

THE Kibbitzer

Issue 10



My friend had this really nice 'Lo Tachmod' poster... I wanted it so badly.

You get it? Lo Tachmod is the commandment to not covet what others have... Educational!

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

Jewish songs inspire me. Why do I love the classics, like 'Kookooreeku' and 'Shabbat Shalom Hey,' so much?

My Dear Pupil. Ever since the Levites sung in the Beit Hamikdash our people have high-pitch harmonied songs like 'Kol HaOlam Koolo' (a tune Dveykus used for six CDs). Let's delve into song.

- Shabbat Shalom Hey* Those are the lyrics. No need to add to them. Though, somebody realized that adding a 'hey' to 'Shabbat' will make an instant classic. They knew that adding another word, like 'Oy,' would be too much. The repetition of words in Jewish song is meditative. It also helps American Jews learn the song, as they have very poor language skills. After singing this song, you've said Shabbat so many times, you feel like you've celebrated eight Shabbats. What a great feeling.
- David Melech Yisrael* The first song learned with a dance, nothing says joy like placing your supinated hand under your opposite elbow, while twiddling the fingers. Then, it tops off with leaving out some of the words. You can't 'emmm emmm Melech Yisrael' without a smile. Add in a 'Chay Chay Pizza Pie' and you've set yourself up for a full day of Jewish laughter and good times.

- Kol HaOlam Koolo* You became religious when we sung this on Shabbat. As you learned, there is no greater joy to the Jewish people than singing metaphors of death. 'The key is to not fear.' As long as you are religious, there is nothing to fear. Only death. If you're not religious, you can still sing the song and take your chances. And that is why we also sing this at every youth group's Kumzits. Ensuring that Jews marry Jewish. Is it any wonder you love these Jewish songs of spirituality? Where else can you walk in a circle, twiddle your fingers and think about death, while celebrating? Where else can you sing a full song with three words, and feel like you said something? Where else can you continue a song with a Nay Nay Nay for forty-five minutes? David Melech Yisrael? Shabbat Shalom Hey? Where else can you Pizza Pie and greet somebody for a whole song? This is what makes greatness. Couple that with 'Kookooreeku the Rooster Calls.' It's the lyrics. They inspire. That's why you love them so much. What does a rooster do? Exactly.

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SERMON OF REBUKE - KORACH

Shabbat Shalom My Congrats, Any more complaints... I'm not a priest. I don't have a complaint booth... Who here would be confessing? You would be coming to complain on the daily... The small seats in the shul. Early babysitting... I'm sorry the sun rises on your side... You're the only one who comes with a three year old before 10:45... Don't be a Korach. The Gabai asked if there was a Kohen. Yelled it from the Bima... This isn't a shteibel... Asking if there's a Kohen? Are you trying to start an uprising? (*Bamidbar 16:1*) Korach 'took himself.' Bad happens when you take for yourself. It's the selfishness... Sit two seats over and there's no issue with the armrest... Selfish. It's going to be better with pews? It's a seat with no armrests, Bernie... You clamp the pockets, do the slideback, they don't rip on the armrest... *Rashi explains, he separated himself and the people. 'To take' means to separate.* That was the sin... You take, for you... You don't think about anybody else... At the shul BBQ last year. How many hot dogs? You took twelve, Frank... You separated the hot dogs for yourself. (*Bamidbar 16:2*) 'Men of name' rose up against Moshe and Aaron... The leaders always mess things up. The awning committee. You did nothing... The spies were people with names and leaders. We need people without names leading this shul. Mr. Cohen has a name... He's not a Kohen... You called him up as a Kohen. *No answer when they're asked what Aaron*

did to protest against him (Bamidbar 16:11).

They had no answer because they wanted nothing. They just wanted what he had. Sitting in a pew... Everything was a pew back then... Share. I went to youth groups today. The kids don't share their Pokémon cards... They're takers... One cried, and then took the tea cup from the other kids... It wasn't a real tea cup. It was a plastic cup that looked real. They were drinking... Fake drinking... Yes. They made the sip noise... Maybe it should've been real. Everything about it was real, but it was part of a kitchen set... The kitchen set was a toy. So, it was a toy... They were already the Shabbat Abba. They had to be the Shabbat Ima too... Not everybody can be a Shabbat Abba. Not everybody can be a Kohen... Yes. Mr. Cohen's cousin is a Kohen. He doesn't complain.

Rivka's Notes on R' Mendelchem's Drasha:

It seemed as though the rabbi was mocking Korach his whole sermon. Anything bad was 'Korach.' Korach got blamed for the nursery school charging too much. 'Mommy and Me' was blamed on Korach. At Kiddish, the sisterhood was called Korachs for not bringing out the brownies. Ms. Feinblum took the Kiddish food before the rabbi said the Kiddish blessing. Korach would take before others. The board? Korach. The Gabai couldn't find a Kohen. The rabbi called him a Korach for calling up a Yisrael to the Torah, in place of a Kohen. For months, the Gabai was scared to call up people for Aliyahs.

A lot of politics in youth groups. A bunch of lying five-year-olds. A lot of taking and no sharing of Legos. Complaining was not allowed this week. It was decided that complaining was selfish and done to separate. Everything had to be said positively. People were keeping it positive. People were coming to the rabbi saying, 'This shul is so great. We should get new seats and a new rabbi.'

At one point, the rabbi let Bernie give a speech. The rabbi went down from his seat and sat in a regular chair. His suit pocket ripped. The shul got pews.

The shul sink. They're now using hand sanitizer as soap... They pushed away the washing cup and poured sanitizer on the Kohen. They told him that it's not sanitary to clean with water.

