

Friday 11th August 2017

Candle Lighting	5.05pm
Maariv	6.15pm

Shabbat 12th August 2017

Shacharit	9.00am
Mincha	4.45pm
Maariv	6.02pm

A word from the Rabbi

Eikev

If it were possible to isolate the goals of the Torah into one mitzvah what would it be?

The answer to this question is presented in this week's Parsha:

ועתה ישראל מה ה' אלוך שאל מעמך כי אם ליראה את ה' אלוך ללכת בכל דרכיו ולאהבה אתו ולעבד את ה' בכל לבבך ובכל נפשך

"And now Israel what does Hashem want from you? Only that you revere Hashem to walk in his ways and to love Him and serve Him with all your heart and all your soul." (Devarim 10:12)

The Torah presents three inter-connected goals:

1. To revere Hashem and walk in his ways
2. To love Him
3. To serve Him

Service would seemingly refer to the observance of mitzvot in general.

Love connotes the formation of an affectionate relationship with Hashem, as opposed to a relationship of fear and awe.

How are we meant to interpret "to revere Hashem to walk in His ways"?

Our ages teach that this refers to mimicking the "behaviour" of Hashem: "Just as He clothes the naked (as in the story of Adam and Eve) so too we should clothe the naked. Just as he visits the sick (as in the story of Avraham) so too we should visit the sick. Just as He consoles the mourner (as in when Hashem comforts Avraham after the death of Sarah) so too we should comfort the mourner. Just as He buries the dead (as in the case of Moshe and Aharon) so too we should bury the dead." (Sotah 14a)

Walking in the ways of Hashem appears to refer to Chesed; Kindness.

But this isn't sufficient; we are expected to have reverence with our chesed.

Kindness can be an act borne from sincere compassion, but alternatively it could be a mechanical act drawn from a sense of duty. Which mode is preferable?

Initially one may suggest that wholehearted kindness emanating from an empathetic spiritual source is intrinsically superior to a mechanical obligation. But perhaps we focus too much on the act, and too little on the result.

What would happen if a particular needy cause didn't pull at the heart strings? What if the beggar lacked the requisite finesse to trigger the emotions? If kindness is driven by empathy, **then it is dependent on one's mood not the ethic of kindness.**

Kindness is an obligation and personal feelings are useful but irrelevant.

All that matters is the ethic.

Shabbat shalom

We wish a hearty Mazal Tov on your Bar/Bat Mitzvah to:

Brian Farber	Lori Friedman	Gavin Fuchs
David Guth	Joseph Hotz	Adam Israel
Brendon Levin	Les Milwidsky	Harold Neumann
Gavin Rosettenstein	Darren Schneider	Luke Ziman

We wish a hearty Mazal Tov on your Wedding Anniversary to:

Arnold and Wendy Cohen	Brian and Rose Farber
Colin and Linette Fox	Jonathan and Lisa Rogow
Erroll and Lisa Wilensky	

**We wish long life to the following Members who commemorate
Yartzeit this week:**

Genenda Barr	for her husband	Cyril Barr
Mark Barr	for his father	Cyril Barr
Renee Gazzard	for her mother	Daisy Bennett
Geoffrey Chaitowitz	for his father	Joseph Chaitowitz
Jacqueline Gordon	for her father	Brian Charlaff
Desmond Cohen	for his father	Barney Cohen
Maurice Cornofsky	for his father	Samuel Cornofsky
David Cowan	for his mother	Rae Cowan
Norma Cohen	for her mother	Rose Gillis
Ilana Hotz	for her father	Les Gordon
David Guth	for his father	Thomas Guth
Neil Leiboff	for his mother	Esther Leiboff
Tracy Weiner	for her sister	Merle Penaluna
David Port	for his father	Leo Port
Anthony Rom	for his mother	Anne rom
Keith Selikman	for his cousin	Isaac Selikman
Hillary Neumann	for her mother	Dora Schapiro

THE JEWISH WORLD

NEWS & VIEWS

A fortnightly update focussing on new developments in the Jewish world
with Rabbi Krebe

FRIDAYS 5:45PM
(Alternating with the Israel Update)

STARTING 23 JUNE