

SCHEDULE

שבת קדש

Mincha Erev Shabbos	7:00 & 8:18 PM
Candle lighting	8:18 PM
Daf Yomi - By R' Gholian	7:30 AM
Shacharis-Followed by Kiddush	8:30 AM

-Sof Zman K"ס- א"א 8:31 א"א 9:24

Mincha	2:15 PM
Pirkei Avos - By R' Dani Poliakoff	7:25 PM
Mincha -	8:15 PM
Followed by Shalosh Seudos - Guest speaker, R' Yaakov Berkowitz	
Maariv -	9:27 PM

Weekday Minyanim & Shiurim

Sunday

Shacharis I	6:50 AM
Daf Yomi	7:30 AM
Shacharis II	8:30 AM
Mincha / Maariv	8:25 PM

WELCOME BACK!

Rabbi & Mrs. Teichman are due to arrive back in Baltimore on Monday morning. We wish them a safe trip back!



Weekday

Daf Yomi	5:45 AM
Shacharis	
Monday, Thursday	6:40 AM
Tues, Wed., Friday	6:55 AM
Mincha (Mon - Tues)	1:45 PM
MINCHA/MAARIV (Monday)	8:25 PM
Daf Yomi (Take II)	9:00 PM
Maariv (Monday-Thursday)	9:45 PM

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Gaboim:

Naftali Miller (Rishon) & Chaim Meister (Sheni)- Gabbai@

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Rabbi Zvi Teichman

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Issue#339

Seek and You Will Find

In the midst of World War II, the great Hungarian sage, spiritual leader and martyr, Harav Yehoshua Bucksbaum of Galanta wrote a powerful message of encouragement to one of his students who had found refuge in the spiritual "desert" of America.

Here he was, the Galanta Rav, desperately trying to maintain his Yeshiva and community, both physically and spiritually, in the face of an approaching and menacing enemy, which eventually consumed him together with the six million *kedoshim*, yet offering guidance to his student from afar.

He pointed out that there are three places in all of Torah where the word *ובקשתם*, and you shall seek, appears.

When Moshe takes Korach to task for not appreciating his elevated status as a Levite and for his overreaching in his request for *Kehuna*, Priesthood, Moshe exclaims in astonishment, *ובקשתם גם כהונה* (ובמדרש טז ז') *? and you also seek the Priesthood!?*

The **Prophet** Yirmiyahu tells the nation that all G-d wants from them is *ובקשתם אותי* (ירמיה כטי ג) *and you shall seek me*. If they wholeheartedly search for connection He will redeem them from exile.

Moshe foretells of a time when the Jewish people will be scattered among the nations of the earth becoming entrenched in idolatry. Nevertheless all hope is not lost for there will come a time *ובקשתם משם ד' אלקיך* (דברים ד כט) *and you will seek from there G-d* and find Him once again.

The Rav told his student that within these three verses lies us a profound lesson in *avodas Hashem*.

Often one finds oneself seeking closeness to G-d out of a sincere desire to be uplifted and inspired. Wouldn't it be wonderful to live in a community insulated from the crassness of the culture surrounding us? Imagine being able to live solely among likeminded Jews sharing in common goals? If only one could have a profession that would allow one to devote one's free time to the study of Torah, how fortunate one would be.

But G-d intimates otherwise. *ובקשתם אותי*, seek **Me** in all your endeavors whether you are afforded the opportunities you would have liked or not, find **Me** is all I ask, G-d says.

If what you are looking for is truly solely G-d, not your own personal ambition, no matter how noble it may be, then *ובקשתם משם*, you will succeed in seeking me even from **there**, whatever circumstance, however limited it may seem to you in context of "closeness" to G-d, precisely **there** will you discover a depth in the relationship that cannot be experienced elsewhere.

The Rav was attempting to uplift his student who found himself distanced from his loving Rebbe, amidst a sea of challenge as he was forced to work simply in order to survive and hadn't the environment that was conducive for spiritual growth.

Only a Rav who despite the impossible task before him remained hopeful and undeterred in his quest to keep Torah alive against all odds, could

successfully convey a message of hope to his forlorn disciple.

Ironically, one of the kidnapped Yeshiva boys, Eyal Yifrach, recently composed a very touching song entitled *ובקשתי ולא מצאתיו*, *I sought him but found him not*. The song is based on a series of verses in Song of Songs, where the woman longs so for her beloved exclaiming in frustration how although she desperately seeks him he is nowhere to be found.

First she describes how she pines for him *על משכבי בלילות*, *by night on my bed*, *ולא מצאתיו*, *but I find him not*.

Then she portrays how she went about *בעיר בשוקים וברחובות* *seeking in the city, the streets and the broad ways*, *ולא מצאתיו*, *but I find him not*.

Finally she relates how after encountering the *שומרים הסובבים בעיר*, *the watchmen that go about the city*, *שמצאתי*, *she finds him!* (שיר השירים פ"ג א-ד)

We want to lie in our beds and dream about attaining closeness with G-d. We will not find Him.

We are distracted by the daily activities of our lives expecting by chance to discover our loved one. We will not find Him.

But if we observe the "watchmen", those who see G-d in every facet of life, both good and bad, accepting with utter faith G-d's benevolence even when it appears that he has forsaken us that is precisely when we discover the One who our soul loves so dearly.

The special parents of these cherished boys are the watchmen who have taught us how to find our beloved. With astounding faith and loving dedication to Torah in its most profound sense, they continue, despite their incomprehensible anguish, to live inspired and see as their mission to strengthen others, not allowing despair to enter their vocabulary. They find G-d, the love of their soul, even in the most difficult of moments.

How do we live our lives? Do we seek Him at every juncture of life? Or do we plod through life distracted, subconsciously desiring a connection but never actually seeking it?

These awesome parents seek the return of their children, as one of the fathers expressed, so that he may wrap his son in his Tallis during the blessing of the Kohanim and place him in G-d's embrace and protection.

They see "Him" even in their quest for their children's return.

We beseech G-d, please, please, let them find them, let them find you!

May we accrue merit for these families by transforming our own lives into a constant quest to find Him in those distracted and distant "there" moments of our lives.

באהבה, צבי טייכמאן



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!!!HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Alexander Zakharin, Sara Silberberg, Eti Rubin, Ezzie Goldsmith

!!!HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

Jason & Deena Ermine, Shlomo & Adina Berman, Ari & Chana Schnur, Shimy & Naivka Klein, Ezra & Sema Frager, Yossi & Rivka Frydman... WOW! Popular week!

This space is provided by YOU through the member database. Please be sure to update!

Yartzheits

Lisa Pachino on the Yartzheit of her mother, Marion Cooper

מרים בת אליקזאנדער

Shalom From Israel



Totally not homesick.....