



tidbits

my father, R' Meir Zlotowitz zt'l, made sure his family was up to date on
from the mundane, to the ordinary, to the 'thanks for reminding me!'

November 23rd, 2018 | Parshas Vayishlach



Reminders



We will start saying *V'sain Tal U'matar* during Maariv on Tuesday, Dec 4th.

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Menachos 105. Mazal Tov! The Siyum for Maseches Menachos is this Wednesday! The next Masechta is Maseches Chullin, which is 142 Blatt. Just 7 Masechtos remain until the Daf Yomi Siyum Hashas, to be held in January 2020.

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!

counters Esav and they part in peace • Dinah ventures out and is assaulted by Shechem • The Shevatim furiously plot revenge • Shechem and his people agree to circumcise • Shimon and Levi kill Shechem and all male inhabitants • Yaakov builds an altar in Beth El • Rochel passes away during the birth of Binyamin • Reuven moves Yaakov's mattress into Leah's tent • Yitzchak passes away at 180 years of age and is buried by Yaakov and Esav • The descendants of Esav and the kingdoms of Edom •



For the Shabbos Table

"Vayehi li shor va'chamor"

"And I acquired an ox and a donkey"

(Bereishis 32:6)

Rashi explains that it is "Derech Eretz" to reference many oxen in a singular form. Rav Moshe Feinstein Z" L says that Rashi is teaching us that when a person references his own possessions, it is proper to be modest and not needlessly boast about them. Thus, Yaakov modestly used the singular form "ox," although he had many oxen.

Furthermore, later in the Parsha, Esav tells Yaakov *"yesh li rav,"* "I have an abundance," and Yaakov replies to Esav, *"yesh li kol,"* "I have everything." An "abundance" is measured relative to what is common in society. Esav looked to the outside world to measure his success and was only content when he exceeded

societal standards. Yaakov, however, confidently proclaimed "I have everything," as he was satisfied that all his needs were met. Yaakov saw no need to boast about his abundance, as he attached no importance to the status associated with material success and instead focused on everything he was given.

This concept can be illustrated by a true incident which occurred in a ballroom in the United Kingdom. In attendance at the event were many of the UK's dignitaries, including the Queen of England herself. Suddenly, a commotion erupted, as Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher entered the hall. The reason? She was wearing a dress identical to the Queens! The very next day, the Prime Minister's office sent a letter to the queen expressing their apologies over the incident. The response from the Queen's secretary was curt and quick in coming; "The Queen of England does not notice what other people are wearing." Similarly, when we are aware of our own inherent importance and dignity, we are not threatened by the successes and achievements of other people.



Next on the Calendar

Chanukah begins in one week from Sunday, on Sunday evening, December 2nd.

Shabbos Mevorchim for Rosh Chodesh Teves is next Shabbos, Parshas Vayeishev.

Parshah in a Paragraph



VAYISHLACH: Yaakov sends Malachim to Esav • Esav approaches with 400 men • Yaakov prepares for confronting Esav with prayer, gifts, and armament • Yaakov defeats the ministering angel of Esav • Yaakov is given the name Yisrael • Yaakov en-

Current Projects



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