



Beth Israel Congregation

Rabbi Mordechai Shapiro z"l Sanctuary

Weekly Announcements

770 W 40th St. Miami Beach, FL 33140

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www.bethisraelmiami.org

Rabbi Donald Bixon – Rabbi
Parshat Kee Tetze

Abraham Galbut – President
September 17th , 2016 14 Elul 5776

Erev Shabbat Schedule

Mincha 7:00 PM
Candle Lighting 7:06 PM

Shabbat Schedule

Hashkama Minyan 7:30 AM
Main Minyan 9:00 AM
Teens Minyan 9:30 AM
Rabbi's Class 6:15 PM
Mincha 7:00 PM
Maariv 7:50 PM
Shabbat Ends 7:57 PM

Sunday September 18th –Friday September 23th
Shacharit: 7:00 & 8:00 AM
Mincha: Sun-Thurs 7:10 PM

Weekday Class Schedule

Monday at 9:15 am
Women's Tefilah Class

Wednesday After Maariv
Advanced Talmud Class

There will be an additional Shacharit minyan Monday –Friday only at 8:45 am

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Daniel Abrahams, Abe Bielory,
Ruchama Roth,
Lindsay Glassman-Genet,
Alyssa Baumgarten, Lenore Weinstein

HAPPY ANIVERSARY TO:

Joanne and Gerald Tepler
Rena and Michael Reinhard

PLEASE don't forget to submit your seat reservations for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

Mazal Tov To:

-Slava and Jeffrey Album on the birth of their daughter Aliza.

-Miriam and Dr. Gershon Fink on the engagement of their daughter Atara to Sammy Gertner.

-Mrs. Francine Katz on the birth of a great grandson born to her grandchildren Zalman and Miriam Pollack in Detroit.
And grandparents Jeffrey and Meira Katz.

Kiddush is Sponsored By

Lauren and Josep Saka
In honor of their daughter
Lily

Welcome New Members!!

Shoshana and Rabbi Packouz

Daniel Gologorsky

Youth Groups Announcements

9:15 Pre- Groups
9:45 Regular groups begin

We are happy to continue updating it with new toys and books. For sponsorship opportunities please reach out to Rabbi G.

Great news and awesome upcoming events:

AFTERNOON GROUPS THIS SHABBAT!- A call to Elul- 45 minutes before Mincha. Children of all ages welcome to enjoy an amazing dvar torah-story, nosh, and some fun and games!
THE TEEN MINYAN IS HERE-Please remind your teen to arrive on time!
Special Teen Kiddush this week available for sponsorship.

Mazal Tov to the Saka family on Beth Israels newest youth group member-summer and Elul Birthday Club will take place on September 24th. Please make sure your children are on the form and we know it's their birthday.

Teen, BBQ and Selichot Program
September 24th.

SPECIAL FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES
Rosh Hashana grand bake off extravaganza. Thursday September 29th at 5:00 pm. Bake Challah and top it with the most creative toppings.

Honey Bee Workshop and presentation with live honey bees (protected of course) Candy Apples, Yum!
Would like some!
Come one came all- stay tuned for details and flier!



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DVAR TORAH BY: DR. ARI CIMENT

הלל אומר: ... ואל תדין את חברך עד שתגיע למקומו

Hillel would say:...Do not judge your fellow until **you have stood in his place!!!**

QUESTION: The classic understanding of this ethic is “do not judge others until you can see their position/vantage point”. There is perhaps another way to understand this ethic though and both ways are greatly illustrated in our parsha.....

ANSWER/ANALYSIS:

לא-תתעב אדמי, כי אחיך הוא; לא-תתעב מצרי, כי-גַר הָיִיתָ בְּאֶרֶצוֹ Edomite, for *he is thy brother*; thou shalt not abhor an Egyptian, because thou was a *stranger* in his land.”

There are two ways to understand this: 1) Do not be too unwelcoming to the Edomites, because after all, we are related (Esav/Edom being Yakov’s bro!); also don’t be unwelcoming to the Egyptians, because after all, we were strangers in their land (and at least they fed/sustained us as strangers). But this version, albeit the most accepted one, has always sounded quite sarcastic to me: are we really supposed to be thankful for the courtesy the Egyptians lent us while enslaving us in their land?!?! I mean, C’mon!!!

Another version utilizing the above ethic of “do not judge others until you can see their position/vantage point”/ אל תדין את חברך עד שתגיע למקומו may read as follows: Don’t be unwelcoming to the Edomite, *because as your brother, he had reason to be harsh to you!* **Familiarity breeds contempt.** We say הנה מה נהגה מה טוב ומה נעים, שבת אחים גם יחד What is so

special/unique (מה טוב ומה נעים) about brothers sitting next to each other? The answer is that brothers unfortunately tend to fight ; it is sometimes miraculous to see older siblings actually get along so nicely. The Edomites were unkind to us, but the Torah may be saying for us to give them a pass: it was natural for them to dislike us because after all, they were our brothers (who tend to squabble!). The Torah continues: Don’t be unwelcoming to the Egyptians as well but rather “see their position/vantage point”. We were strangers in their land, and it is natural to try to dominate strangers. They also had a reason to abhor us and so we have to at least try to sympathize on some level with them. And so by the Edomites and the Egyptians, our due and expected animosity should be tempered by this concept of אל תדין את חברך עד שתגיע למקומו, that we should not judge others until you can see their position/vantage point!

But there is yet a second beautiful way to understand this ethic of אל תדין את חברך עד שתגיע למקומו by our parsha: We are adjured not to allow Amon and Moav into our community for 10 generations because they did not give us food and water once we entered into their boundary. The Meforshim struggle to understand why the Amonites/Moavites are denied entry for 10 generations while the aforementioned Egyptians/Edomites are denied only 3 generations. An answer may be that the Amonites/Moavites looked good from afar, but once we got into their territory, they betrayed us: על-דבר אשר לא-קדמו אתכם, בלחם ובמים, בדרך. This is a second understanding of אל תדין את חברך עד שתגיע למקומו: **You can’t really judge a person until you reach their actual physical place!** The true characteristics

of a person/nation are sometimes only evident when you get close up and personal. The lesson of the ethic then may also be that true character can best be determined by how people conduct themselves in their place, in their home base!

TAKEAWAY MESSAGE/S: אל תדין את המקומו עד שתגיע למקומו may mean that you shouldn’t judge others until you fully understand their motives/vantage point: Perhaps the Edomites (brothers that have natural squabbles) and the Egyptians (strangers are often looked upon suspiciously) had reason to treat us poorly and so we should be a bit less vengeful to them. אל תדין את חברך עד שתגיע למקומו may also mean that you can’t fully judge someone until you get into their personal space: the true evilness and inhospitality of the Amonites/Moavites was only discovered once we were entrenched במקומו. The best way to fully appreciate someone’s character is to look at his “place”: how he or she treats his/her home base!!!!

COMMUNITY NEWS

The entire community is invited to Join Kehilas Ahavas Torah In celebrating **The Hachnosas Sefer Torah** dedicated by Tilu Friedman and her grandchildren Noam and Nicole Cohen Hillel and Chayi Cohen Donny and Freyda Cohen.

This Sunday, September 18th, at 3:00pm Writing of the final letters at Beth Israel Congregation. At 5:00 pm Hachnosas Sefer Torah. The Torah will be escorted with music and dancing to Ahavas Torah. 301 W. 41th Street, Miami beach Fl.

Bikur Cholim of Miami Beach

Annual Dinner Sunday, September 18, 2016 Honoring: Mr. Leonard Wien Dr. Yankie Silverstone Pamela and Ricky Turetsky Temple Moses Behar Reception Hall 1200 Normandy Drive Miami Beach, Florida **Sold out!**