

Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce



Zmanim

Candle Lighting: 4:29 pm

Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 4:30 pm

Shacharis: 8:45 am

Rav's Hilchos Shabbos Shiur: 3:45 pm

Mincha/Seudas Shlishis: 4:20 pm

Maariv/Motzei Shabbos: 5:32 pm

Motzei Shabbos Rabbeinu Tam: 5:59 pm

Parshas Vayigash

Adapted from Rabbi Yissachar Frand [www.torah.org]

Yosef sent gifts to his father upon wagons (agalos). When Yaakov saw the wagons, his spirit was rejuvenated because he was convinced that Yosef was still alive. Rashi cites the Medrash that by sending wagons (agalos), Yosef was sending a signal to Yaakov that he remembered the last thing they studied together before being separated. They had been studying the laws of the decapitated calf (Eglah Arufah). (The term eglah [calf] has the same root as the word agalos [wagons].) The law of Eglah Arufah is that if a person leaves a city and is subsequently found dead, the elders of the closest city need to bring an atonement known as the Eglah Arufah, because it involves decapitating a calf.

The Daas Zekeinim m'Baalei HaTosfos elaborate upon Rashi's comment. The Daas Zekeinim explain that when Yaakov sent Yosef on his mission (to look for his brothers) Yaakov accompanied Yosef part of the way. The Daas Zekeinim derive this from use in the narrative of the word "Vayishlacheihu" [and he sent him] [Bereshis 37:14]. The Daas Zekeinim say that throughout the Torah, the word Vayishlacheihu does not merely mean "he sent him"; rather it means "he escorted him."

When Yosef's father started accompanying him, write the Daas Zekeinim, Yosef urged him to go back home. At that point, Yaakov told Yosef that he wanted to teach him the Torah value of "levayah" [escorting someone on the road], which is learned from the law of Eglah Arufah. (This is by virtue of the fact that the Elders of the

city need to state that they do not have blood on their hands because they did not refuse to escort the dead person on his journey.) The implication of the statement of the Elders in the procedure of Eglah Arufah is that someone who neglects to provide escort on the road is guilty of spilling innocent blood.

Why is levayah [escort] so important? The Maharal explains that the escort shows the person being escorted "you are still a part of us; you are not alone; you are still part of a community." As part of the community, the person still has the merit of the community and in this merit he should be confident that he will be protected on his journey. When one is "on his own," accidents can happen and thus the Elders of a community who let someone go off totally on his own retain a responsibility for what happens to him.

Yosef understood that Yaakov was teaching him much more than just the law of levayah. Implicit in Yaakov's message and implicit in the mitzvah of levayah is that one must care about his fellow Jew and look for opportunities to give him chizuk [strength]. This was the last message Yosef heard from his father before their separation and this is the message Yosef carried with himself for the next 20 years: The importance of worrying about one's fellow man and trying to strengthen him.

If we look back at the entire story of what happened to Yosef in Egypt, we see a pattern in his behavior throughout the narrative. To put it in very mundane terms (not really appropriate for Yosef HaTzadik), Yosef was always a 'nice guy.' Everything turned out for Yosef's good be-

cause he was a 'nice guy'. He was thrown into the dungeon. There he met the Wine Butler and the Baker. We know the story. He interprets their dreams and as a result of that he is recommended to Pharaoh and ultimately becomes the Viceroy of Egypt. But how does it all start? It starts with Yosef being a 'nice guy.' Yosef saw them one morning and asked them "Why are you in such a bad mood?"

How many people sitting in a dungeon would have that attitude? Here are two Egyptians who probably would mistreat Yosef because he was a "lowly Jew" and Yosef was still genuinely concerned that they seemed to be upset. Yosef wanted to know what was bothering them and see if he could in any way put their minds at ease. Because of that kindness, everything turned around for Yosef. This was Yosef's attitude throughout his entire sojourn in Egypt. He was always worrying about the other person. This saved him.

When the brothers finally learned the identity of the Viceroy of Egypt and they were petrified of him, what was Yosef's reaction? "It is not your fault! The Master of the

Universe sent me here. You do not need to worry! I was sent here to provide salvation from the famine." Yosef did not need to say that. He could have let them stew in their guilt. Why did he need to say that? Yosef said it because this is what he learned from his father: Be a nice person, strengthen your fellow man and care for him.

The Baal HaTurim interprets the pasuk "Al Tirgazu b'Derech" [Bereshis 45:24] to mean that Yosef told his brothers not to trespass on the way home. He warned them not to take short cuts through other people's property and rely on the fact that they were the brothers of the Viceroy of the country who had special perks. Yosef was constantly worried about doing the right thing and about not hurting another person.

This is the Torah lesson Yosef learned from Yaakov when they last saw each other. This is what saved him. Yaakov understands this message when he sees the 'Agalos'. Yosef is 'telegraphing' the message: "Father, do you know why I survived these past 20 years? It is because I never forgot the lesson of 'Eglah Arufah.'"

Good Shabbos

This week's kiddush is sponsored by:

**Mr. & Mrs. Leon & Malka Jakobovic in memory of the yahrzeit of Leon's mother OB"M & to celebrate the recent birth of their latest addition to the family, Chana Rochel.
Mr. & Mrs. Boruch & Shaindy Klein in memory of the yahrzeit of Boruch's grandmother, Basha bas Dovid OB"M.**

The kids' program will take place this week beginning at 9:30 am.

**The guest speaker for Seudas Shlishis is Rabbi Menachem Yuni.
Seudas Shlishis is sponsored by the Mr. & Mrs. Alexander and Irina Werner.**

The Sunday Morning Shiur & Discussion will take place after Shacharis.

**We are updating the cholim list for Chodesh Chesvan – Teves.
If you would like to submit a name to the cholim list please email gabbai@agudahsouth.com.**

Shacharis	Weekday Schedule	Mincha
Sunday: 8:00 am		12:40 & 4:35 pm
Mon., Tues., Wed.: 6:50 am & 7:50 am		Maariv
Thursday: 7:00 am & 7:55 am		4:55 & 8:00 pm
Friday: 7:00 am & 8:00 am		
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)		

Friday Night (FNL)

Please join us for the relaunched Friday Night Learning Program.

Seder: 8:00 pm

Rabbi Kaufman's Chumash Shiur: 8:30 pm

The Esoteric Commentaries: The Sfas Emes, Ohr Hachaim, etc.

Cholent & Kugel will be served.

This week's FNL is sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Shira Breiner.

New Shiur: Minchas Chinuch

Please join us for Rabbi Kaufman's new Wednesday night shiur in Minchas Chinuch at 8:15 pm.

Topic: Hilchos Shabbos: beginning with the halachos of Kiddush.

To sponsor Kiddush/Seudas Shlishis contact Baruch Klein (kiddush@agudahsouth.com.)
Have a Simcha to announce? Email announcements to mailings@agudahsouth.com.

Find our daily schedule at <http://www.agudahsouth.com/calendar/>