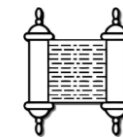


Parasha Thinking



- 1) The Jewish people were very particular not to steal anything when they checked the Egyptian homes for valuables. Even though the Egyptians couldn't see, do you think they could hear what was going on?
- 2) Imagine you were told that you were finally leaving your horrific ordeal as a slave in Egypt. How would you feel?
- 3) How does the word, leave, link to the Parasha?

Pesach Information



Summary – Part 1

During the plague of darkness, the Jewish people could see perfectly. They were instructed to go into the Egyptian homes and look for valuables. Under no circumstances could they steal anything – they just had to take note of what was there. In the future, before they would leave, they would ask the Egyptians for wages, after all, they had been working for them as slaves for a span of 210 years. When the Egyptians would protest, “We’re so sorry, we have nothing valuable to give you!” the Jewish people could say, “Lift up that floorboard or remove that false brick!” This way they would be paid for their work.

In the lead-up to the final plague, Hashem (G-d) told the Jewish people to mark their doorposts with lamb’s blood. This would be a display of their faith in Hashem, as the lamb was the Egyptians’ number one god. Painting their door posts with the lamb’s blood would protect them from death as the angel of death will pass over their homes and spare their firstborns. The lamb would be roasted afterwards and eaten the night before they leave.

At exactly midnight, an almighty scream was heard all over Egypt, as families discovered that their firstborns had died. Paro (Pharaoh) was devastated and petrified that he would be next as of course, he was a first born. Paro screamed that the Jewish people should GO!

Moshe (Moses) waited overnight before he lead them out. They ate the roasted lamb, got their wages from the Egyptians and quickly packed up their things. They made some simple dough with just flour and water and rushed out into the desert. The hot sun made the dough turn into matza very quickly. This is why we have matza on Pesach.

Discovery

Did you know that there were some Egyptians who were scared that there would be more plagues and suffering, so they asked Moshe if they could join the Jewish nation. Moshe asked Hashem, Who said they can but know that in the future, they will cause a lot of trouble.

Did you know that matza factories use specially protected wheat flour, that hasn’t come into contact with water or moisture?

Did you know that even though there is an 18 minute time limit for making matza, matza bakeries and factories work really fast and usually bake the matza in 13 minutes. If a sheet of matza was baked for 18 minutes and one second, it would not be kosher for Pesach.

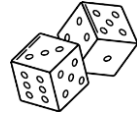


Gratitude

Who has done something special for you this week and what did they do? (If they are present, go up to them and say thank you!)

THANK YOU!

Games



1) Kid, Kid, LAMB (Duck, Duck, GOOSE)

Link: The Jewish people were told to paint their doorposts with lamb's blood.

One person is "it" and walks around the outside of the circle. As they walk around, they tap the other player's shoulders and say "Kid" (baby goat) or "LAMB". Once someone is tapped and they hear "lamb" they get up and try to chase "it" around the circle. If they catch "it", then "it" continues. If "it" gets to the lamb's space first, then Lamb becomes the new "it".

2) Link It to Matza, for the Win

Divide group up into two teams. Children's service leader mentions a random object to Group 1 and they have to say how it connects to Matza. It could be really easy, such as, object: a cracker, link: it's flat, like Matza, or totally obscure, like object: chocolate, link: they're both brown.

Each group has 10 seconds to connect the object to matza and if they miss the 10 second slot, the other teams gets a chance to link it.

Ideas: Lamp, siddur, soap, carpet, stars, Paris, vinegar, flowers, schoolbag and pillow.

3) Adon Olam to Whaaaaat?

Adon Olam fits to any tune. Can we fit it to the tune of VehicShe'am'da?

Story (One of the children can read this out loud – encourage them to use expression.)



Roberta sat at the kitchen table, admiring her new, crisp £10 note that Mrs Perlmutter had given her, to say thank you, for helping her with some chores. Really and truly, Roberta had not offered to help for the money and she certainly had not expected Mrs Perlmutter to give her anything in return for her assistance. But now that she was holding the money, boy was she glad. The next day, she didn't know what to do. If she offered her elderly neighbour, Mrs Perlmutter, some help, it could seem like she was doing it just for the money but if she didn't, she knew Mrs Perlmutter would struggle and not manage to bring her shopping home by herself. She thought about it, over and over and in the end, she decided that her original intent was to be kind and respectful to an elderly person and because of that, she would offer help again today.

Mrs Perlmutter was so grateful and she commented that she wished that her own grandchildren could live this close. They chatted together as they walked to the shops and some more on the way home. They had a cup of tea and then put all the groceries away in the correct places. Before Roberta knew it, it was already 6 o'clock and she needed to be home for supper. She said goodbye to Mrs Perlmutter and Mrs Perlmutter thanked her for her kindness. Although initially she hadn't expected to be paid, she was half expecting to get some money today, just because of yesterday's surprise. She was actually disappointed, although she didn't let on.

The next day Roberta had a fresh attitude and knocked on her neighbour's door once again. She really was a kind girl and she wanted to help. Mrs Perlmutter was so happy to have company and she and Roberta started to clean the house for Pesach. When it was lunch time, Mrs Perlmutter ordered a pizza for takeaway, as a special treat. Roberta really, really enjoyed the lunch and it gave her fuel for the afternoon. She worked with extra energy and they even put on some music and danced away as they swept and scrubbed. As Roberta was leaving, she realised how exhausted she was and fully expected some reward for her efforts but Mrs Perlmutter just thanked her and said no more. The next morning at breakfast, Roberta grumbled to her parents. "I do so much to help her and I know I'm being kind but I would really like her to show me that she appreciates what I do. It's like she enjoys the free labour." Her parents understood about her wanting to be kind and also her wish to be paid for her work but they did remind her that she had volunteered each time and they told her that they were proud of her and the kindness she'd shown so far.

The phone rang and Mum went to answer it. "It's Mrs Perlmutter!" she mouthed. "Tell her I'm not available today!" whispered Roberta. "Yes, yes, that would be lovely. She'll be there at 10 o'clock!" said mum and she put the phone down. Roberta looked at her and said, "you don't mean me, do you? I've had enough!" Mum looked at her and said, "I think you're going to like this!" At 10 o'clock, Roberta knocked on Mrs P's door. She heard footsteps and then the door opened. Mrs Perlmutter was holding a beautifully wrapped present and stood there with a massive smile. "Thank you, Roberta. I couldn't have managed without you. You really don't know how much I've valued and appreciated your help. I have got you something rather special, to show my complete gratitude.

1) What can we learn from this story and does it connect at all, to any part of the Pesach story?

2) Have you ever done something and been rewarded unexpectedly?

3) In your opinion, did Mrs Perlmutter need to give Roberta a gift? What do you think was underneath the wrapping paper?