

מסכת תענית דף 59

DAF YOMI4 Kids

Inside the Daf



Once, the entire Jewish people went up to Jerusalem for a festival, but there was no water to drink.

נְקִדִּימוֹן בֶּן גִּוְרִיּוֹן, a wealthy Jewish leader, went to a non-Jewish nobleman.

"Lend me twelve wells of water for the people," said נְקִדִּימוֹן, "and I will make sure you are repaid with twelve wells of water. If I do not give the water back to you I will repay you twelve large measures of silver."

The noblemen agreed and they set a time by which the water had to be repaid.

When the time came for the water to be repaid, no rain had fallen. The nobleman sent a messenger to נְקִדִּימוֹן בֶּן גִּוְרִיּוֹן asking for his water or his silver.

"I still have time left in the day to repay you!"

נְקִדִּימוֹן answered.

נְקִדִּימוֹן בֶּן גִּוְרִיּוֹן went to the בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ (Holy Temple), wrapped himself in a טָלִית (prayer shawl) and

prayed.

"Master of the Universe!" he said. "You know that I did not rent the wells for my honor, but rather for Your honor so that there would be water for the people coming to Jerusalem for the festival!"

Immediately, the skies filled with clouds and rain came down until the twelve wells overflowed.

The nobleman and נְקִדִּימוֹן בֶּן גִּוְרִיּוֹן met each other outside.

"You must now pay me back for the extra water you received!" said נְקִדִּימוֹן.



Did You Know...

Once, the elders made a fast when wolves ate two children on the other side of the Jordan River.

WORD OF THE DAY:

מַעֲשֵׂה

"AN EVENT / A STORY"

The Circle Maker

We are all children of Hashem, but some people really live up to this relationship. One such person was חוּנִי הַמַּעֲגֵל, or Honi the Circle Maker. Just like a father will grant his son's wishes even when he misbehaves, so too Hashem granted חוּנִי's wish even when he acted boldly.

During a drought, חוּנִי's community asked the righteous man to pray for rain. He prayed for rain, but none fell.

The "Circle Maker" drew a circle in the ground and stood inside.

"Master of the Universe," said חוּנִי, "your children have turned their faces to me. I swear by Your Great Name that I will not move from here until You have mercy on your children!"

Rain began to trickle down. But this was not satisfactory for חוּנִי.

"I didn't ask for rain like this!" חוּנִי protested. "But enough to fill up the wells, ditches and caves!"

Soon it began to pour. The rain came down in fury.

"I didn't ask for rain like this," said חוּנִי, "but rather good rains of blessing!"

Finally, the rains began to fall normally.



A Moment - מְדוּת

"Good day, sir," said the boy at the door. "Would you care to donate money to feed students who are visiting our city from out of town?"

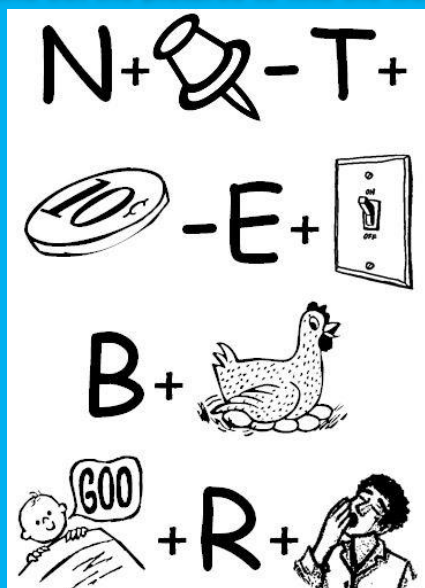
"I know you!" said the man. "You're the one who raised money for the Jewish school, poor people in the city and your synagogue? Why is *this* cause so important?"

"Because we see that גוריון בן גוריון rented twelve wells of water for the Jewish pilgrims coming to Jerusalem for a Festival. Even though this cost him a huge sum of money, he rented these wells to enable the Jewish people to make their pilgrimage to Jerusalem. We can learn from this how important it is for visitors to have all the necessary accommodations when they visit."

Games

REBUS FUN!

Sound out the pictures to find the words



תענית דף י"ט - Review Questions

1 What did חוּנִי הַמַּעֲגֵל draw in the ground?

2. What did גוריון בן גוריון rent from a non-Jewish nobleman?

3. What once happened on the other side of the Jordan River that made the elders declare a fast day?