

# HAVURAT YISRAEL WEEKLY NEWS

23 Sivan, 5784

SHABBAT SHLACH / MEVARCHIM

June 29, 2024

## Shabbat Shalom!

7:00 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat  
8:13 pm Candle Lighting

8:45 am Mishnayot Shiur  
9:00 am Shacharit  
9:10 am Latest Shema  
Parasha p.798 Haftarah p.1184  
10:30 am Kids Group  
6:30 pm Shiur in Gemara Class  
7:30 pm Shiur in Parasha  
7:15 pm Perek in the Garden  
8:00 pm Mincha  
9:07 pm Maariv & Havdalah

**Kiddush** is in honor of the Committee and Volunteers of the Journal Dinner.

**Seudah Shlisheet** sponsorships available.

## Upcoming Sponsorships

July 6 — Feit-Hirsch Family  
July 13 — Lou & Rita Gutnicki

**Molad** The new moon will occur over Jerusalem, the holy eternal indivisible internationally recognized capital of the Jewish people and the State of Israel, next Shabbat at 1:09 (10 *chalakim*) pm. Rosh Hodesh is observed on Shabbat and Sunday.

## Classes with Rabbi Levitt

### Tuesdays at 7 pm Starting July 2nd

**Sefer Shmuel:** We will be going through sefer Shmuel with a focus on the famous commentary of the Malbim. Learn about Shmuel HaNavi, Shaul HaMelech, and Dovid Hamelech.

### Sundays at 7:30 am Starting July 7th Learn Hebrew with a special NJOP Curriculum

People will need to register to be in this course. If you are interested please speak with Rabbi Levitt.

## Free English Class with Esther Nelson on Zoom

Wednesdays: Beginners level at 6pm, Level II at 7pm

**Zoom:** [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75838790255?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75838790255?pwd=calajnRy8fe3SI49RyaO5oc9F3NqR7.1)  
[pwd=calajnRy8fe3SI49RyaO5oc9F3NqR7.1](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75838790255?pwd=calajnRy8fe3SI49RyaO5oc9F3NqR7.1)

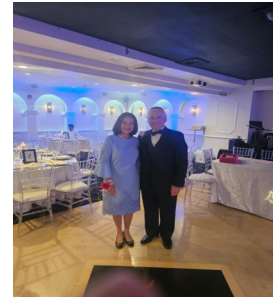
— Meeting ID 758 3879 0255 **Passcode:** KLy8J

## Journal Campaign & Dinner

There was a very special spirit during the Journal dinner last Monday night. It was the characteristic warmth and enthusiasm of Havurat that is so contagious and pervasive. The speeches by the honorees, the exciting conversations at the tables, the rhythm of the music and the fabulous atmosphere at the dancing floor - this was Havurat Yisrael at its best. If you missed this event, you missed something very special.

Thank you Tamara Algaze for the coordinating of all details, Miriam Jacobs for your editing, and Yossi Tocker for the elegant Journal. Thanks to our volunteers: Renee Hirsch, Carol Krohn, Miriam and Nachshon Portela and to all the other unnamed people who lent a hand, carried packages or did something large or small to make this a great event. You are the gift that makes our Shul the excellent place it has become.

Mazal Tov to the Honorees: Mark & Gail Silverman, Todd, Sheryl & Zachary Hausman, and Joseph & Kim Trigoboff



We are requesting notes from children and adults for IDF soldiers in Israel.

Please send to: Pamela Lazarus, 86 Ben Yehuda St., Tel Aviv 6343516 ISRAEL

SUNDAY June 30 / 24 Sivan	MONDAY July 1 / 25 Sivan	TUESDAY July 2 / 26 Sivan	WEDNESDAY July 3 / 27 Sivan	THURSDAY July 4 / 28 Sivan INDEPENDENCE DAY	FRIDAY July 5 / 29 Sivan
7:30 am Gemara Shiur 8:00 am Shacharit 9:30 am Torah Class in Spanish — R. Algaze 10:30 am — NO CLASS R. Levitt	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit  7:00 pm New Class: Sefer Shmuel —Rabbi Levitt-	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit	7:30 am Gemara Shiur 8:00 am Shacharit  8:00 pm Class —R. Levitt	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit  7:00 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 8:09 pm Candle Lighting

HAVURAT YISRAEL

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## WITH THE EYES THAT WE SEE

by Rabbi David Algaze

Twelve men are sent on a mission: to spy the Land of Israel. They are the most prominent of the nation, the most distinguished,” every one a leader among them”, “heads of the children of Israel were they” (Bamidbar 13:2-3). They returned with a negative report. They showed the fruit of the Land and it was unusually large but they added that the people who live there are just as big and powerful and that Israel would be unable to defeat them. “We cannot ascend to that people for it is too strong for us” (ibid.31). Two Spies disagree, Caleb and Yehoshua. Caleb says, “We shall surely ascend and conquer it for we can surely do it.” What is the basis of their disagreement? They surely saw the same things, assessed the same facts and confronted the same objective reality. Why did they differ in their pronouncements?

The answer may lie in a key word which introduces the Spies’ report. After showing the fruit of the Land they say, “But”, in Hebrew the word is *efes* which may be translated as “it’s all for nothing” or “it is useless (as a zero)”. The report was tainted with a negative attitude. Yes, they saw a beautiful Land, it was as Moshe had promised, “Flowing with milk and honey” but...They emphasized the negative aspect rather than the positive. If the promise of the land being so bountiful was true, why not trust G-d’s promise that they could conquer it? The Spies revealed a human need to find fault, to despair and feel defeated. Instead of rejoicing with the blessed land, they focused on their fears that they could not do it.

The eyes of the Spies saw the negative. They had the lenses of negativity, pessimism and impotence. This need to highlight the negative may stem from various sources. First, they wanted to see everything served on a silver platter. The Land is beautiful, but we do not want to fight for it—they were saying in reality. They wanted to receive without having to sacrifice anything. In our times our people feels the same experience: we all love the land of Israel but few are willing to make the sacrifices that are necessary to inherit it. The dream that the Mashiach will solve everything, that all we need to do, is just waiting with folded hands—may all reveal this trait of laziness and impotence. The settlers of the Land—both at the beginning of the settlement at the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as well as those of today in Hebron, in Judea and Samaria and those of Gush Katif—are the true heirs of Caleb. We should remember the severe punishment meted out to the Spies, “this evil assembly” and the people: they would not see the Land. We should be the heirs of Caleb and not of the other Spies.

Secondly, we see the negative when we are unable to accept the blessing. The Spies did not feel worthy of the land and consequently they doubted G-d’s promise. We need to believe that we deserve good things and not be

afraid of receiving them and welcoming them into our lives. They were the children of Israel; it is to them that G-d promised the Land, and yet they felt that the privilege was not theirs. The fear of being unable to make it stemmed from this feeling of unworthiness, as if they did not deserve it. This too is a trait that prevents us from observing the blessings in our lives and to see only the negative. When we accept that good things can happen to us, we will begin to see them abundantly around us.

The third reason for the negative is a misunderstanding of their mission. They were sent to see the Land and its beauty and to be inspired by the holiness of the Land. They were not sent to assess whether or not they could make it. That was up to G-d. Instead of being inspired by their visit, they made themselves into “assessors” and “experts”. That was not their role. The critic who cannot enjoy his surroundings because he is too busy evaluating and assessing everything around him commits the same error. There are times when we need to appreciate and enjoy, not evaluate and criticize. Sadly, many visitors to Israel today become “inspectors” and critics rather than being inspired by their visits to Eretz Israel.

Caleb displays precisely the qualities we should cultivate. His eyes were different. He saw with different lenses and these are the traits that will improve our personal lives as well as the life of the people of Israel. We should develop the energy and vitality to recognize that we have work to do in the world and that to achieve certain goals we have to apply our talents and strengths. Man’s function is to do, not just wait. Second, we should believe that we are deserving of good things, that the world is not always dark and bleak. Finally, we need to develop the quality of the person who can enjoy a beautiful painting or listen to a piece of music without becoming a critic. G-d’s promise that we will inherit the Land will be realized despite the pessimist outlook. G-d is kind with all his creatures but especially with His people. And “we will inherit it (the Land) because we can surely do it!” We need to recognize with which eyes we are actually seeing the world.

Additional Journal Ad

In honor of and in remembrance of Tom Hamori, and his insistence that we say the Perek of Tehillim on page 82 of the Siddur in the merit of the Jews of Eretz Yisrael

Rabbi Avrohom & Sharona Levitt

**Refuah Shlema** Alte Ester Riva bat Devorah Shifra, Chava Naomi bat Doba Chana, Yaakov ben Leah, Tzvi ben Sara, Chavah bat Rivka, Gloria bat Sarah, Talia Leah bat Sarah, Gabriela bat Sarah, Miriam Bat Rivka, Reuben ben Malka, Baruch Chaim ben Basha, Malka Bat Simcha and Yonatan Yitzhak ben Ateret, Hannah bat Yehudit.