

1st Seder Weekly Divrei Torah

A BAIS MEDRASH PROGRAM FOR MEN

FIRST SEDER BAIS MEDRASH established in 2012 by Rabbi Uri Greenspan, provides a unique learning program for men with diverse schedules, ages, and backgrounds. Since its inception, the daily learning programs of Gemara, Mishnayos, Tanach, Halacha, and Jewish ethics, have provided hundreds of First Seder participants with a rich, challenging, and authentic Bais Medrash experience. The wide range of subjects and the varying levels of difficulty allow for the participants to choose which learning track best fits their individual needs, enabling them to truly take their learning to the next level.

DAILY SCHEDULE:

9-11:30am: Gemara in-depth and B'Chavrusa

9:10am-1pm: Classroom Learning

Monday 9-9:45pm: Dirshu Mishna Berura Shiur

Tuesday 8:45-9:45pm: Daf HaShovua Gemara Shiur

TO JOIN: Contact Rabbi Uri Greenspan at 732.407.3178

Office@FirstSeder.org, Lower Merion Synagogue

PARSHAS TERUMAH – AN INSEPARABLE BOND

Rabbi Shlomo Caplan

“And you shall insert the *badim* (staves) in the rings on the sides of the Aron (Ark), with which to carry the Aron. The *badim* shall remain in the Aron, they may not be removed from it” (Shemos 25:14,15).

Although the Torah also commanded the insertion of *badim* in the Shulchan and the Mizbe'ach, only in the case of the Aron did the Torah actually forbid the removal of the *badim*. Rav Yaakov Kamenetsky explains the reason for this extraordinary prohibition to remove the *badim*. He notes that the Aron represents Torah and the *badim* which were used to carry it represent those who support Torah. Since one who supports Torah has a share in that Torah and will earn an identical reward in Olam Haba, the Aron and the *badim* are to be viewed as one inseparable unit.

The Meshech Chachma offers yet another explanation for the prohibition to remove the *badim* from the Aron. The Gemara (Sotah 35a) states, “The Aron carries those who carry it.” When Bnai Yisrael crossed the Yardein to enter Eretz Yisrael, the water split so that they could pass through. However when the flow of the river was restored, the Kohanim who were carrying the Aron remained on the other side. Then

the Aron lifted its bearers and transported them across the river. The Gemara goes on to cite the incident in which Uzzah was accompanying the Aron, which had been captured by the Plishtim, as it was being brought back by Dovid Hamelech. When the Aron appeared to be falling off of the wagon, Uzzah reached out to catch it. Hashem was incensed and rebuked Uzzah, “If the Aron can carry those who carry it, certainly it can carry itself!” (See Shmuel II 6:6,7).

Thus the Meshech Chachma asserts that the *badim* must remain with the Aron even when it was not being carried to demonstrate that *badim* do not really carry the Aron. On the contrary, the Aron carries them. The *badim* obviously serve some much more sublime purpose.

If we take both explanations together, we can conclude that while it appears that those who support Torah are holding up the Torah, in reality, the opposite is true. Although their involvement is critical to maintaining Torah study and they have an equal share in it with those who are learning, nevertheless, the Torah is really maintaining them.

The following episode is a case in point. A young Talmid Chacham was

once approached by the representatives of a village in Europe to serve as their Rav. He responded that he was prepared to accept the position but he must seek permission from his father-in-law who is supporting him. His father-in-law replied, “Why should you go? If you do not have enough funds to meet your needs, I will be glad to give you more as long as you remain here.” So the young scholar turned down the offer.

Thereafter, an offer from an even more prestigious community arrived. This time his wife decided to put her foot down. Although her father was more than willing to continue to support them, she spoke up, “How long will you continue to support us? It is time for us to strike out on our own.” To this, her father merely replied, “Who knows who is supporting whom?” After a few weeks of preparations for the big move, the couple set out toward the new position as Rav of a prominent city. Not long after leaving their city limits, a courier caught up with them bearing an urgent message: the young lady's father had passed away. Indeed, who knows who is supporting whom?!

You can bring a zechus refua shelaima for Sandy Bruck - Shalom ben Tila Leah – and for all who need a refuah sheleima by signing up for a weekly erev Shabbos contribution at <https://pay.banquest.com/lightuptheworld> and by joining the 2-3 minute daily shiur on the writings of the Chofetz Chaim.

THE FENDER BENDERS

Questions for discussion at your Shabbos table by Rabbi Yitzi Weiner

Please enjoy another story that deals with the laws of damages. Akiva was driving on his way to work in Israel, and the car behind him was tailgating closely. Suddenly an animal jumped in front of his car, and Akiva had to make a quick shortstop. Seconds later, Akiva felt the car behind him hit the back of his car sharply. Akiva stopped the car and stepped out. The person who hit him ran up to him with a sheepish smile.

"Hi, my name is Eldad. I feel terrible about hitting your car. I see it's a relatively minor fender bender. I'll be honest. I cannot afford to report this to my insurance. But don't worry, I'll take care of everything. I'll take your car and have it fixed by tonight. Just give me the keys, and I'll take care of all the damage, and it will be just like before."

Akiva had a sensitive heart and felt bad for Eldad, so he agreed. They exchanged phone numbers, and Eldad took the car. Eldad, who was in difficult financial straits, wanted to fix the car as cheaply as possible. He knew of an Arab-owned auto body shop that did cheap work, so he brought the car to that shop. Eldad waited while they made the repairs. True to his word, Eldad brought the car back to Akiva that night. "Here you go, as I said, it's as good as new. I'm so happy that we did not have to involve our insurance companies".

The next day Akiva had to make a relatively long journey in his car. He was driving quickly on the highway when the car hit a small bump. Suddenly, he heard a loud noise and watched in horror as the entire back panel of his car detached directly in front of oncoming traffic. The car behind him smashed into the detached piece of his car and slammed on his brakes. The car behind that one slammed into it, and the next car did the same. All in all, the piece that fell off led to a huge six-car pile-up. Luckily no one was severely injured, but there was tremendous financial loss. The police came and gathered everyone's information. Everyone presumed that Akiva would be held responsible for the entire incident.

The next day Akiva called Eldad. "Eldad, please tell me the truth. What exactly did you do when you said you would repair the vehicle?" Eldad replied, "I am on a very tight budget, so I brought it to the cheapest place that I knew," Akiva replied. "Well, it looks like, in your quest to save money, you ended up being liable for a much larger amount. Because of the poor job of the repair person, the entire back of my car fell off, causing a six-car pile-up. You said you would have the car fixed as good as new, but it wasn't. I expect you to take responsibility for all of these damages, not only the damage to my car but to the other six cars as well.

But Eldad disagreed. "Tell me; it seems unusual for the entire back panel of a vehicle to fall off. Were you driving slowly? Maybe you were speeding, or driving recklessly, which led to the piece falling off. That's not my problem." Akiva responded, "Yes, I was driving fast, but if you had fixed it properly, it still would not have fallen off."

This question was brought to R' Zilberstein. Is Eldad liable for all of the damage caused to all six cars because he had not fixed the car 'as good as new'? Or can we say that the damage was so far removed from his action that it was a 'gramah'? Or perhaps he should be exempt because the damage was partially caused by Akiva's speeding? What do you think? See Upiro Matok Page 253

Regarding last week's question about the Kallah chair, Rav Zilberstein wrote that the chair would be considered a "Bor" a pit, and one is exempt in court for damages caused to a "Kli", or clothes. Regarding whether the planner would be liable "Midinei shomayim", Rav Zilberstein writes that first of all the Chazon Ish holds that Bor is exempt for a Kli, even midinei shomayim. And even according to those who argue, in a case where it is not normal for a chassan to sit on such a chair, or if the chair was put to the side in a way that the wedding planner thought that no one would sit on it, then the wedding planner would even be exempt midinei shomayim.

"HOW CAN WE MOVE IN THERE WHEN EVERY DAY THEY WILL SEE ME HAPPILY MARRIED AND THEY ARE STILL SINGLE?"

A number of years ago a recently engaged couple from Bnei Brak were looking to buy an apartment. The apartments they saw were prohibitively expensive. One of the fathers (I am not sure if it was the chosson's father or the kalla's, PD) found a nice apartment and the asking price was within their range. The kallah asked what neighborhood it was in. When he told her, she then asked what the address was. Upon hearing the address she immediately rejected the idea of moving to that apartment. The father asked why she cares so much not to live in that building. The kallah

explained. "I have a friend and her older sister living in that building and both are having difficulty finding their shidduch. How can we move in there when every day they will see me happily married and they are still single."

They agreed to take this question to Reb Chaim Kanievsky zt"l and he said that he cannot answer this question. Instead, he suggested that they go to Reb Aaron Leib Shteinman zt"l. When Rav Aaron Leib heard the question he told them to buy the apartment right away and rent it out to another

family until her friend and her sister get engaged. After that they can move in. He then added that in the zechus of the kallah's sensitivity the two sisters will soon become engaged. They followed his advice and everything worked out as Reb Aaron Leib suggested.


As heard by Rabbi Paysach Diskind from Rabbi Paysach Krohn; Reprinted with permission from Table Talk.

Daf HaShavua Chabura is learning Kesubos Daf TQ

Have you joined the new Mussar shiur? We are learning the sefer "Pele Yoetz". Please contact Rabbi Greenspan to join the daily 5 minute shiur.

To sponsor the 1st Seder Weekly, please contact office@firstseder.org. For more information or to register for First Seder, contact RabbiGreenspan@FirstSeder.org or 732-407-3178.

First Seder Weekly Schedule

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Morning Track 1: Shiurim					
9:20 AM – 9:55 AM	Mishnayos Tohoros <i>(R' Chesky Weiss)</i>	Mishnayos Tohoros <i>(R' Chesky Weiss)</i>	Mishnayos Tohoros <i>(R' Chesky Weiss)</i>	Mishnayos Tohoros <i>(R' Chesky Weiss)</i>	Parsha HaShevua <i>(R' Yehoshua Levy)</i>
10:00 AM – 10:40 AM	Gemara Gittin <i>(R' Daniel Baltuch)</i>	Gemara Gittin <i>(R' Daniel Baltuch)</i>	Gemara Gittin <i>(R' Daniel Baltuch)</i>	Gemara Gittin <i>(R' Daniel Baltuch)</i>	Gemara Gittin <i>(R' Daniel Baltuch)</i>
10:45 AM – 11:25 AM	Dirshu Mishna Berurah + 5 minutes of Mussar <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	Dirshu Mishna Berurah + 5 minutes of Mussar <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	Dirshu Mishna Berurah + 5 minutes of Mussar <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	Dirshu Mishna Berurah + 5 minutes of Mussar <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	Dirshu Mishna Berurah + 5 minutes of Mussar <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>
11:30 AM – 12:10 PM	Practical Timely Halacha <i>(R' Mordechai Shain)</i>	The Life and Torah of our Leaders <i>(R' David Gross)</i>	Biur Tefilla <i>(R' Yoel Zeffren)</i>	Sefer Tehillim <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	Shemiras Haloshon from the Chofetz Chaim/Hashkafa - Parsha <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>
12:15 PM – 1:00 PM	Shemiras Haloshon from the Chofetz Chaim/Hashkafa - Parsha <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	Shemiras Haloshon from the Chofetz Chaim/Hashkafa - Parsha <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	Shemiras Haloshon from the Chofetz Chaim/Hashkafa - Parsha <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	Shemiras Haloshon from the Chofetz Chaim/Hashkafa - Parsha <i>(R' Uri Greenspan)</i>	

Maharal Shiur will meet this Motzai Shabbos 9 PM at the Fox Residence, 329 Linden Lane

Sifrai Chofetz Chaim

Shemiras Haloshon from the Chofetz Chaim - Have you joined the daily shiur? You can listen via WhatsApp, podcast or online! You can also listen to archived shiurim from the Sefarim of the Chofetz Chaim of Ahavas Yisroel, Kavod Shamayim, Sfas Tamim, Zechor L'Miriam.

Good Shabbos