



The Greater Washington Community Kollel

# SHABBOS DELIGHTS

## TORAH MINUTE

### IN MEMORY OF RABBI KALMAN WINTER ZT" L

The Torah calls to us with the extraordinary Mitzvah of Kedoshim Tehiyu - You shall be holy - Ki Kadosh Ani Hashem Elokachem - for I Hashem your G-d am holy. Here, we are commanded to emulate G-d in the most sublime of characteristics - holiness. It is not sufficient to merely perform the commandments and to safeguard the prohibitions. We must become a nation imbued with G-d's holiness and worthy to carry His name. By entrusting us with this lofty mission, the Torah conveys to us our prodigious spiritual potential and the expectation that it is realized.

Rashi comments that the concept of Kedusha is rooted in being separated, particularly from immorality. Thus, the meaning of the verse is "You should be separated from immorality just as I Hashem am."

The Michtav Sofer shares a novel and inspiring interpretation of the commandment, based on Rashi's understanding of Kedusha. G-d is telling us that just as He "separated" Himself from the celestial spheres and "lowered" Himself to the physical world to concern Himself with man and his welfare, we too must separate ourselves from our spiritual fortresses and go forth, in order to concern ourselves with the well-being of our brothers and sisters.

What a timely message! In a generation when we are seeing the decimating effects of the secularization of our people, we have a charge to not be content with the strength of our own communities, but to concern ourselves with the welfare of all our fellow brethren. We must go forth and reach out to them - to engage and inspire, to open our homes and hearts, and to share the beauty of our special Heritage.

Have a wonderful Shabbos!

*Rabbi Menachem Winter*

## TABLE TALK

### POINT TO PONDER

**When a convert dwells among you... do not taunt him (19:33).**

*Do not taunt him by saying, "Previously you served idols, and now you want to study Torah?" (Rashi)*

*One should begin reciting the story of Bnai Yisrael's exodus from Mitzrayim by discussing the disgraceful situation they were in. Rav says that one should say, "In the beginning, our fathers served idols" (Pesochim 116a).*

*Why isn't reminding Bnai Yisrael that they descend from people who served idols considered a taunt?*

### PARSHA RIDDLE

**Why was Og, the King of Boshon, named Og?**

Please see next week's issue for the answer.

**Last issue's riddle:**

**What does the number 15 and the seder have in common?**

**(Answer: It is on the 15th of Nisan, 15 steps in the Seder, 15 Dayeinus – and there may be more)**

## TIMELESS WISDOM

**You shall be holy, for holy am I, Hashem, your G-d (19:2).**

*If you make yourselves holy, I will consider it as if you sanctified Me (Toras Kohanim).*

*This teaches that just as Hashem's Holiness raises Him beyond the rules of nature, so too if a person makes himself holy, he will operate beyond the limits of nature (Malbim).*

When Rav Yosef Shlomo Kahaneman, the Ponovezer Rov, passed away, Rav Shmuel Rozovsky, one of the outstanding Roshei Yeshiva in Ponovez, eulogized him as follows. "Rav Kahaneman enjoyed supernatural success in establishing Torah institutions after the war. He transplanted the first Lithuanian Torah citadel into Bnei Brak and built many other facilities in order to enhance Yiddishkeit and save broken hearted children and families. How was he so successful? Because he conducted himself in a holy manner, Hashem blessed him with the ability to work beyond the limitations of nature. This gave him the ability to dedicate himself totally to Hashem and establish Bnei Brak as a foremost bastion of Torah."

## KIDS KORNER

### WHO AM I?

#### #1 WHO AM I ?

1. Keep far.
2. I have no feet.
3. I am not for your bed.
4. I am not a knot, rather...

#### #2 WHO AM I ?

1. I am for the field.
2. I am for your head.
3. I am for the poor.
4. I am not for cut.

#### LAST ISSUE'S ANSWERS

**#1 Sippur Yetzias Mitzrayim** (My mitzvah is to speak; I am mentioned daily; Praiseworthy for more; I am not only for day.)

**#2 Matzah** (Don't confuse me with aliyos; I was sun baked and for the slaves; I am not to find.)

*Please see next week's issue for the answers to this week's questions.*

All children 13 and under who answer a "Who Am I?" correctly will be entered into a raffle to

*Win a*  
**Razor Pro XX Scooter**

Please visit  [www.gwckollel.org](http://www.gwckollel.org) to submit your answers.

**The next raffle will be May 27th!**

Answer as many as you can because each correct answer will entitle you to another raffle ticket and increase your chance of winning!

## KOLLEL BULLETIN BOARD

### Spring Semester at the Kollel!

The Spring Semester begins on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Check out one of our many classes, or find a chavrusa to study with!

Visit [www.gwckollel.org](http://www.gwckollel.org) for the complete Kollel schedule and list of classes.