

We Are In It Together

"Another matter, Moses said before the Holy One blessed be He: 'Why are You angry at them? Not that they engaged in idol worship, for You did not command them.' The Holy One blessed be He said to him: 'Did I not say in the second commandment: "You shall not have [other gods before Me]"?' (Exodus 20:3). He said before Him: 'You did not command them, You commanded me. Did You perhaps say to them: You [lakhem] shall not have? You commanded me. If I engage in idol worship, "please erase me from Your book."' When the Holy One blessed be He saw that he was giving his life on their behalf, He said: 'For your sake I am giving them the Torah,' as it is stated: 'Write for yourself these matters'." (Shemos Rabbah 47:9)



I would first like to thank all of you who came to the *Melaveh Malkah*, making it an enjoyable and inspiring evening. The concept of community, where each individual pitches in for the greater good is expressed in an explanation of the following *Medrash*: Hashem wanted to destroy *Klal Yisrael* and Moshe Rabbeinu responded, "You didn't tell *Klal Yisroel* not to serve idols – you only told me! Therefore, I should be the one who is destroyed!". This is a difficult statement to understand. Even if Hashem had really just intended the commandment for Moshe Rabbeinu and not for all of *Klal Yisroel*, we still would not be able to understand why Moshe should be killed, as Moshe did not serve the golden calf at all!

Rav Baruch Mordechai Ezrachi (1929-2023) explains this with the very old concept of community, where there are no individuals, rather it is everyone together as one. Thus, Moshe said to Hashem, "If you are choosing me to be the one to continue *Klal Yisroel's* legacy, then obviously you consider me one of them. And if you look at me as an individual, then You gave over the commandments to me and not to them (therefore, they are not liable)." This reinforces the idea that when we are in it together, we all are to blame. On the flip side, when the community at large does something positive together, we all get credit.

Last Shabbos afternoon I was asked to explain the

(Continued on page 3)

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!

For the zechus of *Klal Yisroel*, join one or both of the following communal learning sessions!

Shabbos Morning Learning:

Ohr HaChaim Kiddush in the Hall followed by 30 minute learning session in the Beis Medrash

Shabbos Afternoon Learning:

16:20-16:40 Individual learning in Beis Medrash
OR shiur on *Shabbos Zemiro*s with Avishai Hill

16:40-16:55 Pele Yoetz shiur from the Rav in the Hall

16:20-16:55 Boy's learning program led by Rabbi Naftali Kaplan, with treats for participants.
OR Junior Avos uBanim.

Shabbos Schedule Parshas Ki Sisa

לוח שבת פרשת כי תשא

ערב שבת		Erev Shabbos
מנחה א'	12:30	Mincha 1
הדלקת נרות	17:01/17:21	Candle Lighting
מנחה ב'	17:23	Mincha 2
שקיעה	17:41	Sunset
יום השבת		Shabbos Day
ברכות	08:00	Brachos
שוכן עד	08:30	Shochein Ad
סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א	08:14	Latest Shema – M. A.
סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א	08:59	Latest Shema – G'ra
מנחה א'	13:00	Mincha 1
פלא יועץ	16:40	Pele Yoetz
מנחה ב'	16:55	Mincha 2
שקיעה	17:41	Sunset
מעריב א'	18:18	Ma'ariv 1
מעריב ב'	18:41	Ma'ariv 2

Got a wedding coming up? Where should it be held? Another question from the Q&A book from RBSsemicha.com

Q&A: A Venetian Megillah

Q Yitzchak Tzvi convinced his Uncle Richard to buy a very *mehudar* megillah for reading on Purim, and took him to a Jewish scribe who sold *megillos*. "Here is a beautiful *megillah*, written on the finest quality parchment, by a G-d-fearing man. It is only \$600," said the shopkeeper. "What about that one?" asked Uncle Richard, as he pointed to a *megillah* that was on display in the shop. Only a few columns were open, but Uncle Richard easily saw how it contained beautiful illustrations above and below the text. "This is a rare Venetian Illustrated *megillah* from the 16th century. The illustrations are all unique and exquisite. But it is a lot more than the first *megillah* I showed you — \$80,000!" said the shopkeeper. Richard Kagan examined the beautiful scroll and pondered his two choices. As Uncle Richard can easily afford to buy the more expensive *megillah*, which is the more *mehudar* *megillah*?

A The plain standard *megillah*. While the pictures are pretty, and they make it more valuable as a piece of "artwork," they do not add to the *megillah* in terms of its purpose on Purim. They definitely take away from its *mehudar* status because a *mehudar* *megillah* is one that is similar to a *sefer Torah*, and it is forbidden to have pictures in a Torah. The pictures might even take away from the ability of the person reading it to concentrate properly on the words.

OC 691:9; A.H. 13 & 14

GROWTH THROUGH THE PARSHA WITH RAV ZACHARIASH SUNDAY MAR 3

20:15-21:00

SHUL HALL • FOR WOMEN

ALL SHIURIM ARE RECORDED AND AVAILABLE ON AHAVASSHALOM.ORG

Pele Yoetz Shiur

Continuing this and every Shabbos afternoon, Rav Zachariash will give his shiur for men on **Pele Yoetz**. This week, the shiur will begin at 16:40 on the topic **חשדן**.



אבות ובנים

AuB Motza'ei Shabbos



NEW!

19:20

Boys 7+ learn for 1 hour followed by TEHILLIM
ICE CREAM TREATS and PRIZES!



Support Avos uBanim by sponsoring one of the many "incentives" for the boys to come and learn:

Pizza Party 295₪ • Prizes 200₪

Ice Cream 75₪ • Treats 50₪

Contact Shlomo Hollander for more info aub@ahavasshalom.org

AuB for **ages 3-7** is still **Shabbos afternoon**
30 minutes before the last mincha **16:25-16:55**

(Continued from page 1)

idea of making a communal *siyum*. How could it be that by each person learning only a *blatt* or two, we can all make a *siyum*? Who finished the *mesechta*? I asked in response, "If we all daven *shemoneh esrei* together, where is the *tefillah b'tzibur*? Each person prayed with his own thoughts and ideas – what binds all of our different prayers together?" (This is indeed a *halachic* discussion – See *Shevet Halevi* 4:11).



The Purim story emphasizes the relationship between the individual and the community. Haman decided to destroy all of the Jews because of Mordechai, an individual in the community. Esther is told by Mordechai, "If you set yourself apart from the community, the community will be spared and you will be lost." Achashveros in turn also saves all of the Jews because of Esther, who is part of that community. We learn from this is that no Jew is ever alone – each Jew is always part of the Jewish people.

In addition, the special mitzvos of the upcoming Yom Tov of Purim accentuate our need for having positive relationships with those around us. *Mishloach manos*, *matanos l'evyonim*, *megilla b'tzibur*, and *seudos Purim* are all communal affairs. They are not fulfilled as individuals, rather as the gemora says, "family – family".

Shortly after that, we move on to Pesach, which has the ultimate tradition of families joining together at the seder. This is not by mere chance. The verse tells us that we are supposed to eat the Korban Pesach in a group which must be defined in advance, and that every Jew is part of a group.

We are all blessed to belong to this wonderful community.

Netziv Hayom

Sponsor *Netziv Hayom* in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special occasion, and all the learning and davening that take place in our shul during that day will to your merit. 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.



17 Adar sponsored by the Albert Family

לע"נ יספה הענדל בת יהושע ע"ה

18 Adar I sponsored by the Reich and Berger Families

לע"נ אילנה בת צדוק הלוי ע"ה

22 Adar I sponsored by the Lubliner Family

לע"נ אברהם בן יצחק ז"ל



The Neshei are making and delivering charming and personal mishloach manos for shul members.

Prepare for Purim with less stress, while supporting the shul at the same time.

Whole Member List - 480₪

or build your own recipient list | Up to 12 names - 12₪ per name
13+ names - 10₪ per name

WEBSITE going LIVE this coming MONDAY!

Early Bird Special

420₪ for the whole member list!

Deadline: 11-Mar-24

Melaveh Malkah Payments

Did you buy a journal ad or a seat but didn't pay yet?

Please remember to pay as soon as possible (preferably before the dinner). There are many ways to pay:

- www.ahavasshalom.org/mm5784
- www.ahavasshalom.org/nedarim
- [PayPal.me/ahavasshalom](https://www.paypal.com/ahavasshalom)
- Cash or Credit card terminal via Mr. Beer
- American Friends of Ahavas Shalom at ahavasshalom.com/donate (donations in USD)
- PayPal Giving Fund (via above URL)

Please remember to indicate that you are paying for an ad or a dinner seat in the notes section or via separate email!

Shiurim with the Rav

The Rav will be giving 2 shiurim this coming week:

SUNDAY 21:15: *Mishnayos*.

TUESDAY 20:15: *Hilchos Purim!*

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

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



Melaveh Malkah 2024

Thank you to everyone who came and who was involved.
The Journal, Videos and Image Gallery are available at
Ahavasshalom.org/2024-journal



משולחנו של הרב אברהם ברוך זכריש

כולנו ביחד!

"דבר אחר אמר משה לפני הקדוש ברוך הוא למה אתה כועס עליהם לא שעשו עבודת כוכבים לא צויתם, אמר לו הקדוש ברוך הוא בדיבור שני לא אמרתי לא יהיה לך, אמר לפניו לא צוית אותם לי צוית שמא אמרת להם לא יהיה לכם לי צוית, אם עשיתי עבודת כוכבים מחני נא מספרך, כשראה הקדוש ברוך הוא שנתן נפשו עליהם אמר בשבילך אני נותן להם את התורה שנאמר כתב לך את הדברים האלה" (שמות רבה (וילנא) פרשה מז סימן ט פרשת כי תשא)

ברצוני להודות לכל מי שהשתתפו במלווה המלכה והפכו אותו לערב מהנה ומעורר השראה. הרעיון של קהילה, שבה כל אחד משתתף לטובת הכלל, בא לידי ביטוי בהסבר של המדרש המצוטט לעיל. אבל את טענתו של משה, שהמצווה "לא יהיה לך" הייתה רק בשבילו, קשה להבין. גם אם ה' באמת התכוון רק למשה ולא לכל ישראל, עדיין איננו יכולים להבין מדוע צריך "למחוק" את משה, שכן משה לא עבד לעגל הזהב!

הרב ברוך מרדכי אזרחי מסביר זאת עם הרעיון הישן מאוד של קהילה, שבה אין יחידים, אלא כולנו ביחד. כך אמר משה לה', "אם אתה בוחר בי להמשיך את מורשתו של כלל ישראל, אז ברור שאתה מחשיב אותי כאחד מהם. ואם אתה מסתכל עליי כיחיד, אז נתת את המצוות לי ולא להם (ולכן אין הם חייבים). זה מחזק את הרעיון שכאשר אנחנו נמצאים במשהו שלילי ביחד, כולנו מפסידים, ואם הקהילה עושה משהו חיובי ביחד, כולנו זוכים.

אחר הצהריים של שבת האחרון התבקשתי להסביר את הרעיון של סיום קהילתי. איך יכול להיות שכל אחד לומד רק עמוד או שניים, וכולנו ביחד יכולים לעשות סיום? מי סיים את המסכת? שאלתי בתגובה: "אם כולנו נתפלל שמונה עשרה ביחד, איפה התפילה בציבור? כל אדם התפלל עם המחשבות והרגשות שלו - מה מחבר את כל התפילות השונות שלנו יחד?" (זה אכן דיון הלכתי - עיין שבט הלוי ד, יא).

סיפור פורים מדגיש את היחס בין הפרט לקהילה. המן החליט להשמיד את כל היהודים בגלל מרדכי, אדם אחד מהקהילה. מרדכי אומר לאסתר: "אם לא תעזרי לקהילה, רוח והצלה יעמוד ליהודים ממקום אחר ואת ובית אביך תאבדו". אחשוורוש גם מציל את כל היהודים בגלל אסתר, שהיא מאותה קהילה. אנו לומדים מכך שאף יהודי אינו לבד - כל יהודי הוא תמיד חלק מכלל ישראל.

בנוסף, המצוות המיוחדות של פורים מדגישות את הצורך שלנו בקיום יחסים חיוביים עם הסובבים אותנו. משלוח מנות, מתנות לאביונים, קריאת המגילה בציבור וסעודת פורים הם כולם ענייני קהילה. אין לקיים אותם כיחידים, אלא כדברי הגמרא "משפחה - משפחה".

חודש לאחר מכן, אנו עוברים לפסח, שיש לו מסורת ארוכת שנים של משפחות העורכות את הסדר יחד. זה לא סתם - הפסוק אומר לנו שאנו אמורים לאכול את קרבן פסח בקבוצה שהוגדרה מראש, וכל יהודי צריך להיות חלק מקבוצה.

כולנו מבורכים להשתתף לקהילה הנפלאה הזו.

	יום	א(Sun)	ב(Mon)	ג(Tue)	ד(Wed)	ה(Thu)	ו(Fri)
זמנים לימי חול עד פרשת ויקהל	שחרית	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:15
	מנחה	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	12:30, 17:28
	מעריב	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	*Hall

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
binyomin@ahavasshalom.org 054-237-0028

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](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/01234567890)
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!