

Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce



Zmanim

Candle Lighting: 8:15 pm

Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 6:50 pm & 8:15 pm

Shacharis: 8:45 am

Pirkei Avos Shiur: CANCELLED

Mincha/Seudas Shlishis: 8:00 pm

Maariv/Motzei Shabbos: 9:22 pm

Motzei Shabbos Rabbeinu Tam: 9:44 pm

Parshas Eikev

Adapted from Rabbi Yochanan Zweig [www.torah.org]

The Spice Of Life

"You shall place these words of Mine upon your heart..." (11:18)

In the second portion of the Krias Shema, we find the instruction to constantly contemplate and internalize the Torah and its precepts. The Talmud interprets the word "vesamtem" - "you shall place" as "vesam tam" - "a perfect elixir"; the Torah is the ideal cure for the "yetzer hara" - "evil inclination". The following analogy is offered by the Talmud: A father educating his child finds it necessary to strike him. The father then instructs his child to place a compress on the inflicted wound, saying to his son "As long as the compress is in place, you may eat and drink what you desire, you may bathe with hot or cold water, and you need not fear that your wounds will become infected. However, if you remove the compress, your health is at risk." Similarly, Hashem says "My son, I created the evil inclination and I created the Torah as its 'tavlin' - 'antidote'"

We generally understand that Hashem created the Torah for man to follow, with the yetzer hara as the obstacle which man must overcome in his pursuit of Torah study and adherence. However, from the aforementioned passage in the Talmud, we see that this perception is not entirely correct. The Sages of the Talmud describe the Torah as a "tavlin" - literally, "condiment" or "spice" used to enhance the flavor of the main course. It would appear that the primary creation is the yetzer hara, with the Torah being the necessary but secondary creation. This notion is substantiated by the parable given in the Talmud; the child's punishment, which is analogous to the yetzer hara, is a necessary facet of his education, while the compress serves as the counterbalance or antidote which prevents the beating from having a negative consequence. How do we understand the idea that the Torah is merely the spice that enhances the yetzer hara's natural flavors?

The Talmud states that the yetzer hara threatens to overpower a person every day and

kill him. What function of the yetzer hara makes its existence necessary?

Hashem created man with an enormous potential for accomplishment. Man's overwhelming awareness of his capabilities, coupled with the fear that he may not be able to live up to his potential, leads him on a path of self-destruction. Man indulges in behaviors which either block out the awareness of his capabilities, or demean him to the extent that he can rationalize that the expectations of him are unfounded.

The part within us which makes us aware of our potential is the yetzer hara. Left un-

harnessed, this awareness develops into man's most destructive force, the destruction he wreaks upon himself. The Torah is the tool through which we can actualize and develop our potential. Without the yetzer hara making us aware of our potential, the Torah's capacity to actualize and develop that potential would not be utilized. Our Sages therefore confer upon the yetzer hara the significance of being Hashem's primary creation for without the aspirations of what he can become man's potential would be wasted.

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.**

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

**The guest speaker for Seudas Shlishis is Rabbi Meir Yechiel Zoberman.
Seudas Shlishis is sponsored by Mr. Shraga Fishberg.**

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

Weekday Schedule

Shacharis	Mincha
Sunday: 8:00 am	8:15 pm
Mon. & Thurs.: 7:00 am & 7:55 am	Maariv
Tues., Wed. & Fri.: 7:00 am & 8:00 am	8:35 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 Baruch Klein (kiddush@agudahsouth.com.)

All those wish to submit names to the cholim list can email gabbai@agudahsouth.com or contact one the gabbaim.

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

Join our Kehillah today!

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

Shul Update

Please note that the upstairs of the shul will be closed until further notice. All tefillos and programs will take place downstairs. We apologize for any inconvenience.

The Board