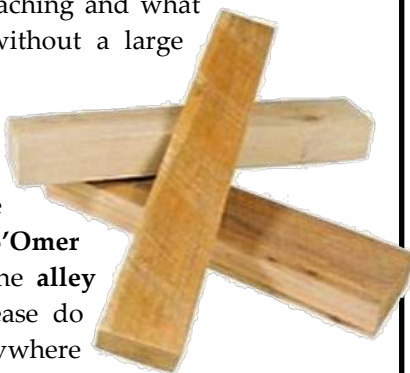
IN HONOR OF THE ENGAGEMENT OF
THEIR GRANDDAUGHTER RENA GROSS

Lag B'Omer Wood

Lag B'Omer is fast approaching and what would Lag B'Omer be without a large bonfire?

*This is where we need
your help!*

Please collect wood for the
**Ahavas Shalom Lag B'Omer
Bonfire** and leave it in the alley
behind the shul hall. Please do
not leave the wood anywhere
else on the shul grounds!



| Weekday times until Parshas Emor | ו' (Fri) | ה' (Thu) | ד' (Wed) | ג' (Tue) | ב' (Mon) | א' (Sun) | יום שחרית | זמנים לימי חול עד פרשת אמור |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| | 06:20, 07:15, 08:15 13:30, 17:45, 19:16 | 06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 | 06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 | 06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 | 06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 | 06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 | מנחה | |
| | *Hall | 20:15, 21:00 | 20:15, 21:00 | 20:15* , 21:00 | 20:15, 21:00 | 20:15, 21:00 | מעריב | |

HaRav Avrohom Baruch Zachariash, Sh'lita, Rav
Su-Fr 08:30-09:15 and Su-Th 19:15-20
Cellphone: 052-763-5938
Binyomin Rubenstein, Chairman
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Administrative Secretary: Miriam Zakoo
Su & Tu 11:00-13:00 and Th 10:00-12:00
J 058-3263914 office@ahavasshalom.org
Shul Address: 33 Nachal Lachish
Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

Main Ahavas Shalom lists:
Email List: ahavasshalom.org/list
WhatsApp: ahavasshalom.org/WhatsApp
Email Rav: ahavasshalom.org/email-rav

Newsletter Design: Lev Seltzer lev@ahavasshalom.org
Newsletter Contact: Send your lifecycle events, news,
comments, etc. to lev@ahavasshalom.org. Remember: If we
don't know about your event, we can't publish it!