

# MESIVTA'S MESSAGE

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## FEATURED TORAH *Message*

Rabbi Moshe Chaim Biron

We now find ourselves halfway between Pesach and Shavuot, every night counting העומר. There is a question that is asked by many ראשונים - why do we not say שהחיינו on the מצוה of העומר? We generally make a שהחיינו upon the first time doing a מצוה that season. Among the many answers given is an answer given by the רידב"ז that we do not say שהחיינו on a מצוה that is a הכנה for another מצוה. He explains that ספירת העומר is a הכנה for another מצוה. He explains that ספירת העומר is a הכנה for another מצוה like the פסוק says שבועה שבועות תספור. "לך מהחל חרמש הקמה... ועשית חג שבועות לה' אלוהיך". When you make the ברכה of שהחיינו it counts for both ספירת העומר and שבועות. In the words of the מהר"ל, we don't make a שהחיינו because it is a הכנה מצוה and the מצוה culminates on שבועות which is when we recite שהחיינו. But how does counting these days prepare us for קבלת התורה?

The ספר החינוך explains that the idea of counting ספירת העומר is in order for us to show how excited we are, how much desire we have, and how we love the תורה so much that we can't wait until we get the תורה. We have to use this time of counting each day to make ourselves

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## THOUGHTS *on the* PARSHA

Ezra Koenig, 10th grade

This week's parsha starts by saying אמור אל הכהנים בני אהרן ואמרת אלהם לנפש לא יטמא בעמיו. Why does the Torah repeat itself and say אמור ואמרת?

Rashi in Yevamos says that the reason it says אמור ואמרת is to teach the כהנים that not only should they not become טמא, but also that they should teach their children not to become טמא.

This week, Rabbi Yaakov Bender spoke at yeshiva. He quoted Rabbi Yaakov Weinberg who asked an interesting question on this. Through אמור ואמרת, the Torah is teaching us to be מחנך our children. Why did the Torah specifically use this mitzvah that כהנים should be careful not to become טמא as an example of something to tell to their children? Why not use other significant mitzvos, like שבת?

He answered by saying that the כהנים are special right from when they are born, in that they are taught not to become טמא and to be more dignified than the rest of the nation. Just as the כהנים teach their children to be dignified, to stay away from becoming טמא, and to be different than everyone else, so too all of us should

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## SPARKS *of* MUSSAR

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The story is told in Mussar circles that at a convention of German University deans to discuss curricula, a professor rose and said, "There is one area of knowledge that is studied in only one institution in the world, in a small Russian town named Kelm. That subject is correcting man's character traits."

A baron was among the supporters of the Beis HaTalmud founded by R' Simcha Zissel in Grobin. At a party he threw for his friends, the baron began to boast of the wonderful educational institution he supported, and invited his guests to visit it. The other noblemen accepted, and immediately got

into their elegant carriages drawn by teams of horses and drove off.

The rattling of the carriages and the snorting and stamping of the horses as they pulled up made a thunderous noise at the gates of Beis HaTalmud. But not one of the talmidim, who were welcoming the Sabbath with prayer, turned his head to look.

## THOUGHTS *on the* PARSHA continued

into a more fitting receptacle for קבלת התורה by the time we reach שבועות.

We should all be zoche to use this tremendous opportunity to prepare ourselves properly and keep on growing in our תורה and יראת שמים.

## FEATURED TORAH *Message* continued

educate our children that in this world, we should stay separate, more dignified, and to stay away from the טומאה that is all around us every day.

ואמרת ואמור. As we go through life we should tell our children to be the best they can be, to be holy, to be dignified, to stay away from the טומאה in the world, and with all of that, may we all be זוכה to see משיח במהרה בימינו.

# MAZEL TOV

- Rabbi & Mrs. Efraim Fromowitz on the birth of a son!

## RECENT *Happenings*

### Zecharia Dimbert, 12th grade

As we return from Pesach break, the Runnergize program has officially started! This program encourages students to train for distance running with two weekly workouts which are longer distances each week. Talmidim who participate are connected to the Runnergize coach, Meir Kaniel (Coach K.) Many students are on pace to complete a 10K run by the end of the program on June 9.

In other news, this week marked the final two AP tests at MTI. This spring, students have taken tests in human geography, English literature, calculus (AB and BC,) and computer science. May they all score well! With tests on our minds - a reminder to all talmidim that finals and the end of the year are just around the corner. Don't forget to study, get all your work in, and have a great summer!

17TH ANNUAL DINNER

Inaugurating the LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY Initiative

Honoring MR & MRS DANIEL & CHAYA MANNE

In Memory of MR JOEL FINK

Establishing the Fink & Shanker Scholarship Fund

Sunday Evening | June 9, 2024

AT THE YESHIVA CAMPUS  
1809 CLARKSON ROAD | CHESTERFIELD, MISSOURI  
5:45 HORS D'OEUVRES | 6:45 DINNER

Dinner Chairmen  
Charles Deutsch / Craig Reiss / Jonathan Spetner

TO MAKE A RESERVATION OR PLACE AN AD IN THE JOURNAL  
[www.missouritorah.org/dinner](http://www.missouritorah.org/dinner) 6367781896x100 | [dinner@missouritorah.org](mailto:dinner@missouritorah.org)

## THIS MONTH'S WOMEN'S MUSSAR CLASSES WITH MRS. TOBY GOLDMAN

Sunday Evenings 8:00 PM on zoom | May 26, June 2, 16, 23, 30

Tuesday Evenings 8:15 PM at the home of Mrs. Susie Rosenblum | May 21, 28, June 4, 18 | Zoom available

Zoom ID 525 786 3657 Phone call-in option 646.558.8656

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