

THE Kibbitzer

Issue 100



Why are there different kinds of sacrifices? Because they needed to be brought to an altar.

You get it? Altar. Alter. Change. Different word.

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

Dear Rabbi. I appreciate the jokes you shared to help us in Jewish conversations last week... How do I deliver a Jewish joke?

Shalom My Dear Pupil. Being the rabbi of a Kehilah, I've studied the art of how the Jewish joke is told, while being forced to listen to them. We all know, it's about the delivery. So, here is how you deliver a Jewish joke with style.

•*Must Have a European Accent* That means talking like a New Yorker. To deliver a Jewish joke, talk like someone who immigrated from Europe a hundred years ago, or a New Yorker. It's all the same. They both sound foreign to anybody in the Midwest.

•*Start Each Joke With 'You Know the One About...'* Now they know you're not talking about yourself, and you didn't move to the Lower East Side in the 1930s to see Ms. Nafkowitz.

You can also use, 'Have you heard the one about...' 'About' must be in there. The 'I saw' or 'This guy I know' joke methods are not Jewish.

The 'you know the one about' method also give the other person a chance to say, 'I know that joke,' so that you can continue to tell the joke yourself.

•*Grab the Person* Make sure to grab your friend's arm. I learned this method by watching Mervin at Kiddish. He was the only one who could get people to hear his whole joke. Other people who didn't use the grabbing technique lost their subjects mid-joke. Pull them in. You don't want them to be able to escape. Squeezing tight helps if there is a long setup. Now people stay away from Mervin, in fear they will suffer physical harm from his humor.

•*Every Statement Should Be in Question Form* Your joke should start with a question and end with a question. This way, the listener won't know if you're done. 'Why do Jews answer questions with questions?' 'Why shouldn't we?' Every punchline should sound like that, with a New York accent. Shrug your shoulders while supinating your hands for correct delivery posture. A bit of a forward head tilt, with widened eyes and closed lips, helps with the question form pose. While supinating your hand, don't loosen your grip on their elbow. That's how a Jew tells a joke. That's tradition. And if you can, corner the subject, so they can't slip out of the joke hold and get away in the middle of the joke.

SERMON OF REBUKE- VAYIKRA

Shabbat Shalom My Pupils...
(Vayikra 1:1) 'And H' called to Moshe.' H' called. He wanted to speak to him. So, H' called him. How about from now on, I call you into my office when I want to speak to you. You don't pop into my office and say 'Hey rabbi...' I call in congregants I want to see... No. I don't want to speak to you during Torah reading. I don't want him staring at me... Pinny needs help. I am fine talking about getting Pinny married... Pathetic. I don't want your complaints. Though, I do know Matzah is way too expensive. I agree... As Rashi teaches, 'Called... an expression of affection.' When was the last time you called your mom. We're talking about calling here.

Called up to the Torah... You only call the people you like... The Gabai doesn't like you. There is no affection if you bring Karbanot messed up. If you don't do your part. If you don't clean your house for Pesach... The Gabai put his hand on Bima... You don't continue when his hand is there and he's staring at the shul. Are you even a Chazin?!... It's not about you Pinny. We all feel like failures... Why? Because you're not married. Are you even cleaning for Pesach... No. You can't clean on Shabbis. Why do you think Frum homes are not clean... That's why I don't eat in your homes. They're too clean...
Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha: Gavin hasn't got an Aliyah in years. He's not loved. People got sentimental with the calling your mom concept. The rabbi should've done an appeal then. He should've said, 'When was the last time you called your mom? Give money to the shul.' Some people tried making a phone call after shul. For reasons of affection and keeping Shabbat laws, the rabbi smacked them.

SHUL ANNOUNCEMENTS

When the Gabai gives a quiet stare from the Bima, that means people should stop talking. We understand that it is hard to notice the Gabai in the midst of conversation. However, please be aware of the Gabai as it is very awkward for all of us. We all feel like we're in third grade.

Pesach cleaning must be done. Rosh Chodesh Nisan has passed and that means you should worry. Fear should be your first thought.

We are getting together to talk about Pinny. We are going to find him a Shidduch. Anybody with nieces or granddaughters, please help. Pinny needs our help. Seeing old single Pinny in shul is almost as awkward as the Gabai looking at me from the Bima.

Matzah is now a hundred and fifty dollars a pound. We are going to be collecting Kimcha DPischa for all of our congregants. We understand that the Feinblooms are wealthy, yet they cannot afford Matzah. Last year they sold a building and it still wasn't enough for the last days.



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