

The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center

6701 Old Pimlico Road

Baltimore, MD 21209

410-486-2666

www.chabadshul.org



December 24, 2022

Miketz – Rosh Chodesh Tevet

30 Kislev 5783

When All Else Fails, Pray!

Famine stalked the land. The sons of Jacob had traveled in desperation to Egypt in a quest to buy food. There, their long lost brother Joseph, masquerading as an Egyptian nobleman, staged an elaborate charade, accused the brothers of spying, threatened their lives and liberty, took one brother hostage and sent the others home to Canaan to locate proofs of their bona fides.

They returned to their father's home chastened and in a much worried mood. The second most powerful man in the world had accused them falsely, treated them harshly, and imprisoned their sibling. Even worse, they had no choice but to return.

Joseph had made it very clear that any chance they had to be allowed to purchase further stocks of food was predicated on their speedy return, accompanied, this time, by their youngest brother, Benjamin.

Jacob was understandably displeased. At his advanced age who needs the *tzoris*? Would he be able to cope with the threatened loss of yet another son?

Like Jewish parents throughout history he prepared to respond to the threat. He huddled with his sons to discuss strategy, prepared an expensive bribe, and only then offered to pray on his sons' behalf.

Help Yourself

Believers are often accused of forsaking all personal initiative in their passive acceptance of the vicissitudes of fate. Nothing could be further from the truth. Prayer, as a weapon, is available only to those who simultaneously engage themselves in overcoming all natural impediments. Only a fool sits back with folded hands while all hell breaks loose around him. A man of faith might rely on G-d, but he also believes that G-d helps those who help themselves.

The Maccabees, at the time of the Chanukah campaign, were convinced of the capacity of G-d to save, and entrusted their fate into His hands. Simultaneously, however, they armed themselves for conflict, initiated guerilla tactics and created a military channel for G-d's miraculous deliverance.

Jacob too trusted in G-d. He was prepared to pray to G-d to ensure his sons' safe homecoming but knew that his initial responsibility was to do all within his power to arrange the circumstances of G-d's deliverance.

To sit and wait for the wheels of inertia to grind one down is laziness, not loyalty to G-d. Conversely, only a believer can truly dedicate himself to the task at hand, convinced of the inevitability of his efforts; as part of the Divine plan.

שנת הקהל

Hakhel Monthly Gatherings For Women

THE SOUL TALKS TORAH
SING THE SONG OF YOUR SOUL
SOUL STRINGS THROUGH A STORYLINE

Awaken the soul

HOSTED BY REBBETZEN ROCHEL KAPLAN

ALL JEWISH WOMEN ARE INVITED
SPONSORSHIPS WELCOMED
CALL TO RESERVE
CHABAD IN PIKESVILLE MD ▪ 443-220-9124
CHABADPIKESVILLE@GMAIL.COM

TUESDAY 2023
JAN 24 ▪ FEB 21 ▪ MARCH 21
APRIL 18 ▪ MAY 23 ▪ JUNE 20
8:00 PM
LIGHT FARE ▪ NO CHARGE

Yahrzeits This Week:

Chaim Kahn	1 Teves – Saturday night / Sunday	for father	HoRav Nachman ben R' Meir
Deborah Eisenberg	1 Teves - Saturday night / Sunday	for mother	Sheva bas HoRav Chaim Elazar
Rebetzin Rochel Kaplan	3 Teves – Monday night / Tuesday	for father	HoRav Peretz ben Yehoshuah

Kol Hanaarim- Father and Son Learning – every Friday evening during the winter at 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. in The Shul. Cholent and other refreshments are served. Each session is 'topped off' at the end with a fascinating story. For any questions, please see Rabbi Itzkowitz.

DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE

Friday, 12/23 – 29 Kislev

Shacharit – 6:45 a.m.
6th Candle-before 4:29 p.m.
Shabbat Candles - 4:30 p.m.
Minchah- Ma'ariv - 4:30 p.m.

Shabbat, 12/24-30 Kislev, Rosh Chodesh Teves

Shacharit – 9:00 a.m.
Sof Z'man Kriat Shema – 9:45 a.m.
Minchah – 4:20 p.m.
Shiur: – after Minchah
Ma'ariv – 5:33 p.m. - 7th Candle after Ma'ariv

Sunday, 12/25 – 1 Teves - Rosh Chodesh Teves

Shacharit – 8:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 4:35 p.m. – 8th Candle

Monday, 12/26 – 2 Teves – Zos Chanukah

Shacharit – 8:00 a.m. (Federal Holiday)
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 4:35 p.m.

Tuesday, 12/27 – 3 Teves

Shacharit – 7 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 4:35 p.m.

Wednesday, 12/28 – 4 Teves

Shacharit – 7 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 4:35 p.m.

Thursday, 12/29 – 5 Teves

Shacharit – 6:50 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 4:35 p.m.

Friday, 12/30 – 6 Teves

Shacharit – 7:00 a.m.
Shabbat Candles – 4:34 p.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 4:35 p.m.