

דבר תורה

The Torah is not written in the order in which events happened, and this week's parashah jumps to the end of the Jews' forty years in the desert, the 38th year, to be exact. We begin by learning about a special mitzvah that enables a Jew who is tameh--impure-- to become pure again and thus be allowed in the Mishkan. This is the commandment of the parah adumah, the red cow. If someone becomes impure because of contact with a dead body, the ashes of the parah adumah, together with cedar wood, a branch of hyssop, and wool, can purify him.

When the People of Israel arrived in the desert of Zin, Miriam passed away, and the well of water that they had always had in her merit dried up. So the people had no water and complained to Moshe. Hashem told Moshe to talk to the rock and tell it to bring forth water. But Moshe instead hit the rock with his stick, and water gushed out. Hashem then told Moshe that because he did not follow his instructions exactly, he would not be able to go into the Land of Israel.

The Jews wanted to continue traveling towards Israel, so they sent messengers to the king of Edom asking him permission to pass through Edom's land, which was next in their route. The king responded that they may not travel through his land, and if they try to, he will come and kill everybody. The Jews said that they would not take any food or drink any water, they would just walk on the road so they could get to the other side, but the king still said absolutely not. So the Jews had to take a longer route to get around the land of Edom.

Hashem told Moshe to take Aaron and his son Elazar up a mountain called Mount Hor. There, Moshe took Aaron's clothing and put it on Elazar, and Aaron lay down and passed away. When the Jews saw Moshe and Elazar come down alone, they realized that Aaron had passed away, and everyone began to weep. They mourned for 30 days.

The extra long journey around the land of Edom discouraged the Jews, and they complained again to Moshe. Poisonous snakes then attacked the camp, and Hashem told Moshe to put up a brass serpent high on a pole. Everyone who had been bitten and then saw Moshe's brass serpent was then healed.

The Jews sing a song of thanks to Hashem for the well that provided them with water in the desert.

Now the Jews reach another land that they have to pass through. So they send a message to Sihon, King of the Amorites, asking for permission to pass through his land. This time, Sihon did not just say no, he actually went out to war against the Jews. They fought back and won, gaining all of his three lands. Then Og, King of Bashan, came out to fight and the Jews won him too and conquered his land.

JOKES



Why couldn't the bicycle find its way home? Because it lost its bearings!

How does a penguin build its house? Igloos it together!

Why did the math book look sad? Because it had too many problems.

RIDDLES:



I'm light as a feather, but even the world's strongest man couldn't hold me for more than a few minutes. What am I?

What has a head, a tail, is brown, and has no legs?

I am taken from a mine and shut up in a wooden case, from which I am never released, and yet I am used by almost every person. What am I?

The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?

I am always hungry, I must always be fed. The finger I touch will soon turn red. What am I?

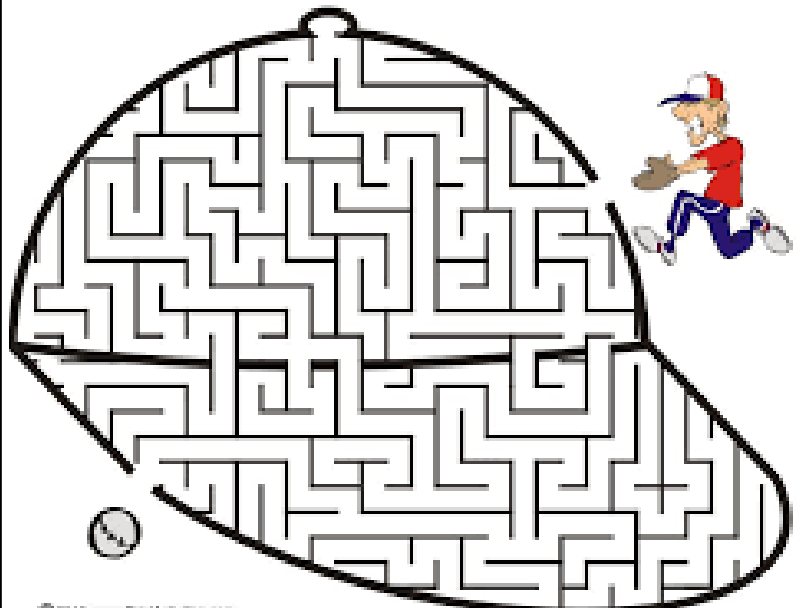
answers next week

FUN FACT



Bananas are berries, but strawberries are not

GAME ZONE



STORY



The Chassidic rebbe, Rabbi Yisroel Dov of Vilednik, was renowned for his compassion and ability to help those in need, even if they were not entirely deserving. One day, a woman sought his help in finding her long-lost husband to assist in marrying off their daughters. Despite recognizing her dishonesty, the Rebbe provided her with money and wise advice to start a business selling baked goods.

Through her newfound venture, the woman encountered a wealthy gentleman who mistakenly left his wallet on her table. In a moment of temptation, she hid the wallet in the snow, hoping to keep it. When the man accused her of theft, the situation escalated, leading to involvement of the police.

The matter was brought before the Rebbe, who, with his miraculous insight, uncovered the truth. The man, who had abandoned his wife and children for nineteen years, was exposed and compelled to provide for his family. The Rebbe emphasized the importance of honesty and integrity, ensuring justice was served and the family could move forward with their lives.

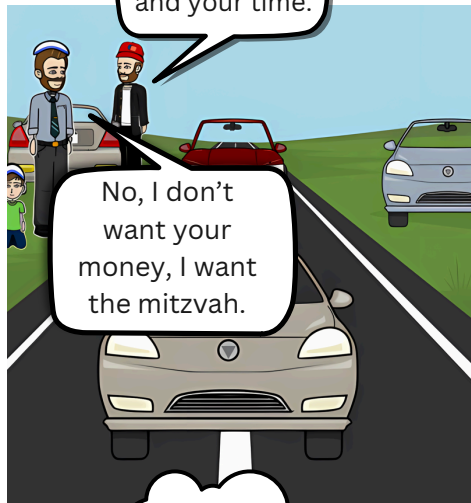
RECAPAP ON THE BEGINNING OF THE STORY

ONE SMALL MITZVA THAT SAVED JEWISH LIVES

As Chaim, Sara, and their kids were driving somewhere, they ran out of gas, and now they're waiting for help.



Once, Chaim asked a question: How can you keep Shabbos without using your phone or watching TV? He answered, "You have to come to my house for Shabbos; then you will understand."



They developed a strong friendship and stayed in touch with each other.



TO BE CONTINUED
ON THE NEXT PAGE

THE MITZVAH THAT SAVED JEWISH LIVES

They are having their meal on simchas Torah



we finished the meal, now its time to sleep.



They walk to there bed room



In the middle of the night, they hear sirens.



They wake up from the noise!



And they ran to the shelter, and locked the door



They stayed in the shelter for a few days until they we're able to go out.



I'm so scared



Thank you, Hashem for keeping us safe.



But, it's still dangerous to go outside



But, the most important thing is that we are safe



Do you know that because of your mitzvah, You saved my family's life. All because of the mitzvah you did.



THE END