

OLAMI MEMBER

EMET OUTREACH

ATERET EMET
Is Back For A Yom Tov Semester

YOM TOV SEMESTER STARTS THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER

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| 9:15 AM LIGHT BREAKFAST | 9:30 AM REBBETZIN AVIVA FEINER, <i>NEW YEAR, NEW YOU</i> (SEPTEMBER 8TH & OCTOBER 6TH) MRS. ESTHER WEIN, <i>JUDAISM: TAKE 2</i> (SEPTEMBER 15TH & 22ND) | 10:30 AM REBBETZIN TEHILA JAEGER YOM TOV INSPIRATION | 11:00 AM BINYAMIN YU HIL YOM |
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OLAMI MEMBER

EMET OUTREACH

EMET GOES TO EUROPE
DISCOVER YOUR JEWISH HERITAGE

Prague *Poland*

10 ENGAGING CLASSES WITH LIGHT DINNER & 2 SHABBATONS
SIGN UP TODAY @ EMETNY.COM

OLAMI MEMBER

EMET OUTREACH

Rebbetzin Devorah Kigel
REVAMPING YOUR MARRIAGE
FOR THE NEW YEAR
Practical Tips From Jewish Wisdom

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH | 8:00 PM

SUSHI AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED FOR WOMEN ONLY
FOR MORE INFORMATION, TEXT 240-291-5705

HARIAN CONGREGATION OF JAMAICA ESTATES:

OLAMI MEMBER

EMET OUTREACH

RIVKAH'S
Helping Hands

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS REJUVENATION
ELEVATING
YOUR ROSH HASHANA TEFILLAH/PRAYERS

REBBETZIN TEHILA JAEGER

THURSDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 12TH | 8:00 PM
ABRAMOV HOME: 184-52 ABERDEEN RD., JAMAICA ESTATES, NY

PARASHAT SHOFETIM

SEPTEMBER 6 2019, 6 ELUL 5779



EMET Matters

A Lesson from Parashat Shoftim: Ensuring a Safe Return

by Rabbi Reuven Kigel, Emet Campus Director

Walking someone out the door of your home is proper etiquette. Taking responsibility to make sure someone gets to their next destination safely is Torah.

When Yosef wanted to let his father Yaakov know that he was indeed alive after all these years of being away from home, in a land full of impurity, he sent his father a cryptic message: a wagon led by a calf. This was a hint that Yosef remembered the last Torah they had learned together, the laws of Eglah Arufah.

At first glance it seems to be little more than a sign that Yosef was indeed alive and well. However, I once heard from Rabbi Eli Mansour, that as we look deeper into it we see that it wasn't merely the objects Yosef was showing to Yaakov, but rather it was the lesson of what they learned

that had stayed with Yosef and sustained him for all these years.

The law in this week's Parsha is that if G-d forbid

someone was found no longer alive and no one knew what had occurred, they determined which town was closest to the corpse. The elders of that town then decapitated a calf as atonement for not having made sure that the person leaving their town had gotten to their destination safely!

Yosef was telling Yaakov, "Abba when you walked me out to go find my brothers, your care and blessings sustained me both physically and spiritually all these years!"

Next time someone leaves your home don't just walk them out the door, rather walk them arbah amot (four steps) in the right direction, shower them with blessings and well wishes, and daven to Hashem that they get to their next destination safely and successfully.



EMET Outreach 185-12 Union Turnpike Fresh Meadows, NY | 718-820-9010 | emetoutreach.org

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Lessons in Halacha *(in accordance with Sefardic custom)*

By Rabbi Binyamin Yuhanan, EMET's Rabbinic Consultant



Laws of the Month of Elul (Sefardic Custom)

Hashem bestowed a great kindness upon his Jewish nation by revealing to us that the Day of Judgment, Rosh Hashanah, is on the First of Tishrei. The other nations of the world are also judged on this day, but since they do not know, they do not prepare themselves accordingly and miss out. The verse states, "Blow the Shofar on the [new] month, on the designated day of our festival. For it is a statute for Israel, a [day of] judgment for the G-d of Yaakov." If one breaks the law and is caught by the police, and the officer takes him immediately in front of a judge to be judged swiftly, the defendant will not be able to cope with the charges against him. If, however, he is informed of the court date in advance and given the chance to seek out and meet with adequate legal counsel and find someone to defend him in court, he will surely have hope to be found innocent.

Similarly, from the day of Rosh Chodesh Elul (Sunday, September 1st), we begin blowing the Shofar and reciting the psalm "LeDavid, HaShem Ori VeYish'i." We recite Selichot prayers for forgiveness from the second day of Elul, in preparation for the Day of Judgment.

On Rosh Hashanah we proclaim, "Today is the world's birthday; today He shall make [everyone] stand for judgment, all creations of the world". Rosh Hashanah is the day we begin to recite "Ha'Melech Ha'Kadosh" and "Ha'Melech Ha'Mishpat" in our prayers until Yom Kippur.

During Elul, we prepare "defending attorneys" before Hashem. One's "defending attorneys" are Torah, Mitzvot, and kind deeds (Talmud). "Charity and acts of kindness are great defenders of Israel before their Father in Heaven" (Tosefta). "One who performs one mitzvah acquires for himself one defending attorney" (Pirke Avot). If the defender is strong, the prosecuting angels will be silenced. As we say in Selichot, "Seal the mouth of Satan so that he may not prosecute us; may a good-speaking adviser stand up for us and speak of our righteousness." This is a tremendous opportunity to allow us to be innocent in the eyes of Hashem, as the verse hints to us: "For who is a great nation that has a God who is close to it, like Hashem our G-d [who is close to us] whenever we call Him."

In the month of Elul, every Jew asks Hashem for forgiveness and mercy, reflects upon his behavior and actions, and corrects negative character traits and misdeeds. We increase our charitable donations and hours of Torah study. It is also customary to check tefillin and mezuzot in Elul.

Selichot should be recited slowly, and with understanding. The best time for Selichot is right after midnight (1am) or prior to dawn (5am). One should not delay morning prayers because of Selichot, or doze off while wearing tefillin, or lose his concentration in prayers, because one woke up extra early. Then he will be losing more than he gains from Selichot. One must add to his service of Hashem in Elul, and not decrease it on account of Selichot.

One who recites Selichot individually or in a group of less than 10 men should not recite the 13 Attributes of Mercy nor the Aramaic poems.

L'Shana Tova Tikatevu VeTechatemu! May you be written and sealed for a good new year!

EMET News – Father-Son Fishing Trip Anchors Relationships

It was an evening of multi-generational bonding when fathers, sons, cousins and friends set out on an Emet-style fishing expedition. Participants gathered on the deck of the "Super Hawk" in Point Lookout for Mincha and then tried their hands at reeling in a catch. Rabbi David Delman, Emet fishing expert, provided tips and encouragement. The main "catch of the day" was actually the connections that were made during the kumzitz and conversations. The night offered a relaxing opportunity for Emet educators, students, their families and friends to enjoy each other's company in a fun and spiritual way.

"This event was truly a memorable night for the men and boys of Emet," said Rabbi Akiva Rutenberg. "It was a way for people of all ages and backgrounds to spend time together in a natural and relaxed setting. At Emet, our students are like family and our relationships are the key to growing our Jewish observance. We were able to enjoy both on the boat!"



Our Programs

Weekly Campus Activity

- » St. Johns University Fellowship
- » Stony Brook University Fellowship
- » Baruch College Fellowship
- » Queens College Fellowship
- » Forest Hills Cross-Campus Evening Fellowship
- » EMET Arizona Division
- » Queensborough Lunch & Learn
- » St. John's University Lunch & Learn
- » 30+ Shabbatons Annually

Advanced Level Programming

- » Step It Up for Higher Level Girls (Weekly)
- » Torat Emet for Higher Level Boys (Weekly)
- » Ateret Emet Seminary

Educational Trips

- » Poland/Prague Experience
- » Israel Trips & Learning Opportunities
- » Women's Miami Trips
- » Men's Arizona Trips

Community & More

- » Young Professionals' Lectures
- » Shabbat at the Delmans
- » Mother-Daughter Events
- » Alumni & Student Retreats
- » Couples Programming & Lectures
- » One-On-One Learning & Mentoring