



Greater Washington Community Kollel  
**SHABBOS  
 DELIGHTS**

**TORAH MINUTE**

IN MEMORY OF RABBI KALMAN WINTER ZT"L

*Know Thyself*

Presented by Rabbi Zacharia Schwartz  
*Former Kollel Scholar and currently a Kollel Adjunct*

*"And Moshe said to the Children of Israel, 'See Hashem has called by name Betzalel...and He has filled him with the spirit of G-d, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge, and with all [types of] craftsmanship.'"*

In these verses, Moshe informs the Jewish people that Hashem chose Betzalel to lead the construction of the Mishkan. Rabbi Moshe Feinstein zt"l is bothered by Moshe's use of the word "see" when discussing Hashem's choice of Betzalel. What exactly were the people supposed to see? Rabbi Feinstein answers that the people were supposed to see that Hashem had chosen Betzalel for this job by witnessing all of the attributes with which Hashem had imbued Betzalel. They were supposed to see, as well as understand, that if Hashem had given Betzalel the wisdom and skill to build the Mishkan, then Betzalel must have been chosen to perform that task.

Rabbi Feinstein derives from these verses a powerful lesson for every Jew. Everyone has special talents, personality traits, and/or circumstances that allow them to excel in a particular area. What we need to recognize is that it is Hashem who has given us these strengths, and that he has given them to us *for a reason*. Just as the Jewish people were expected to see in Betzalel's talents and wisdom that he was charged by Hashem to use those attributes to build the Mishkan, so each person must see the special strengths that Hashem has provided him or her in order to carry out his or her special and unique mission. May Hashem grant each and every one of us the clarity of sight to recognize our strengths and fulfill the purpose for which our Creator created us.

***Have a Good Shabbos!***

## TABLE TALK

### POINT TO PONDER

#### Bezalel made the Aron of shitim wood... (37:1)

Because he devoted himself to the work more than the other wise men, it is called by his name (Rashi).

Why in regard to creating the vessels does the Torah use the singular form of 'make' (Teruma 25), while in regard to building the Aron the Torah uses the plural form of 'make' (Teruma 25:10)? Rebbi Yehuda bar Shalom explained, Hashem said to Moshe, "Let all people come and involve themselves in the building of the Aron, in order that they all merit to study Torah" (Shemos Rabba 34:3).

Hashem intended that everyone should be involved in building the Aron. Why did Bezalel involve himself more than everyone else?

### PARSHA RIDDLE

#### Which three mitzvos are a sign of a close relationship between Bnei Yisrael and Hashem?

Please see next week's issue for the answer.

#### Last week's riddle:

Why was the Machatzis HaShekel collected in the month of Adar (during the time of the Bais HaMikdash)?

**Answer:** It was divinely set up that the half shekalim should be a merit against the shekalim of Haman, which he gave to Achashveirosh at this time of the year (Yerushalmi Shekalim 1).

## HATORAH V'HAMITZVAH

### HALACHA INSIGHTS FROM THE PARSHA

In the course of its narration of the donations to the Tabernacle, the Torah relates (35:22): "The men came with the women; everyone whose heart motivated him brought bracelets, nose-rings, rings, body ornaments - all sorts of gold ornaments - every man who raised up an offering of gold to Hashem." The *Sforno* explains that the men needed to accompany the women in order for the officers to accept the latter's donations, since the *halachah* prohibits accepting donations larger than a *de minimis* amount from (married) women (without verifying their husbands' consent) (cf. *Meshech Chochmah* beginning of *parashas Terumah* and *Or Ha'Chaim* 25:2).

The *Panim Yafos*, on the other hand, while also understanding the Biblical text to imply the necessity of the husbands' consent, nevertheless limits this to the donations of jewelry that are the subject of this verse, since a wife cannot sell her jewelry without her husband's consent. When the Torah subsequently relates (35:25): "Every wise-hearted woman spun with her hands; and they brought the spun yarn of turquoise, purple, and scarlet wool, and the linen," no mention is made of the husbands, since although a wife's earnings belong to her husband, this is a rabbinic institution, and had not yet been established.

The Talmud explains that a husband is granted his wife's earnings in exchange for the obligation to maintain her (*Kesubos* 47b). The *halachah* follows the view that this arrangement is for the wife's benefit, and she therefore has the right to opt out and declare: "I decline to be supported [by my husband] and I will not work [for him]" (*ibid.* 58b). Some maintain that a wife who makes this declaration is merely exempt from the duty to earn money for her husband, but is still obligated in the housework duties enumerated in the *halachah* (such as cooking and laundering - see *ibid.* 59b), while others rule that she is exempt from all labor on behalf of her husband. Since the question remains unresolved, a wife who has declined support cannot be compelled to perform any work for her husband (see *Rema EH* 80:15; *Chelkas Mechokek* s.k. 27; *Beis Shmuel* s.k. 21; *Piskei Din shel Batei Ha'Din Ha'Rabaniim Be'Yisrael*, Vol. 2. p. 3).

PRESENTED BY  
RABBI YITZHAK GROSSMAN, ROSH CHABURAH

## KIDS KORNER

### WHO AM I?

#### #1 WHO AM I?

1. I am for lunch.
2. I prove the pre-light approval.
3. I spend the night.
4. For some I am for Thursday and Friday.

#### #2 WHO AM I?

1. I am a heavenly reminder.
2. Do I exist now?
3. I am a fringe benefit.
4. I help prove daytime.

#### Last Week's Answers:

**#1 The tablet on which Moshe wrote 'alei shur'** (Moshe's writing; I raised a king; I am not a cow; I created "God".)

**#2 The Kehuna** (I was Esav's sale; I was the Firstborn's loss; I was Reuven's; I was Aaron's.)

*Congratulations to  
Rabbi Biberfeld's 4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders  
and others for answering last week's questions correctly!*

Answer as many as you can. Each correct answer will entitle you to another raffle ticket and increase your chances of winning!  
Visit [gwckollel.org](http://gwckollel.org) to submit your answers.

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



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