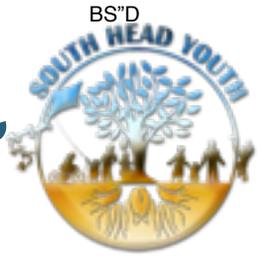




# SOUTH HEAD YOUTH PARASHA SHEET

## PARASHAT KI-TEITZE



BS"D

Once again, our Parasha explores many different Mitzvot which Moshe is currently explaining to the Jewish people. Moshe really wants to make sure that the Jewish people understand all of the Mitzvot and laws in the Torah. He does not want them to G-d forbid stop observing the Mitzvot or forget the importance of the Mitzvot after he passes away.



The Mitzvah of Hashavat Aveida is a very important one. It is the Mitzvah of returning lost objects. If a Jewish person finds an object lost by another Jew, or even a person that is not Jewish, it is a Mitzvah for the Jewish person to return the lost item to its rightful owner. But how is the finder supposed to know who the lost object belongs to? Well, the finder of the object can place notices around the neighbourhood, in the streets and in the shops, which say that he found the lost object. If the real owner sees the sign, he will surely call up the person who found the object to reclaim it. If however, the person is unable to prove that the object is his, then the finder does not need to return the object, but can keep it for himself or give it to Tzeddakah. This is all very well if the lost item is an object, but what happens if the lost item is perishable? How is the finder supposed to return the good to the real owner? The Torah commands the finder to sell the food and keep the money until the owner returns to reclaim it.

Another Mitzvah we explore is the Mitzvah of Shiluach Hakan. This Mitzvah teaches us to respect Hashem's creatures. We are taught by the Torah that when a mother bird guards her nest, the eggs in the nest are the most important possession that she has. It is only natural for the mother bird to protect the eggs from which her baby birds will hatch very soon. The Torah tells us that if a Jewish person wants to take the eggs from a birds nest, he must first send away the mother bird. If the mother bird returns, he must send her away again, for a Jewish person is forbidden to take a birds eggs from the birds nest while the mother is guarding it. But guess what?!? This Mitzvah only applies to Kosher birds. If you find an eagle guarding its eggs, you can take the eggs away from the mother eagle without shooing her away - however you should be careful as the mother eagle will not be very happy with you! Additionally, the Mitzvah of Shiluach Hakan only applies if the Jewish person comes upon the nest by accident. The Torah promises us that every Jewish person who fulfills the Mitzvah of Shiluach Hakan will be rewarded with long life! Now that's a very good reward to receive in response to being sensitive to the mother bird. Now let's say, two witnesses see a person climbing a tree and taking the eggs from the birds nest while the mother bird is sitting there. These witnesses are required to warn him of his sin. If the person refuses to listen to the witnesses then the witnesses report the man to the Beit Din. The Beit Din will judge the case and determine whether the man is guilty or not. If he is indeed guilty, then he is punished with lashes. But before getting the lashes, a doctor is called in to see how many lashes the person can handle. The largest amount of lashes which can ever be given, is 39 lashes. Whilst the man is being whipped, various Torah passages from the Book of Devarim are read to him in order to cause him to do Teshuva and repent for the sin which he has just performed.



This next Mitzvah is a Mitzvah which applies to Jewish boys, can you guess what it is? That's right, it's the Mitzvah of wearing Tzitzit! The Jewish people are reminded that they must attach Tzitzit to any garment which they wear that has four corners. Tzitzit are worn as a reminder that we are a part of the Jewish people and Hashem's chosen nation. When we look at Tzitzit, we are reminded to observe Hashem's Torah and Mitzvot. But what are Tzitzit? That's a good question! Tzitzit are made up of four strings, folded in half to make eight strings. The strings are knotted and rolled in a special way and the eight strings hang down from each of the four corners of the four-cornered garment, like tassels from underneath a Jewish boy's or a Jewish man's shirt. In the times of the Mishkan and Beit Hamikdash, it was a Mitzvah to dye one of the white strings hanging down from each of the four corners, a blue colour. The blue colour came from the blood of a fish, called the Chilazon. Nowadays, we cannot dye the string of our Tzitzit with the blood of the Chilazon, because we no longer know which fish is the Chilazon. We have to wait until the times of Moshiach until we are once again shown which fish is the Chilazon fish.

The Mitzvah of giving a Get only applies if G-d forbid, a marriage does not work out. According to Jewish law, if a man wants to divorce his wife, he may only do so if he presents her with a Get in front of two witnesses. If the

man does not give his wife a Get, then according to Torah law, the couple is still married. They are forbidden from marrying another person, until the Get is given by the man and received by the woman.

Our Parasha ends off with the Mitzvah of wiping out the nation of Amalek. Now you're probably thinking, 'that's a little harsh! Why is Hashem commanding us to wipe out the nation of Amalek?' Well if you remember, many many years ago, when we left Egypt, Hashem performed many miracles for us, including the splitting of the Red Sea. While all the other nations were in awe of Hashem's power and might, Amalek decided to sneak up behind the Jewish people, and attacked the nation. Because of this Hashem commanded King Saul to wipe out the nation of Amalek. King Saul wiped out the whole nation except Agag, the King of Amalek. This was a big mistake, because the very wicked Haman descended from Agag. If King Saul would have listened to Hashem's decree, then we would never have had to experience the story of Purim and the wicked Haman.

## PARASHA QUESTIONS:

1. What is the name of this weeks Parasha?  
This weeks Parasha is called Parashat Ki Teitze.
2. What is the Mitzvah of Hashavat Aveida?  
The Mitzvah of Hashavat Aveidah is the Mitzvah of returning a lost object to its rightful owner.
3. What is the Mitzvah of Shiluach Hakan?  
Shiluach Hakan is the Mitzvah of sending away the mother bird, before taking away her eggs from her nest.
4. What does the Mitzvah of Shiluach Hakan teach us?  
The Mitzvah of Shiluach Hakan teaches us to respect all of Hashem's creatures.
5. Does the Mitzvah of Shiluach Hakan apply to all birds?  
No, the Mitzvah of Shiluach Hakan only applies to Kosher birds.
6. What happens to a person who takes the eggs from the birds nest without first sending away the mother bird?  
If two witnesses see a person take eggs from a nest without having first sent away the mother bird, they are required to inform him of his sin. If the person denies his actions, he is taken to the Beit Din for a ruling and the Beit Din decide whether he is guilty or not. If the Beit Din decide that he's guilty, he is punished with lashes.
7. What are Tzitzit?  
Tzitzit are four strings folded in half which are knotted and rolled in a special way. The Torah commands all boys to attach Tzitzit to all four corners of any four-cornered garment that they wear. The Tzitzit hang down from the four-cornered garment like tassels.
8. What is the Chilazon?  
The Chilazon is a type of fish.
9. Why do we need the Chilazon?  
We need the Chilazon because the Torah commands us to dye one string in each of the four corners of our Tzitzit a special blue colour. This blue dye only comes from the blood of the Chilazon fish.
10. What is a Get?  
A Get is a document which a man must give to his wife in order for a divorce to be authentic according to Jewish law.
11. Which nation are we commanded to wipe out?  
We are commanded to wipe out the nation of Amalek.

**It was great seeing you in Shule!**

**We hope you enjoy reading this Parsha Sheet and quizzing your family!**

**Shabbat Shalom from Brookie and the South Head Youth Crew**