



Camp Shalom Shmooze

July 5, 2019
Parshas Korach



Rabbi Gold's Parsha Corner

For the entire assembly - all of them - are holy and Hashem is among them. Why do you exalt yourselves over the Congregation of Hashem? (16:3)

Every person has a unique contribution to make in this world. Only they can complete their task. It is, thus, vital for each of us to figure out who we are and where we fit into the grand scheme of things. Hamakir es mekomo; "Know your place" (Pirkei Avos) means to realistically evaluate your strengths and weaknesses and then decide what you are best suited for. We can't allow personal arrogance or low self-esteem to control our life. We must be who we are, so that we can be who we are destined to be. A visionary sees the future based upon who they currently are. Too many people allow other peoples' opinions to shape their self-definition. This was one of Korach's problems. He and his followers were myopic in their personal vision, refusing to acknowledge that Klal Yisrael is comprised of classes of Jews: Kohen, Levi, Yisrael.

Horav Shimshon Pincus, zl, explains that when a person self-evaluates and realizes who they really are, they will focus on the purpose in life best-suited for them. They will examine their mind, skills, talent and come to the realization that they have no reason to envy others. Every person is endowed with Hashem's specific gifts to achieve their goals. Envy is the consequence of a distorted perspective of oneself. The result is that one becomes jealous of their fellow who is endowed with unique talents, because they have a different mission in life. When one executes what their mission from Hashem is, they succeed. When one wants to be someone else, because they are dissatisfied with their personal position, they become miserable. Korach was not Moshe Rabbeinu, and, thus, not cut out to lead the nation. It was as simple as that. Unfortunately, Korach did not see it that way. He first became frustrated, then angry, which led to his rebellion and eventual downfall. If he would have first looked inward at himself before looking outward at Moshe, the end of the story would have been so different. May we all be Zoche to identify our mission in life, and succeed with it!

Reminders

- Please remember to send your child with a **refillable water bottle**, **sunscreen** and **snacks** every day. The children work up an appetite with their daily activities and get hungry. Only the Rishon children are provided with snack from the camp.
- **We are a nut and seed free camp.**
- All clothing should be labeled clearly with your child's name.

Important Dates:

- July 8: Around the World Dress Up Day
- July 8: Machane Travel Trip to Monster Mini Golf
- July 8: Shlishi Travel trip to Gym Pros
- July 9: Amazing Race Theme Day
- July 10: Wacky Wednesday Dress Up Day
- July 10: Machane Travel Trip to Dave & Busters
- July 11: Rishon, Sarah, & Rivka Trip to Bounce U
- July 11: Rochel, Oh!, & Shlishi Travel Trip To Rye Playland



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PARSHA Q & A

1. What is the name of this week's parsha?

Korach

2. Who was Korach?

Korach was a man from shevet Levi and a cousin of Moshe and Aharon

3. Why was Korach upset?

He was jealous of Moshe and Aharon who had higher positions than him

4. What did Korach do?

He got together a group of people to go against Moshe and Aharon

5. Who joined with Korach?

Dasan and Aviram and 250 men from shevet Reuven

6. Who else joined with them?

On ben Peles from shevet Reuven

7. Why did he leave the group?

On's wife explained to him that whether Moshe wins or Korach wins, he won't be the leader, so he is better off just staying with Moshe.

8. What was the test to see who Hashem chooses to be the Kohen Gadol?

Aharon would bring pans of ketores spices and Korach and his followers would also bring ketores. The one whose spices go up to Hashem is the one who He chooses to be the Kohen Gadol.

9. How did Hashem punish Korach and his followers?

The ground opened up and swallowed everyone and their possessions

10. What does the punishment of Korach teach us?

How easy it is that jealousy can lead to machlokes and how much Hashem dislikes machlokes

11. What are some of the gifts that the kohanim receive?

Money from a pidyon haben

Getting a tenth of a Levi's produce from Eretz Yisrael as maaser

They receive parts from the korbanos

12. What are some of the gifts that the leviim receive?

Getting a tenth of our produce from Eretz Yisrael as maaser