“For you know how we dwelt in the land of Egypt and how we came through the midst of the nations through which we passed. You have seen their detestable things, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold”. Devarim 29:15-16

In cautioning the Jewish people against attraction to idolatrous practices, Moshe Rabbeinu points out how repulsive and detestable these practices were. If so, why does Moshe go into a lengthy discourse about the evils of idolatry! Was it not a sufficient deterrent that idolatry was so revolting? The answer to this question is a deep psychological insight.
The Talmud tells us that a person who sees the disgrace of the Sotah (a woman suspected of an adulterous relationship) should take upon himself to become a Nazir (which is a person who must abstain from wine), because intoxication with wine may loosen one’s moral inhibitions, which is what happened to this woman. The question is: one who witnesses the public embarrassment of this woman, because of her immoral behavior, hardly needs additional deterrents. Yet, the message appears to be that this person who sees the spectacle is especially in need of additional restrictions. This concept has been proven by psychological research that when one is confronted by the sight of someone suffering the consequences of forbidden pleasure (e.g., drugs) the stimulation for immediate pleasure may exceed the deterrent effect. The heathen idolatrous practices included orgies, which were abominable. Yet Moshe knew that rather than being turned away from such practices, the very exposure to them was an attraction. The teaching of Moshe Rabbeinu is very relevant to today’s society. Many people naively assume that the message, “crime does not pay” is enough of a deterrent for the average citizen. They do not take into account, however, that the exposure to improper behavior can arouse those animalistic drives which lead people to commit immoral or anti-social acts, and that the negative consequences may not act as sufficient deterrents. The Torah’s insight into human nature is amazing for it is the divine book of G-d, a heavenly gift to the Jewish people to help us navigate the stormy seas of life.

*Sefer: Living each week Rabbi Dr. Abraham Twerski*

Wishing all of you an inspiring Shabbos and G'mar Chasimah Tovah!!

*Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein*

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**Important: High Holidays Seat Assignment and Posting Information**

All men & women seats are assigned by name and seat number. Seat assignments will be posted at the sanctuary entrances on the main and balcony levels. Please note that some updating of seat assignments have been made.

The seat assignment information will be posted in two forms: a) Directly on the seating chart configuration; b) In a table by family name, in alphabetical order.

Two copies of this information will be posted on each level.

Please make sure to follow the seat numbering on the arm of each seat.

We ask everyone's cooperation in respecting the seat assignments, and further respecting that each seat is assigned for the **duration of the service**, regardless of when the individual enters the sanctuary.

Please note that permanent seat holders who will be with us have, of course, been assigned their seats. For those reserving seats, every effort has been made to accommodate seat reservation requests. We ask everyone's understanding and cooperation.
Young Israel Congregation  
Shmooze News  
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**Congregational Family and Shul News**

- Kiddush this week is co-sponsored by: Reuven and Iris Herssein, commemorating the yahrtzeit (on the 4th day of Tishrei), of Iris’ father, Shmuel Ben Allegra z”l; and by Shelly and Miriam Lisbon, commemorating the yahrtzeit (on the 7th day of Tishrei), of Shelly’s mother, Chaya Sarah Rochel Bas Chaim Yosef Shlomo z”l.

**Building Fund**

- Important! Please try and remit your building fund pledge commitments at your earliest opportunity. Thank you.

**Youth Program**

- Father and Child learning this week during a special Seudah Shlishis upstairs. There will be learning, ice cream, and prizes!!!
- All youth can once again turn in their tickets they received for their wonderful participation for great prizes!
- High School teens are invited to Learning and Frozen Yogurt every Wednesday night. Please contact Rabbi Fried for timing and location details.
- The Youth Department has been busy preparing for our special High Holiday program with some new and exceptionally great educational and fun activities! Please see separate flyer for details.

**Dinner at our Sukkah**

- 1st night of Sukkot, Sunday October 16th
- 2nd night of Sukkot, Monday October 17th
- Shabbos Chol Hamoed, Friday October 21st
Member: $75 per Person, Non-Member $85 per Person, Child: $36
Please rsvp to the Shul’s office, 305 866-0203 or Yakira @yicbh.org

**Sukkot Club**

We are once again asking all those interested, to contribute $100 per family to the Sukkot Club, with the additional excitement of this being our first year in our new building Succah.

Over Sukkot, the names of all contributors will be included in our Shmooze News and announced in shul.

**Upcoming Classes/Events**

- Special Aseres Ymei Teshuva women’s class will be at the home of Gloria Sterental in memory of Paul Sterental z”l, on Sunday, October 9th at 8:00PM. The location is 1361 97th Street, Bay Harbor Islands.
- Ladies Tehillim group will meet on Monday at 10:30AM at the Young Israel.

If you are interested in sponsoring Kiddush or Seuda Shlishis, please contact Stuart Harris or Yakira at (305) 866-0203.
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New Mailing Address: 9580 Abbott Avenue, Surfside, FL 33154
P.O. Box 545985, Surfside, FL 33154-5985

Shabbos/Holiday Schedule: To view the schedule, please go to our website, www.yicbh.org
and click on Holidays/Shabbos Info.

Email Addresses: To contact Rabbi, Office, Youth Director or Gabbaim, please email
Rabbi@yicbh.org; yakira@yicbh.org; Rabbifried@yicbh.org; gabbai@yicbh.org

We now have photo gallery available online. Please go to www.yicbh.org and click photo
gallery on the left bar. Enjoy!

The Young Israel Congregation of Bal Harbour has an extensive Torah Library both in Hebrew
and English. Our English Torah lending Library is located in the conference room and will be
open Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-5:00PM. The Torah library has been made possible through the
generous sponsorship of Andrew and Basya Lowinger in memory of Maurice Lowinger z”l
משה בן בן-
ציון הלוי ז"ל

We can now accept on-line donations via our shul website directly through PayPal.
Please use this link http://www.yicbh.org/payment.php, or first go the website,
www.yicbh.org, and click on Membership & Donation and press Donate.
Please note it is very important you indicate in the “Payment Notes” the specific donation
that is being paid for (membership, kiddush, aliyah, etc.).

We ask everyone's cooperation and understanding in not leaving personal handbags or
knapsacks unattended anywhere in our synagogue building.

Search for Young Israel of Bal Harbour

Please submit all insertions for the Shmooze News to
yakira@yicbh.org by noon on Thursday.