

KOL MEVASSER

Give, Give, Give

By Rabbi Hagay Batzri

It looks as though, during the month of Adar, we are surrounded with the message of giving.

Last Shabbat, just before Adar starts, we read a special section called "Shekalim" from a second Sefer Torah. This special reading told us of the mitzvah of the half shekel or "Mahatzit Hashekel."

When the Jewish people built the Mishkan (the Holy Tabernacle where the tablets of the Ten Commandments were kept, pictured above), each person donated one half shekel to the project. Last week's Torah reading reminded each of us of our on-going responsibility to donate to the community and to support the synagogue.

The name of our parasha this week is "Terumah" which can be defined as "contribution, donation, gift, offering, or endowment." The name continues the theme of giving. Then, ten days later, Purim occurs in the middle of Adar.

We fulfill one of the basic mitzvot of Purim by giving charity to the poor. In fact, unlike other times of the year, when we seek the most effective and anonymous means to donate, on Purim the custom is to give charity to anyone who asks. We give without checking whether the person "really" needs the assistance. And the mitzvot of Mishloah Manot, also known as the Purim gift baskets, and of Seudat Purim, the Purim meal, are also related to giving.

Why is this message of giving so dominant during the month of Adar?

We know the famous halacha that says, "From the moment the month of Adar begins, we increase our joy," or in Hebrew: "mishenichnas addar marbin besimcha." The saying is so well-known it has even become a song. During the month of Adar, rejoicing abounds. Adar is associated with the happiest times for the Jewish nation throughout history.

So, again, what does joy have to do with giving? Well, there is a very powerful message here.

If we want stable, enduring joy; if we want to be happy deep in our heart, to find a happiness that stays with us every day, the kind of happiness that no one and nothing in the future can take away, there is only one way: giving. Nothing else but the act of giving, an act of taking something away from ourselves for the sake of someone else, increases our happiness in this way. Whatever we give, whether it is time, talent, money, kindness, or something else; whatever we give without getting benefit from our gift, increases our happiness and becomes infinite and endless.

This is a spiritual rule that works in the opposite way from physical reality. In fact, from a spiritual perspective, what we keep is what we lose. What we give away is all we really have, in the end. So, give, give, give!

Shabbat Shalom

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, February 24, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shabbat Candle Lighting	5:26 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:30 pm

Shabbat Mishpatim

Saturday, February 25, 2012

Shabbat Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	8:30 am
Tehillim Women's Reading	12:15 pm
Shabbat Minhah, Seudah, Arbit.....	5:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah.....	6:06 pm

Weekdays

Sunday, February 26, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	7:30 am
KJ Youth Choir Rehearsal	11:00 am

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

Women's Tehillim Group	10:15 am
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Monday to Friday, Feb. 27 to March 2, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
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Erev Shabbat / Parashat Zachor

Friday, March 2, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shabbat Candle Lighting	5:32 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:30 pm

WEEKLY TORAH PORTION

- Parashat *Terumah* 326-336
- Haftara 336-338

Shabbat Song: Smach Beni

Performed by Rabbi Batzri on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmqJatyFZH8>

Translated & transliterated by Dafna Ezran

Be Happy, My Son, With Your Share

Be happy, my son, with your share. Don't even grasp at what's yours. Joy will give you life. The world is before you.

You are walking with your legs. You are swinging your arms. Eyes are looking at you. Your heart is beating inside of you. Joy will give you life. The world is before you.

Who is wealthy and who is happy? He who is a guest in this world. Not with valor and not with force will worldly possessions be yours. Joy will give you life. The world is before you.

Look and cast your eyes about. Who gave you everything? Even the sons at your table? If you only give thanks to He who created you, then you will always have [enough]. Joy will give you life. The world is before you.

Events at KJ

Women's Tehillim Group
Shabbat Day at 12:15 pm
Wednesdays at 10:15 am

Kahal Joseph Youth Choir Rehearsal
Sundays at 11:00 am

KJ Talmud Torah: Afterschool Program
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4:00 to 6:00 pm

Flavours of India Cookbook Fundraiser
\$25 per copy, Call Sarah at 310.474.0559

Special Events

Purim Baking for KJ Gift Baskets
Sunday, March 4th starting at 10 am

KJ Purim Carnival
Sunday, March 11th, 11 am to 4 pm

לחן: אבא ואשתא לזודיכא

מלים: ר' יצחק טובה הי"ד

שְׂמַח בְּנֵי בְּחֶלְקֶךָ. לֹא תִקַּח בָּם אֶת שְׂקֶיךָ.
הַשְׂמֵנָה תַתִּיד. הָעוֹלָם לְפָנֶיךָ:

הוֹלֵךְ בְּרַגְלֶיךָ. כּוֹנֵנֵנִי יְדִיד. עֵינַיִם צוֹפִים לְךָ. הַלֵּב פּוֹעֵם בְּךָ:

הַשְׂמֵנָה תַתִּיד. הָעוֹלָם לְפָנֶיךָ

מִי עֹשֵׂה וְכוּי שְׂמֵחַ. בְּעוֹלָם הָיָה אֹרֶחַ. לֹא בְּחֵל וְלֹא בְּכֹחַ:

הַשְׂמֵנָה תַתִּיד. הָעוֹלָם לְפָנֶיךָ:

הַבָּט וְשֵׂא עֵינֶיךָ. מִי יִצְנֵן בְּלֹא אֵלָה לְךָ. בָּנִים לְשִׁלְחָנְךָ. אִם

תִּתֶּנָּה רַק לְבוֹרְאֶךָ. בְּן תַּמִּיד יִתֶּנָּה לְךָ:

הַשְׂמֵנָה תַתִּיד. הָעוֹלָם לְפָנֶיךָ

Smakh bni b'khelkekha. Lo tikakh gam et shelkha.
Hasimkha tekhayekha. Ha'olam le'fanekha:

Holekh b'raglekha. Mena'ne-ah yedekha. Enayim
tzofim lekha. Ha'lev po-em bekha:
Hasimkha tekhayekha. Ha'olam le'fanekha:

Mi ashir u'mi same-akh. Ba'olam hazeh ore-akh.
Lo b'khayil v'lo b'ko-akh. Ha'mamon yihyeh lekha:
Hasimkha tekhayekha. Ha'olam le'fanekha:

Habet v'sa enekha. Mi natan kol eleh lekha. Gam
banim l'shulkhanekha. Im todeh rak l'vorekha. Ken
tamid yihyeh lekha: Hasimkha tekhayekha.
Ha'olam le'fanekha:

Rabbi Batzri's Hotline



Plan Your Next Shabbat Dinner ...

Discuss your Jewish home and learn the secrets that create a Jewish environment. Rabbi Batzri offers explanations of our halakhot and Jewish matters for young families and the entire family. Call him directly at 310-717-8707 or write him at hbatzri@gmail.com. *Now, let's set your table ...*

In Memoriam

We remember the following yahrzeits, the annual anniversary of passings, for the week of February 25th to March 3, 2012. 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.

2 Adar / Shabbat, February 25

Yoseph Avrahamy *Yoseph ben Abraham*
Farang Jahanbani *Farang Jahanbani*
Herschel Tzvi Sarne *Herschel Tzvi Sarne*
Abraham Shalom *Avraham Shalom ben Shaul Sopher*

4 Adar / Monday, February 27

Simy Bensabat *Simy bat Mesody*
Baacker Jalali *Baacker ben Avraham*

5 Adar / Tuesday, February 28

Leah bat Mozli

6 Adar / Wednesday, February 29

Molly Jonah *Mazeltov bat Sara*

7 Adar / Thursday, March 1

Farha Atraghji *Farha bat Hanina*

8 Adar / Friday, March 2

Abraham Avrahamy *Avraham ben Yosef*
Jacob Benjamin Elias *Yaacov Binyamin*
David Kay *David ben Yaacov Yehuda Yehezkel*
Isaac Jacob Jonah *Itzhak ben Yaacov*
Abraham Naji Joseph *Abraham Shalom Naji ben Itzhak Yoseph*
Jacques Litvac *Yoachim David ben Micha HaCohen*

9 Adar / Shabbat, March 3

Irena Stoler *Irena Stoler*
Victoria Levy *Victoria bat Hanina*

Refuah Shlemah

Gerry Shapiro
Eliezer Saltoon

Kol Mevasser

Rabbi Hagay Batzri
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