

Sefer Vayikra

Kids Parsha Packet

Parashat

Metzora

Last week in Parshat Tazria:

We learned about tzara'at, why it comes, and who to call if lesions appear...

Where do people go when they get tzara'at?

After the Kohen identifies lesions as tzara'at, the person remains in isolation at home for seven days. Then the Kohen comes back to see if the tzara'at has passed. If not, the person must leave the camp. Remember that Bnei Yisrael lived in tents? The tents were set up in three camps – the camp of Bnei Yisrael surrounded the camp of the Levites, which in turn surrounded the camp of the Kohanim who had to be close the Mishkan which was located at the center of the camps. People with tzara'at are impure and must stay away from all three camps so that other people don't become impure as well. Is it fun to be separated from everyone else? Not everyone gets tzara'at. Last week we learned that people get tzara'at when they speak badly about other people. There, alone outside

the camp, a person who spoke badly about someone else has time to think about what he did and to repent.

"The Kohen shall go forth to the outside of the camp" ויצא הכהן" אל מחוץ למחנה" (י"ד, ג')

Co Di

Did you ever see someone being punished by being sent to stand in the corner or to leave the room? Did that look like fun?

Does a person with tzara'at have to stay outside of the camp forever?

When a person gets tzara'at, he has to leave the camp and stay far away from everyone else. During this time he may not shave his beard or cut his hair. When men don't shave for a long time, they look messy and disheveled. That's how a person looks when he gets tzara'at. Once the lesions go away and the Kohen agrees that the person no longer has tzara'at, the purification process can begin. The Kohen does what is needed to make the person pure again, and then that person cuts his hair, washes his clothes and returns to his home. But he still can't enter his house and must remain outside for another seven days. Then he shaves, washes his clothes again, and on the eighth day he comes to the Mishkan and brings a sacrifice.

"The Kohen shall command; and for the person being purified there shall be taken two lives, pure birds, cedarwood, a crimson (tongue of) wool, and hyssop." (14,4)

"וצוה הכהן ולקח למּטהר שתי צפרים חיות טהרות ועץ ארז ושני תולעת ואזב" (י"ד, ד')

"I am waiting" – See what each part of your body does while you wait (for example, your foot taps the ground, your hands tap on the table, etc.)

Even houses can get tzara'at?

Last week we learned that a person and his clothes can get tzara'at. But this week we learn that a house can get tzara'at too! But what did the house do wrong? Like clothes, tzara'at on a house is a sign for the owner that he has been speaking badly about others. First the house is affected, but if the owner does not repent he will get tzara'at himself. What happens when a house gets tzara'at? The owner calls the Kohen and shows him the lesions. The Kohen decides if this is tzara'at. If it is, the house must be closed for seven days

ונתתי נגע צרעת בבית ארץ אחזתכם" אחזתכם" אחזתכם" אחזתכם" ל"ד, ל"ד) "And I will place a tzara'as affliction upon a house in the land of your possession" (14, 34)

and no one can go inside. Then the Kohen comes back to see if the lesions passed. have lf they disappeared, the owners can go back inside. If not, the stones and dirt that have lesions are removed from the city and are replaced with new stones. Seven days later, the Kohen checks again to see if there is tzara'at. If the tzara'at returned on has the new stones, the house must destroyed. be

Have you ever colored on the walls?

"Tag" – choose two walls as home bases, and each person stands next to one of the walls. Then run from one wall to the other as fast as you can. You can only be tagged if you are not touching a wall. You cannot stay next to the wall all of the time.

Even objects can become impure!

We already know that people, clothes and houses can become impure, and this week's parsha teaches us that vessels can become impure as well. When a vessel comes in contact with something that is impure, it becomes impure itself and cannot be used until it is purified. There are some vessels that can never be purified, like pottery made of clay. Once they become impure that have to be broken and the pieces cannot be used. Vessels made of wood can

be purified and used again. In the book of Bamidbar we will learn more about how to purify different types of vessels. The rules of purity and impurity don't really apply today because there is no Beit Hamikdash. The one thing that we do is to immerse vessels made by non-Jews in a special mikveh.

"וכלי חרש אשר יגע בו הזב ישבר וכל כלי עץ ישטף במים" (ש"ו, י"ב) "Pottery that the zav will touch shall be broken; and any wooden utensil shall be rinsed in water." (15,12)

🔑 Have you every accidently broken a vessel?

Where are the vessels? Take different items from your toy kitchen and prepare a feast. Notice what happens when you are missing something that you need (for example, if you're missing a spoon when you want to eat soup, a cup when you want a drink, etc.)

Next Week we will celebrate the pesach Seder!

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