

tidbits_{for} חובו כובות



Reminders



On Shabbos Chol Hamoed we lein Megillas Koheles.

Following a Yom Tov when carrying is allowed, one should check the pockets of his Shabbos clothing to avoid inadvertently carrying outside an Eiruv.

The final opportunity to say Tashlich is on Hoshana Rabbah.



Parshah in a Paragraph

Moshe Rabbeinu blesses each Shevet individually I Blessings for Bnei Yisrael as a whole I Hashem shows Moshe the land from afar I Moshe's passing, his burial place unknown to man I Klal Yisrael mourns for thirty days I Moshe's greatness and supremacy in prophecy.

Chazak! Chazak! Venischazeik!

For the Shabbos Table



"Hevel havalim, amar Koheles, hevel havalim, hakol hevel"

"Futility of futilities says Koheles, futility of futilities, all is futile". (Koheles 1:1)

The Mashal Umalitzah explains this pasuk with the following mashal. When a child first learns about the number zero, he might be confused as to the value of the number 0. After all, if it represents nothingness, what purpose does it serve? The

child has to be taught that though the number 0 doesn't represent any amount, when added to another number, it expounds it's value. For example, putting a '0' after the number '1' represent '10'. So to with material things. Their value lies in their potential to enable our service to Hashem. Whether serving delicacies for simchas Yom Tov, writing a check for charity, or using time wisely, opportunities abound to take all our "nothings" and turn them into gold with everlasting and eternal value.



Hoshanah Rabbah

On *leil Hoshanah Rabbah* many gather for Mishnah Torah. There is a custom to stay up to learn.

There is a minhag of *chibbut aravah*, to bang 5 *aravos* on the ground. This minhag applies to both men and women. One should shake the bundle prior to banging them. Women should fulfill this minhag as well. If necessary, one may use aravos that were previously used, provided that some leaves still remain. There is no reason to bang all the leaves off.

As Hoshana Rabbah is a Yom Tov, one should have a proper Yom Tov meal. It should be held before the tenth hour of the day (approximately 4:10 PM).

Shemini Atzeres



Yizkor is said on Shemini Atzeres. One should remember to light Ner Neshama according to his custom. Shehecheyanu is said on Shemini Atzeres and Simchas Torah. Tefillas

Geshem is said by Mussaf on Shemini Atzeres, which is when we begin saying mashiv haruach. On Simchas Torah, we no longer say Ledavid. In addition, we no longer use honey or round challos during the seudos. One who inadvertently said "Chag Hasuccos" instead of "Chag Shemini Atzeres" during Shemoneh Esrei need not repeat the Tefillah.

There are different opinions regarding eating in the Succah; if one does eat in the Succah, no berachah of *leisheiv* is said. In addition, the stringencies of only eating fruit, meat, etc. in the Sukkah are relaxed. Most have the minhag not to sleep in the succah. A special Tefillah of *Yetziah min HaSuccah* is said.



Tefillah

We begin saying mashiv haruach by mussaf on Shemini Atzeres. One who forgets mashiv haruach needs to repeat the Tefillah. However, if he instead said morid hatal he need not repeat Shemoneh Esrei. If he realized his error anytime before beginning "V'Attah Kadosh", he may immediately say "mashiv haruach..." and continue on from there. In the event that one is unsure, we assume he said what he was accustomed to previously reciting. In order to circumvent the issue, many have the practice of repeating the phrase "Mechayei meisim...mashiv haruach..." 90 times, which makes one halachically accustomed to saying it.

Tachanun is not said on Isru Chag. Some congregations do not say Tachanun until after Rosh Chodesh Cheshyan.