

KOL MEVASSER

Hanukkah Dreams

by Rabbi Hagay Batzri

Hannuka, which begins on the eve of the 25th day of Kislev, is always paired with two Torah portions: Vayeshev and Miketz. Every year, on the Shabbatot around Hanukkah, we read about Joseph's dreams and about his skill in interpreting dreams. Why does this occur?

Why, around Hannuka time, do we focus on dreams? What power resides in dreams? How do they relate to Hanukkah?

For many people, dreams are forgettable. But as Joseph's experiences with dreams revealed, small things can have huge consequences. To give just one example, Pharaoh's dreams and Joseph's interpretation saved thousands from starvation and led to the Jewish people's sojourn in Egypt.

Similarly, Hannuka reminds us of the power of the small, of the seemingly insignificant. At the time of Mattityahu and Yehuda HaMaccabee we are told that the great Jewish nation had shrunk to a handful of people. Only two Jewish families had resisted Greek assimilation—two families in all of Israel. But these families and their efforts lead to the recapture of Jerusalem and the preservation of Judaism.

The success of a few Maccabees in the face of the mighty Greeks, the significance of a few small dreams in Joseph's time, should give us hope and encourage us. Each of us should keep searching for the truth. Each of us should spread the Torah's light. Each of us is significant, because a lot can come from the few and the small.

Like olive oil in the menorah, the Jewish people pop up; we arise, overcoming adversity, and, thank G-d, float back to the top. We need to hold onto the light of Judaism and connect ourselves to it. Then, with G-d's help, we'll light the Menorah in the Bet Hamikdash. Shabbat Shalom



KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, December 16, 2011

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Minhah/Arbith	4:30 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	4:27 pm

Shabbat Vayeshev

Saturday, December 17, 2011

Shabbat Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	8:30 am
Guest Speaker: Ron Levy, MS LMFT on "Living Your Best Life" ... during services & Kiddush	
Tehillim Women's Reading	after kiddush
Shabbat Minhah, Seudah, Arbit.....	4:00 pm
Seudah Honoring Maurice Zekaria, z"l.	4:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah.....	5:29 pm

Weekdays

Sunday, December 18, 2011

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	7:30 am
Sisterhood Children's Hannuka Party	11:00 am

Monday to Friday, December 19 to 23, 2011

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
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Hanukkah, First to Third Nights

Tuesday to Thursday, December 20-22

Hannukah Candle Lighting	just after dark
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Erev Shabbat & Hanukkah, Fourth Night

Friday, December 23, 2011

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Hanukkah Candle Lighting.....	before Shabbat candles
Shabbat Candle Lighting	4:30 pm
Minhah/Arbith	4:30 pm

Congratulations

Lisa & Brian Joyce
on the birth of a boy

Mazal Tov
to the grandparents
Yvette & Joseph Dabby
Karen & John Joyce

Congratulations

Denise & Hooman
Farahmand
on the birth of a boy

Mazal Tov
to the grandparents
Hilda & Tooraj Rojhani
Elizabeth & Darius Farahmand

Welcome

Ron Levy, MS LMFT
our Shabbat Guest Speaker
who will be speaking on the topic
of "Living Your Best Life"

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored by
Desiree Aghalar

in honor of
the birthday of her father
Tooraj Yaacov Aghalar
Happy Birthday!

Seudah Shlisheet

is sponsored in memory of
Maurice Zekaria, z"l
on the 11th Month of his passing

by
The Zekaria Family
The community is invited to join them
for a seudah in his memory.



**Kahal Joseph
Children's Choir**
Starting January 2012
Sundays, 11 am to 12 noon

*Calling all KJ kids ages 6 to 12! Learn Jewish
songs and prayers in our Sephardic tradition
with Rabbi Batzri. For information, contact
Louise Elias at louisendme@yahoo.com*

In Memoriam

We remember the following *yahrzeits*, the annual anniversary of passings, for the week of December 17th to 24th, 2011. It is customary to light a memorial candle and donate *tzedakah*. Family members are encouraged to attend prayer services in honor of loved ones on the Shabbat preceding the *yahrzeit*. To update information call 310.474.0559.

22 Kislev / Sunday, December 18

Joseph Israel *Yosef ben Rabbia*
Earl H. Klein *Eliyahu Michael ben Yaakov*
Ezekiel Isaac Raymond *Yehezkiel ben Mulla Rahamim*
Meir Sawdayi *Meir ben Shaul*

23 Kislev / Monday, December 19

Joseph Azar *Yoseph Sion ben Yaacob*
Gorjeh Youssefzadeh

24 Kislev / Tuesday, December 20

Regina David *Regina bat Salha Matana*
Lily Jacob *Leah bat Masooda*
Joseph Yaacov *Yossef Hayim Yaacov*

25 Kislev / Wednesday, December 21

Ezra Abraham *Ezra ben Rahma*
Rachel Moses *Rahel bat Hannah*

26 Kislev / Thursday, December 22

Dan Darwish *Daniel ben Rahamim*
Sassoon Jacob Jonah *Sassoon ben Yaacov*
Yitzhak Sinder *Yitzhak ben Shimon*

27 Kislev / Friday, December 23

Yoseph Rahamim ben Yaacov Shalom

28 Kislev / Shabbat, December 24

Joseph Jacob *Yosef ben Avraham Hayim*
Habeeba bat Aziza

Sponsor a KJ Kiddush or Seudah

Honor a member of your family or celebrate a joyous occasion by sponsoring a kiddush at Kahal Joseph. Call Sarah in the KJ office, Monday through Friday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm to find out more at 310.474.0559.