PARSHA QUESTIONS

ANSWERS ARE ON THE BACK

- 1) What beautiful expression does the Torah (44:30) use to show how much Yaakov loved Binyamin?
- 2) What does Yehuda mean when he says (44:32) that he is an ערב for Binyamin?
- 3) What amazing message does Yosef tell his brothers after he reveals himself to them (45:8)?
- 4) What were Yosef and Binyamin crying for when they cried on each other's necks (45:14)?
- 5) What does Yosef mean when he says to his brothers (45:24) "אָל־תִּרְגִּזוֹ בַּדְּרֵץ"?
- 6) What did Hashem say to Yaakov on his way down to Mitzrayim (46:2)?
- 7) Why did Yaakov send Yehuda ahead of him to Egypt (46:28)?
- 8) What did Yaakov do (46:29) when Yosef cried on his neck?
- 9) What did Yaakov say to Pharaoh when asked how old he was (47:9)?
- 10) After the Mitzrim ran out of money during the famine what did they have to give Yosef in exchange for food?



WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Discussion starter for your Shabbat table..

If someone who wronged you later came to you needing your help?

DID YOU KNOW?

Asara B'Tevet and Erev Shabbat - Rabbi Ari Enkin

Although it is one of the "minor" fast days, Asara B'tevet should not be taken lightly as it is the only fast that can occur on a Friday. In fact, if it were to occur on a Shabbat it would be observed on that day, as well, earning itself a standing similar to Yom Kippur. The reason that Asara B'tevet and Yom Kippur must be observed on the actual day they occur is due to the expression "עצם היום הזה" ("on this specific day") which is used in reference to them. For this reason Asara B'tevet and Yom Kippur are never advanced or postponed.

Even when Asara B'tevet occurs on a Friday, the fast must be observed until nightfall even though this requires one to enter Shabbat while hungry, fasting, and distressed which is generally to be avoided... All of the regular Shabbat preparations, including showers and haircuts, may be performed as normal when Asara B'tevet occurs on a Friday, even by those who normally refrain from such activities on fast days.

[Mishna Berura 551:7]

PARSHA ANSWERS

- 1) יְנְפְּשִׁוֹ קְשׁוּרְהַ בְּנְפְּשִׁוּ His soul/life was interconnected with Binyamin's 2) ארב is a guarantor willing to pay a loan for a friend. Yehuda takes personal responsibility for Binyamin. כל ישראל ערבים זה בזה All Jews are responsible for one another.
- 3) Yosef says it was not you who sent me here, but Hashem. It was all part of His plan to save the family. Rather than take revenge, Yosef's words reunite the family.
- 4) Rashi Yosef cried over the 2 Batei Mikdash that were in Binyamin's territory, and Binyamin cried over the Mishkan in Shilo that was in Yosef's territoty, all of which would one day be destroyed.
- 5) Rashi Yosef was telling his brothers not to argue on the way back to Canaan (from the word B'Rogez) blaming each other for the sale of Yosef. He was trying to make Shalom Bayit.
- 6) Hashem promised Yaakov that his family would become a great nation in Egypt and that He would go down with him and bring him back up.
- 7) Rashi He sent Yehuda ahead to set up a Jewish Day school.
- 8) Rashi Yaakov was reciting Kriat Shema.
- 9) Yaakov said that his 130 years were few and hard years compared to his ancestors.
- 10) 1st they traded their livestock, then their fields. Ultimately they had to give 20% of whatver they produced.

ELISHEVA'S PARSHA CHALLAH



THIS CHALLAH SHOWS THE BROTHERS ARM IN ARM REPRESENTING
THEIR ULTIMATE UNITY. THERE'S NO DOUBT THEY WENT THROUGH
MANY UPS AND DOWNS OVER THE YEARS, ESPECIALLY WITH SELLING
YOSEF... BUT IN THIS WEEKS PARSHA, ONCE YOSEF REVEALS HIMSELF
TO THEM AND THEY GET PAST THE FEAR OF HIS REVENGE (WHICH
NEVER HAPPENED), THEY WERE ABLE TO REUNITE AND LIVE THE
REMAINING DAYS IN UNITY UNDER YOSEF'S PROTECTION.
UNITY IS OUR SECRET TOOL AS A NATION AND SOMETHING WE MUST
ALWAYS WORK ON!

DVAR TORAH

Charne Lesnoy - 11th Grade

Good Shabbos,

In this week's parasha, Parashat Vayigash, Yehudah goes to Yosef and begs for him to let Binyomin go and even says he will give himself as a slave to Egypt. After Yosef sees how loyal his brothers are to each other he reveals himself and asks if his father Yaakov is still alive. The shame of the brothers gets the better of them but Yosef tries to reassure them that Hashem brought him to where he was, it wasn't their fault. The brothers go back to their father in Canaan and tell Yaakov about Yosef which results in a big family reunion in Egypt. Yaakov and his whole family get the land of Goshen to settle in which starts the beginning of the exile from Egypt story.

When I was reading the parsha, I came upon an interesting question from chabad.org: Why did Yaakov and his family get the land of Goshen? What was the significance of them getting that specific piece of land? The answer is that when Sarah became Pharaoh's wife (when Avraham and Sarah went down to Egypt and tricked Pharaoh), he gave her a "ketubah" (a marriage contract). Part of the contract was that if they ever split, Sarah would get the land of Goshen. Since the land belonged to Sarah, it holds special value to the Jews so that's why they wanted to live there.