

Shabbos Learning Project

Keeping It Better Together

Week 6: Preparing for After Shabbos

For discussion at the Shabbos meals. Answer key with brief explanations will be printed next week.

After Shabbos, go online and fill in the answers to be entered in a weekly raffle.

This week's prize: Shabbos Meal from Kosher Gourmet!

These questions are based upon an overview presented in our weekly podcast. Thank you everyone for a great SLP season and for all your questions, insights and enthusiastic participation!

- 1) After losing a high-stakes Rock-Paper-Scissors competition, you get the distinct privilege of doing the dishes on Friday night after the meal. You love helping, but it's a bit of a monotonous task. So you decide to make a little game. It's called "Shabbos Shot Put." Here is how it is played: You open the dishwasher, stand back and push or fling dishes into the dishwasher. As you get more and more skilled, you back up further and further. It's great fun! You back up further and further, until you back into...your mother. Gulp. Thinking quick and always remembering SLP, you explain: "Well...um...you see...since you're not permitted to load the dishwasher because of Hachanah – preparing for after Shabbos – I wanted to make sure to clean up in a permissible manner. So this way I get some Oneg Shabbos and enjoyment out of doing the dishes!" Does this explanation work?
 - a) I'm afraid not. Loading the dishwasher is obviously for post-Shabbos purposes, so it's not allowed.
 - b) "Shabbos Shot Put"? Are you for real? Frankly, I don't think any explanation will work... Better work on your Rock-Paper-Scissor skills.
 - c) Nice thinking, but dishwasher loading is permissible even without the gaming aspect.
 - d) You are only allowed to load the dishwasher if you have no space left on your counter.
- 2) I have to admit that I am really nervous. I have a huge test coming up next week. It's the Shabbos Learning Project Final for this year. Yes, yes I know I had 6 weeks to study. But my dog ate those weeks. Honest. So now I'm stuck. I know I won't have enough time during the week to go over the material. Can I review on Shabbos, or is that preparing for next week?
 - a) Yes, you can review but only if you announce your reason for it.
 - b) Yes, you can review if you review the Torah and Halacha content, and not just skim for bad jokes.
 - c) No can do. No review.
 - d) You are permitted to study any subject that is Shabbos-friendly (as we learned about last week), but you should not declare verbally that you are studying for the test.
- 3) In week 4, we met The Shusher. Remember? He's the hired goon who strikes fear in the hearts of shul-talkers everywhere. The Shusher had recently upped his game and in order to properly single people out, he bought himself a "Yad", one of those Torah pointers to use for his holy work. Exhausted from a Shabbos of Shushing, the Shusher is not sure he'll make it back for Maariv this week. Is he allowed to bring home his new "Yad" after Mincha or is that considered preparing for after Shabbos?
 - a) If he brings it home every week by rote, it's fine.

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- b) He can bring it home, but he has to use it to point at people on his way home. Yes, he means you.
 - c) He should really leave it in Shul. Just in case someone else needs to pinch-Shush...
 - d) It is indeed preparation.
- 4) Ever the deal-hunter, on your walk to Shul you can't help but notice that Shmusters Ice-Cream is offering a special flash deal ending Saturday night at 7pm: Anyone who brings 20 friends who each order at least two pints of ice-cream or one ice-cream cake, gets his scoop at half price! This is just too good to pass up! It's even better than the time you earned a broken slinky (is there any other kind?) for your last door-to-door fundraiser. But how will you gather those 20 friends in just a few minutes after Shabbos? It would be really helpful if you could crowdsource over Shabbos and invite your friends to join you at Shmusters right after Shabbos. But is this permissible? Is it preparing for after Shabbos?
- a) It is preparing, but is nevertheless permitted for the sake of ice-cream.
 - b) If you call it a Melava Malka, it's OK.
 - c) It is permitted.
 - d) I have a bridge to sell you...after Shabbos.
- 5) "Mizmor L'daaaavid." It's that bittersweet time again. Shabbos is going away. The sky's getting dark, it's the end of the day. As you sit at Shalosh Seudos you contemplate this most elevated time of Shabbos and are trying not to think about the week ahead. But, just like this year's Shabbos Learning Project, we all recognize that even the best of things come to an end, and we get to look forward to the next time. And with the Shmuster's Ice Cream deal looming large, you actually have to clean up in a hurry, but you also know that you are not supposed to clean up Shalosh Seudos if you don't need the room now. Then you have an idea. You may not be permitted to clean up your spot, but maybe you can clean up someone else's spot as an act of Chessed! Maybe we could play musical chairs to the tune of Mizmor L'David and everyone sits down after each round. Then everyone can clean up because it would be for someone else! And then, after Havdalah, we can all go to Shmusters to celebrate!
- a) I think the SLP writers need a break. They are starting to lose it. Everyone knows there is only one fast Mizmor L'David, so it just won't work.
 - b) If this were somehow combined with Shabbos Shot Put, it could be an epic Olympic sport!
 - c) It's still cleaning the room for after Shabbos, so better not. (Why is it always choice C?)
 - d) Consider this question a finale freebee. You got it right! Mazal tov!

Submit your answers at www.bethjacobatlanta.org/slp, or click the link in our email or our home page.
Answers received by Tuesday at noon will be entered into the raffle drawing.