



Shovavim



This week, the week of Parshas Shemos commences the weeks of *Shovavim* (TaT). *Shovavim* is an acronym for the six weekly Torah portions: Shemos, Vaera, Bo, Beshalach, Yisro and Mishpatim (as well as Terumah and Tetzaveh). *Shovavim* is an auspicious time to review the Laws of *Taharas Hamishpacha* and examine our spiritual purity. Some say additional Tehillim and other *tikkunim* during this period. There are those who fast Mondays and Thursdays during this period as well.

Reminders



An acronym for Shemos is *Shnayim Mikra V'echad Targum*. This week, as we begin sefer Shemos, many strengthen their commitment to *shnayim mikra*.

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Chullin 31.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents, and Rabbi to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to do the same!

Next on the Calendar



Shabbos Mevorchim for Rosh Chodesh Shevat is next Shabbos Par-

shas Vaeira, January 5th.

Tu B'shvat is on January 21st.

Parshah in a Paragraph



SHEMOS: Bnei Yisroel's population expands • Pharaoh plots the slavery and annihilation of the Jews • Shifrah and Puah are commanded to kill the newborn boys • At great self-sacrifice they refuse to do so • Pharaoh commands the Egyptians to throw the boys into the Nile • Moshe's birth • Yocheved places him in the Nile • Miriam watches from afar • Pharaoh's daughter discovers and adopts him • Moshe sees the oppression of Bnei Yisrael • Moshe kills an Egyptian who was beating a Jew • Moshe intercedes in a fight between two Jews • they publicize his killing of an Egyptian • Moshe escapes to Midian • He rescues and marries Tzipporah • Hashem speaks to Moshe at the burning bush • Moshe's appointment as savior • Moshe returns to Egypt and tells Bnei Yisrael they will be redeemed • Moshe and Aharon confront Pharaoh • Pharaoh increases the workload • Hashem promises the redemption with a mighty arm •

For the Shabbos Table



"Vay'hi bayamim haheim vayigdal Moshe vayeitzei el echav va'yaar b'sivlosam, vayaar ish Mitzri makeh ish Ivri mei'echav"

"Now it came to pass in those days that Moses grew up and went out to his brothers and looked at their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian man striking a Hebrew man of his brothers." (Shemos 2:11)

Rashi explains on the words *vayar b'sivlosam*, that "he gave over his eyes and heart to be distressed about them." All it said in the Pasuk was that Moshe "saw their burdens." How does Rashi extrapolate that Moshe felt Bnei Yisrael's pain from these words?

The answer can be found in the word "*b'sivlosam*". Moshe didn't just see "*sivlosam*," their burdens. Rather, he saw "*b'sivlosam*," "in their burdens". This small addition to the pasuk tells us that he actively felt the pain of his brethren. Immediately following his seeing the pain of his brethren, we see how he kills an Egyptian in defense of a Jew. Not only did Moshe feel the pain of the people, he took action against it. This is the mark of a true leader; one who has the ability to recognize the pain of another, and the strength to take action to alleviate it.

Current Projects



We are excited to announce that we are in the test (beta) mode for the new goDaven site! Please check out www.beta.godaven.com, and forward comments and questions to ecbirnbaum@klalgovoha.org.

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