

THE Kibbitzer

Issue 118



They were jumping for joy when they heard it was time for gaga.

You get it? Gaga is to be foolishly enthusiastic. They were playing gaga at scamp. Lost the game, but they were overly excited. They were gaga.

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

Dear Rabbi. My child is asking for more money. We spent nine thousand dollars on camp and now they need more money. How did the summer camp canteens start? Is it Jewish tradition?

Shalom My Dear Pupil. Candy is Jewish tradition, as is selling stuff to kids without their parents knowing. Let me take you through the history of canteens at Jewish summer camp.

- The First Canteens* Canteens started in the seventh century. People used these bottles for water. They used them for alcohol in the 1300s, but it's hard to sneak in a full-size canteen into bars. Thus, the introduction of flasks; also known as small canteens for people who don't work.

- Canteens Drinks* Circa 1982, Jews realized nobody likes drinking water. Jews hadn't hiked for millennia, and this water didn't quench the thirst of the suburban Jew. So, they started putting bug juice into the canteens.
- An Issue* In 1983, campers were more sluggish and heavier. Campers complained, 'I can't carry this thing.

It's too much.' Camp directors said, 'Jewish kids shouldn't have to carry canteens. We'll make a canteen kids can walk into.' And thus, you can now walk into the bug juice.

- What is in the Canteen* At first, there was bug juice. Sarah Rivkah, yelled, 'This is not quenching my thirst.' So, they gave her a sour stick and her thirst was quenched. And to this day, thirst is quenched with sour sticks and Jelly Bellies.

- They Weren't Making Enough Money Off Parents* 12k for a month of camp was not enough. To quote the director, 'Parents should be spending more! We'll give kids tabs.'
- Kids Got Tabs* At first, parents knew about the tabs. They put limits on the amount a child could spend. That's not fun. So, the decision was made to give kids autonomy.

To keep their children from child services, parents didn't fight the idea of elementary school kids deciding how many sour sticks they should have. And that is why your kid puts on weight at sports camp. And that is how you became broke.

SERMONS OF REBUKE: RE'EH

Shabbat Shalom My Pupils...
(Devarim 12:12) 'And you shall be happy before H'.' A commandment to be happy. To not spend time with the congregants of Beis Kneses Beis Emes uSefilah... I look to the front left and I get depressed... Your whole section exudes depression.
(12:14) 'Only in the place H' chooses... there you'll bring your elevation offerings...' Yes. That's Jerusalem. We're doing a good job of not being happy here. I do the Mitzvah of not being happy every day. With the Finkelwitz Kiddish... There was no Babka... I come to MInyin and I have to listen to Shmuel Davening. I am not happy here...

You can be happy here. Just not before H'... Not with the wait between Mincha and Maariv. Who's the idiot that is making us wait 43 minutes?... Change a schedule. This is why we're not happy... Yes. The Finkelwitzs are happy they got rid of their kid for the summer. Mazel Tov... You can be happy here. It's just that you can't. Not with the front left... Can we be happy not in Jerusalem? Can we be happy in Topeka? With a congregation that can't figure out how to play Wordle?...
Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Sermon:
The shul Wordle game was a very frustrating project. That's all people were talking about in shul. At least I didn't have to hear about people's children and lawns for a week. To make people happy, the rabbi decided we're going to have a weekly gaga game on Shabbis afternoons, before Shalishudis. Gaga makes people happy. I think it's the whacking the ball at other members of the shul that you can't stand. It brings a smile to your face.

SHUL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Davening wait between Mincha and Maariv will be 43 minutes. It's on the calendar. People have been asking us why it's on the calendar. That is not our concern. It is on the calendar. Therefore it's the right time. To answer your questions: We don't know who put it on the calendar. We will also be celebrating the Simchawitz wedding a week early. Our scheduling team messed up the time on the calendar. Hence, the Simchawitzs are cancelling their hall reservation, and rescheduling.

Phil shaved. It's him. He just has a double chin now.

We are stopping the Shul Wordle. It's too complicated for our membership. The word was 'dues' and nobody got it. 'On-time' was the other word nobody could figure out.

Class this week is on why you are going broke on summer camp. We will discuss canteens and how much you're willing to pay to not have to see your kids for the summer.



What your kid bought at the canteen when the camp gave them a tab. They did give your child the salad bar option... How your child came back from sports camp fifteen pounds heavier... Why camp cost you an extra 2K.
photo: Incase/Flickr

Dedicate the Weekly Kibbitzer IN Honor, Memory or Refuah of Your Loved One, and share Laughs in their Merit.
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