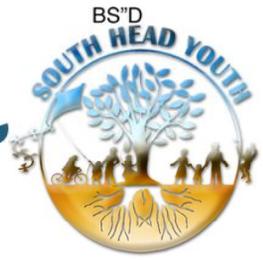




SOUTH HEAD YOUTH PARASHA SHEET

PARASHAT YITRO



Word of Hashem's miracles that He performed for the Jewish people spread like wild fire throughout the entire world! Everyone is talking about the splitting of the Red Sea and the Jewish people's miraculous victory over the nation of Amalek. It does not take long before Moshe's father in law, Yitro hears about the miracles too. While Moshe had gone back to Egypt to free the Jewish people from Pharaoh, his wife Tziporah and their two sons Gershom and Eliezer had stayed behind with Yitro. Now that Yitro hears that his son-in-law has been successful in freeing the Jewish people from Egypt, he quickly heads towards Mount Sinai with his daughter and grandchildren, to reunite them with their husband and father. When Moshe sees his family, he is filled with joy! He tells them all about the miracles which Hashem performed from the plagues to the splitting of the sea, the victory over Amalek and the Manna. Now Yitro is not Jewish and when he hears about all these miracles he immediately decides that he wants to convert and he becomes part of the Jewish nation.

It doesn't take long before Yitro sees how busy his son-in-law is. He sees that each and every day Moshe spends countless of hours answering questions and settling disputes among the people in the Jewish nation. Yitro advises Moshe to hire a team of judges to help him out. Moshe listens to his father-in-law's advice and hires wise, humble and honest men to judge the Jewish people along with him. He arranged the judges like a court system with different levels of judges. There were the lower judges and higher judges. If the lower judges were unable to settle a dispute, then the case would be brought before the higher judges. This way only the most difficult cases were judged by Moshe, the highest human judge.



The Jewish people arrive at Mount Sinai on the first day of the Jewish month of Sivan. They are all very excited to receive the Torah. But Hashem tells them that they must prepare themselves for this most awesome and defining moment in the whole of Jewish history. The Jews are filled with joy as they spend the following five days preparing for the receiving of the Torah. Moshe goes up the mountain to speak to Hashem and returns to the Jewish people with a very important message. 'Hashem has chosen us, the Jewish people, to be Hashem's special nation from among all the nations of the world. However, we must promise Hashem that we will fulfill all of His Mitzvot or we will be punished'. Moshe looks at the Jewish people and asks, 'do you accept?' But before Moshe even has a chance to blink an eye, the Jewish people respond in unison, 'Na'aseh Venishmah - We will do and then we will hear!' The Jewish people are ready to do whatever Hashem asks of them even before they know what Hashem will expect of them!

Hashem instructs the Jewish people to prepare themselves for the giving of the Torah which will take place in three days. Hashem commands Moshe to make a fence around Har Sinai. The Jewish people are told that they are not allowed to cross this border as Hashem's holy presence now rests on the mountain. The only people who may step onto the mountain are Moshe, Aharon and his sons and the 70 elders of Israel. The Jewish people are then instructed to immerse themselves in the Mikvah to purify themselves.



Moshe plans to be the middleman between Hashem and the Jewish people. Hashem will tell all the laws to Moshe and Moshe will repeat all of the laws to the Jewish people. However, the Jewish people are not very happy with this plan. They want to hear the Torah and its laws directly from Hashem! And Hashem agrees to directly tell the laws to the Jewish people.

On the sixth day of Sivan, the entire Jewish nation is awoken to loud sounds of thunder! Lightning strikes the air and smoky fire fills the earth! The Jewish people begin to shake in fear, and then they hear the Shofar blast. Today is no ordinary day, it is the day that the Jewish people will be receiving the Torah. Moshe tells the Jewish people, 'do not fear! Move closer to the mountain!' Then suddenly, Hashem picks up the mountain and holds it over the heads of the Jewish people. He calls out to the people telling them that they must accept the Torah. All the Jewish people say that they will accept the Torah and they quickly repent for all the sins that they have ever performed. Hashem also heals all the wounds that the people received while they were slaves in Egypt. Then all of the sudden, Hashem says all of the 10 commandments in one utterance! This is something which is impossible for any person to do! Have you ever tried to say 2 words at the same time? Well Hashem was able to say all of the 10 commandments at the same time! Now that's pretty cool, huh?

The Jewish people tremble at the sight of this. Once they have all regained their composure, Hashem begins to say each of the ten commandments individually, starting with the first, 'I am Hashem your G-d, who took you out of Egypt'. Hashem's voice is so strong and powerful that all of the souls of the Jewish people leave their bodies and fly up to Hashem. Hashem immediately sends these souls back to their bodies and the bodies come back to life. As Hashem begins to say the second commandment, the same thing happens, the souls of the Jewish people leave their bodies and Hashem has to send them back. Although the Jewish people would really like to hear all of the 10 commandments from Hashem, they are afraid to hear anymore. So they kindly ask for Moshe to deliver over the rest of the commandments to which Hashem agrees.



Moshe tells the Jewish people all of the remaining 8 of the 10 commandments. Do you know what they are?

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| 1. I am the Lord your G-d who took you out of Egypt | 6. You shall not murder |
| 2. You shall have no other gods before Me | 7. You shall not commit adultery |
| 3. You shall not say the name of Hashem in vain | 8. You shall not steal |
| 4. Remember that Shabbat day and keep it holy | 9. You shall not be a false witness |
| 5. Honour your father and your mother | 10. Don't be jealous |

After announcing the remaining commandments, Hashem begins to explain to Moshe the details of the 613 commandments which Moshe will explain to the Jewish people for the nation to keep for generations to come.

Mission of the week: (1) Purchase a Torah/Jewish learning book. (2) Set up a time each week where you will learn a Torah thought. You can read something on the internet or from a Jewish book that you have at home.

PARASHA QUESTIONS:

- What is the name of this week's Parasha?
This week's Parasha is Parashat Yitro
- Who is Yitro?
Yitro is Moshe's father in law. He is the father of Tziporah, Moshe's wife.
- What does Yitro do after hearing about Hashem's greatness?
Upon hearing all about Hashem's greatness, Yitro decides to have a Brit Milah and he converts to Judaism.
- What do the Jewish people say when asked if they will accept the Torah?
When asked if they will accept the Torah, the Jewish people immediately respond, 'Na'aseh Venishmah - We will do and we will hear'. The Jewish people are ready to accept the Torah before Hashem tells them what all the laws are!
- How do the Jewish people purify themselves for receiving the Torah?
The Jewish people purify themselves by going to the Mikvah.
- In what Jewish month do the Jews receive the Torah?
The Jews receive the Torah in the Jewish month of Sivan.
- What does Hashem say in one word?
Hashem announces all of the 10 commandments in just one utterance!
- Name all of the 10 commandments?
See above for all 10 commandments.

**It was great seeing you in Shule!
We Hope you enjoy reading this Parasha Sheet and quizzing your family!
Shabbat Shalom from Brookie and the South Head Youth Crew**

