



Candle Lighting  
7:59p

Mincha  
7:00p, 7:59p

Torah Reading  
Pg. 980

Haftarah  
Pg. 1197

Candle Lighting 8/10  
7:51p



SHABBOS SCHEDULE

Shabbos Mevarchim  
Shabbos Night

7:00p Mincha followed by  
Kabbolas Shabbos  
7:59p Candle Lighting & Zman Minyan  
(Beis Midrash)

Shabbos Day

8:35a Chassidus on the Parsha  
(Rabbi Silber)  
9:00a Shacharis (9:41a KS)  
11:30a Simcha Kiddush  
5:50p Early Mincha  
6:15p Daf Yomi  
(Yehuda Neuberger)  
7:05p Pirkei Avos (Rabbi Silber)  
7:50p Mincha followed by  
Shalosh Seudos  
8:59a Maariv/ Havdalah



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week of 8/5- 24th of Av

Sun  
7:15, 8:00, 9:00a Shacharis  
6:35p Plag Mincha  
8:00p Mincha/Maariv

Mon - Thurs. Fri a.m.  
6:45, 9:00a Shacharis  
6:35p Plag Mincha  
8:00p Mincha/Maariv



WEEKLY SHIURIM

Sun  
8:00a Daf Yomi

Mon - Fri  
5:45a Gan HaEmunah  
5:55a Daf Yomi  
15 Minutes of Mishnayos with  
Rabbi Richter following 9am minyan

Mon  
8:00a Business & Bagels

Tues  
8:30p Hilchos Shabbos from the Sources  
(Rabbi Richter)

Summer Series: Chinuch Shiur, Part 2  
Now online at rabbisilber.com



HEEDING THE HEEL

RABBI SHMUEL SILBER

*“And it will be, because you will heed these ordinances and keep and perform them, that the Lord, your God, will keep for you the covenant and the kindness that He swore to your forefathers.” (Devorim 7:12)*

At first glance, it represents a simple, straightforward theme; if we follow the word of God, He will take care of us. The Torah is replete with verses emphasizing the reciprocal nature of our relationship with God. If we are willing to commit our allegiance to the Torah and Mitzvos, God will see that our needs are met. This idea is at the core of our relationship contract with God: you will get out what you are willing to put in. Yet, the famed commentator, *Rashi* (Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki 1040-1105) highlights an additional dimension of meaning:

*“And it will be, because you will heed: Heb. ,גַּדְלוּlit. heel. If you will heed the minor commandments which one [usually] tramples with his heels [i.e., which a person treats as being of minor importance].”*

The Torah uses the word *eikev* which contextually means “if” but can also mean “heel.” As such *Rashi* understands an additional nuanced message, “*If we are vigilant with the details which people normally trample upon, there will be abundant Divine blessing.*” *Rashi* is teaching us two profound lessons.

**Lesson #1: We all trample on something.** In our spiritual lives we consciously or subconsciously create a religious hierarchy. There are some obligations which we feel are important and other obligations which are not. There are details which apply to each individual and details which do not. There are *mitzvos* we each can relate to and others which seem anachronistic, or at odds with our personal life outlook or philosophy. And so, we trample. We adhere, obey and admire the aspects with which we agree and intentionally or unintentionally set aside the aspects with which we don’t. Here is the beautiful reality: God doesn’t ask us to be perfect. He doesn’t expect us to perform all of

His commandments and He doesn’t expect proficiency in every area of Judaic practice. All God desires is effort. We create these “*mitzvah* rankings” as a way of justifying non-performance. But we don’t have to do that. We don’t perform all the *mitzvos* because we are limited human beings who try hard but can’t always get it right. We recognize that every law and detail in the *Shulchan Aruch* (Code of Jewish Law) is binding and obligatory but are not always able to live up to this standard. The good news is, it’s ok. God understands. Just don’t trample and make things unimportant to justify our human finitude. In fact, if you look at the wording of the verse it says, “And it will be if you listen (*tishmaun*) ...”, just listen! Yes, the ultimate goal we aspire to is performance (*va’asisem*) but start just by listening, acknowledging that these are the expectations.

**Lesson #2: Spiritual success doesn’t require spiritual heroism.** Little things make all the difference. This is true in many life relationships. In marriage, it is not the birthday or anniversary gifts which shape the fabric of the relationship, it is the phone calls during the day to say, “I love you,” or the small acts of consideration, companionship and love (though the presents certainly help). When our children bring home a project for Mother’s Day or Father’s Day our hearts are filled with joy, even though these creations are objectively junk (please don’t share with my children). Why? Because it is a genuine expression of love. The same is true in our relationship with God. The little things make all the difference. The way we talk to others, the manner in which we conduct our business dealings, our concentration during prayer, our commitment to daily Torah learning, our willingness to give charity, these are the little things which have such a dramatic impact. The Torah and our history are filled with stories of great people making enormous sacrifices for God. But day to day life is filled with the opportunities to do small things for

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## HIGH HOLIDAYS DEADLINES

8/15 Book of Remembrance ad deadline  
 8/20 Open seats released to the public  
 9/5 Youth Group registration deadline (\$25 late registration/walk-in fee per family)  
 9/5 All lost & found items donated  
 9/12 Lulav/Esrog order deadline

[suburbanorthodox.org/highholidays](http://suburbanorthodox.org/highholidays)



## KEHILLAH KIDDUSH

Simcha Kiddush sponsored by **Jonathan & CG Polirer** and **Doniel & Tzippi Goetz** in honor of the birth of their daughters and by **Ed & Faith Wolf** in honor of their 41st anniversary and the yahrzeit of Ed's father, Shalom ben Tzvi z'l.

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## MEMBER NEWS

### BIRTHDAYS

Alan Wiseman, Perry Saperstein, Elana Raskas, Miriam Sperling, Lisa Diamond, Yisrael Doniel Jacobson, Nava Penina Silberberg, Farrell Silverman, Tobbi Caplan, Yuriy Guzman, Michael Turniansky, Daniela Sullivan, Ruby Blumenfeld, Melissa Shnidman, Richard Nudelman, Menachem Sheen, Michael Judelson, Noam Sonnenschein, Dan Berkowitz, Abigail Gross

### Yahrzeits

Friderica David, Etta Sisovic, Cyrus Wolf, Aaron Exler, Harry Rosen, Rosalyn Appelbaum, Maralyn Shefter, Miriam Pancer, Beverly Richmond Greenberg



## SHUL HAPPENINGS

### SOTC Book Club

Tues 8/28 | 2:00p, SOTC

Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue

### Adventure Park Chol Hamoed Activity

Wed 9/26 | 11:00a-9:00p

Details to follow



## SPONSORSHIPS DONATIONS

Trevor & Sora Rosen, Mildred Shapiro, Mayeer & Adina Schwarzbaum, Aryeh Langer, Jeff Berkovich, Nechemia & Meryl Feldman

### DAF YOMI

**Natan & Leah Berry** in honor of the yahrzeit of Leah's father Eliezer Avraham Tzvi ben Pesachya Leib z'l

**Gavi & Shayna Cohn** in honor of the yahrzeit of Gavi's grandmother, Clara Oxman, Chaya bas Chaim Leib HaLevi z'l

### SHABBOS MORNING DRASHA

**Richard & Sharon Levine** in honor of the yahrzeit of Sharon's father, Nachum ben Eliezer z'l

### SHALOSH SEUDOS

**Jerry & Abby Appelbaum** in honor of the yahrzeit of Jerry's mother, Roslyn, Rochel bas Aharon z'l



## DVAR TORAH CONT.

**God.** These are the "eikev" moments. The little things that at first glance seem so insignificant that you can just step on them with your heel, yet, these are the very things which determine our spiritual identity and relationship with God. If you are grumpy in the morning and push yourself to greet people with a smile, the sea will not split before you, but you have done something amazing. If you see someone in need and manage to step out of yourself and help them, God will not call out your name from the heavens, but you have furthered your relationship with Him. If you are exhausted after a long day of work but manage to carve out some time to learn Torah, you won't see the lightning and hear the thunder of Sinaitic revelation, but you have shown your Father how truly committed you are.

We must find the strength to stop trampling and start building with the small bricks of "eikev" accomplishment. God promises that He is waiting for us and ready to reciprocate our efforts. May we find the courage the first small step and feel the blessing of His love in the journey ahead.

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