

Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce



Zmanim

Early Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 6:10 pm

Candle Lighting: 7:28 pm

Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 7:30 pm

Shacharis: 8:45 am

PIRKEI AVOS SHIUR: 6:25 pm

Mincha/Seudas Shlishis: 7:15 pm

Maariv/Motzei Shabbos: 8:30 pm

Motzei Shabbos Rabbeinu Tam: 8:57 pm

Parshas Ki Seitzei

Adapted from Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky

This week's parsha is replete with a potpourri of mitzvos, all encompassing both negative and positive directives that affect our dealings with fellow humans as well as the Ribono Shel Olam.

Among the directives is the mitzvah of hashavas aveidah, returning the lost items of your fellow Jew. "You shall not see the ox of your brother or his sheep or goat cast off, and hide yourself from them; you shall surely return them to your brother. If your brother is not near you and you do not know him, then gather it inside your house, and it shall remain with you until your brother inquires after it, and you return it to him. So shall you do for his donkey, so shall you do for his garment, and so shall you do for any lost article of your brother that may become lost from him and you find it; you will not be able to hide yourself" (Devarim 22:1-3).

The Gemara spends a great amount of time and effort detailing this mitzvah in the second perek of Masechte Bava Metziah. But the last few words of the mitzvah needs clarification.

The Torah tells us to return lost items and not to shirk our responsibility. But it does not tell us you are not allowed to hide, rather it tells us, "lo suchal, you will not be able to hide." Why not? Who is stopping you? Surely Hashem does not intervene in our free choice to shun our responsibilities? The Chofetz Chaim travelled across

Poland to distribute his works. Throughout his travels, he came across a variety of characters and experienced many incidents that he retold in his many lectures on Lashon Harah, and fear of Heaven.

He recounted that once he was going in a wagon, when the driver saw an orchard with delicious fruit trees. The driver turned to his passenger and schemed. Listen, my friend. I am making a short detour. I am going into the field to help myself to some of that fruit. If anybody is watching me, let me know immediately. I don't want to get in trouble here!"

The man parked the wagon on the side of the road and stealthily moved toward the orchard with a small sack in his hand. He was about to fill it with the fine, pilfered fruit when the Chofetz Chaim shouted from the wagon, "Someone is watching!"

The man quickly ran back to the carriage and meandered around as if he were just taking a rest. A few moments later, he snuck back into the orchard, and slowly made his way toward the fruit-laden trees. Once again, as he was about to snatch the fruit off the tree, he heard the old man shout! They're watching! They're watching!"

This time the man dropped his sack and looked all around. He saw no one. Hands on his hips, he approached the wagon.

"I don't see anyone! Who's watching?" he demanded.

The Chofetz Chaim, shrugged, smiled, and rolled his eyes heavenward as he pointed his finger upwards. "He

is!" he replied.

As the saying goes, "you can run, but you can't hide." The Torah is telling you more than dos or don'ts. It is telling you what you can do, and what is virtually impossible for you to do. When you want to look away, and make it appear as if you do not see, the Torah, in addition to a prohibition, reminds him of the simple fact. Not only are you prohibited from making it appear as if you did not see, but in fact, "you cannot hide! You cannot look away." We sometimes forget that Hashem is everywhere and his vision is ever peripheral. We think He is focused on one place and is not interested in the tiny details of a man and a lost object. Such thinking is as silly as the story of the

kids at a Bar-Mitzvah, when the rabbi stacked a bunch of apples on one end of a table with a sign saying, "Take only one apple please G-d is watching." On the other end of the table was a pile of cookies where a friend of the bar-mitzvah boy had placed a sign on saying, "Take all the cookies you want - God is watching the apples."

When it comes to involving ourselves in communal responsibilities whether it is returning lost souls or lost items, we may try to appear as if we do not know what is happening around us. We may act lost ourselves. But we are hiding from no one. Because if we play the fool, "the only thing we have to fool is fool ourselves."

Good Shabbos

**** To ensure accurate publication of all announcements and sponsorships,**
**information must be submitted to mailings@agudahsouth.com **
prior the publication deadline of 10:00 am on Friday morning.**

**This week's kiddush is sponsored by:
Mr. & Mrs. Ephraim & Chani Reichmann.**

The kids' program will take place downstairs this week.

The Rav's Pirkei Avos Shiur will take place at 6:40 pm this week.

The guest speaker for Seudas Shlishis will be Rabbi Tanenbaum from Kollel Avreichim.

The Sunday Morning Discussion is cancelled this week.

**We are updating the cholim list for Chodesh Elul/Tishrei.
If you would like to submit a name to the cholim list please email
gabbai@agudahsouth.com or contact one of the gabbaim.**

Shacharis	Weekday Schedule	Mincha
Sunday: 8:00 am		7:25 pm
Monday & Thursday: 7:00 am & 7:55 am		Maariv
Tues., Wed. & Fri.: 7:00 am & 8:00 am		7:40 pm
Daf Yomi with Rabbi Kaufman: 8:00 am (Shabbos), 7:15 am (Sun), 7:40 am (Mon-Fri)		
Amud Yomi with Rabbi Rafi Greenspan: 7:20 am (Mon-Fri)		

To sponsor Kiddush/Seudas Shlishis contact Leon Jakubovic (kiddush@agudahsouth.com.)

Have a Simcha to announce? Email announcements to mailings@agudahsouth.com.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this list please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.

Join our Kehillah today!

To find out more about memberships, associate memberships, & other sponsorship opportunities please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.

Reserve a Locker

As part of the ongoing efforts to enhance the shul and renovation of the social hall we have replaced the lockers in the basement. There are still some lockers remaining. For more information please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.