



OVERVIEW

The Torah prohibits normal farming of the Land of Israel every seven years. This "Shabbat" for the land is called "shemita". After every seventh shemita, the fiftieth year, yovel (jubilee) is announced with the sound of the shofar on Yom Kippur. This was also a year for the land to lie fallow. Hashem promises to provide a bumper crop prior to the shemita and yovel years. During yovel, all land is returned to its original division from the time of Joshua, and all Jewish indentured servants are freed, even if they have not completed their six years of work. A Jewish indentured servant may not be given any demeaning, unnecessary or excessively difficult work, and may not be sold in the public market. The price of his labor must be calculated according to the amount of time remaining until he will automatically become free. The price of land is similarly calculated. Should anyone sell his ancestral land, he has the right to redeem it after two years. If a house in a walled city is sold, the right of redemption is limited to the first year after the sale. The Levites' cities belong to them forever. The Jewish People are forbidden to take advantage of one another by lending or borrowing with interest. Family members should redeem any relative who was sold as an indentured servant as a result of impoverishment.



HOW EASY IT IS TO FORGET LAST YEAR'S BLESSINGS

Parshas Behar begins with the laws of Shmita [the Sabbatical year]. Observance of the Shmitah year is very difficult, particularly for farmers. Just imagine if the halacha required all of us to take a sabbatical from our jobs, drop what we have been doing, and forfeit our means of income for an entire year, once every 7 years!

The Torah anticipates the difficulty of Shmitah-observance: "And if you will say: What will we eat in the seventh year? Behold! We will not sow and we will not gather our crop! I will ordain My blessing for you in the sixth year and it will yield a crop sufficient for the three years." [Vayikra 25:20-21]

The Medrash calls the people who observe the Shmitah: "Masters of strength (giborei koach) who fulfill My words". In other words, it takes tremendous courage and faith to observe the Shmitah. Those who fulfill it are deserving of great praise for being highly spiritual individuals.

However, the question must be asked: Where is the great strength of faith in observing Shmitah? If the promise of "I will ordain My blessing for you in the sixth year..." comes true, then the farmer has already put away income for the seventh and eighth years from his bumper crop on the sixth year. He can sit back and draw on his reserves that are already in the bank! Where, then, is there manifestation of the attribute of 'giborei koach' [master of spiritual strength]?

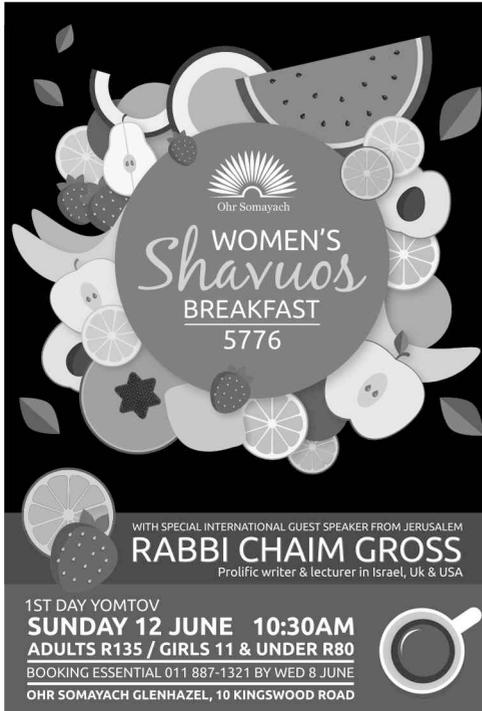
Had the promise been "Do not worry in the seventh year because money will come to you, somehow," we would have understood the appropriateness of the term "giborei koach". However, that is not what the pasuk says. The pasuk seemingly promises that already at the end of the sixth year, the farmer will have three times as much as normal. In those circumstances, seemingly great faith is not required to take a Sabbatical during the upcoming Shmitah year.

The Shemen haTov makes an interesting observation which is really a reality of life. Human beings have an unbelievable capacity to forget. In other words, even though a person might have made triple his normal income in the sixth year, if in the middle of the seventh year he sees that there will be no income that year, he begins to get nervous. He does not like to have to draw down the reserves, which he has stashed away in the bank from his bumper crop in year six of the cycle! People forget that they made more than usual the previous year. We remember the "bad" but we do not remember the "good" so well. All too easily, we forget all the Kindnesses that the Almighty is always showering upon us.

In fact, it takes strength and faith during the seventh year to not ask "what's going to be?" when the land is lying

fallow, regardless of how much money one was able to stash away during the sixth year. Such an attitude is truly worth the accolade of "Masters of strength (giborei koach) who fulfill My words."

Rabbi Frand - www.torah.org



Ohr Somayach
WOMEN'S Shavuot BREAKFAST
5776

WITH SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL GUEST SPEAKER FROM JERUSALEM
RABBI CHAIM GROSS
Prolific writer & lecturer in Israel, UK & USA

1ST DAY YOMTOV
SUNDAY 12 JUNE 10:30AM
ADULTS R135 / GIRLS 11 & UNDER R80
BOOKING ESSENTIAL 011 887-1321 BY WED 8 JUNE
OHR SOMAYACH GLENHAZEL, 10 KINGSWOOD ROAD



THANK YOU

Arnold & Sheila Connack wish to convey their sincerest appreciation to the ladies who kindly provided delicious meals this past week after Sheila's recent operations – Tizku L'Mitzvos

SHABBOS AFTERNOON SHIUR RABBI AUERBACH VARIOUS QUESTIONS REGARDING 'RIBBIS' (INTEREST)

Shabbos afternoon at 4.10pm

YORTZEITS THIS WEEK

- **Ezrie Hirschowitz** for his late mother
- **Lynette Benjamin** for her late father
- **David Benjamin** for his late mother

SECURITY TIP: Good lighting is one of the best defenses against criminal activity. Make sure that both the exterior and interior of your property are very well illuminated.



BABY BOY



Mazel tov to **Adam & Shifra Brand** on the birth of a baby boy. Mazel tov to proud grandparents **Jonty & Sandy Brand** and **Milton & Devorah Tobias**. The Shalom Zachor will IY"YH take place from 8:30pm at 7 Cross Terrace, 20 Cross Rd (opp. Trevanne), Glenhazel

MAIN SHUL KIDDUSH



This week's Main Shul Kiddush is kindly sponsored by **Frank, Hugh and Roy Solomon** in honour of the yortzeit of their late mother **Leah bas Avraham**

ENGAGEMENT



Mazel tov to **Dovi Blumenau & Tali Kampel** on the announcement of their engagement. Mazel tov to proud parents **Rabbi Avigdor & Dvori Blumenau** and **Dennis & Charmaine Kampel**

The community offer sincere condolences to
Rachael & Bernard Kramer
on the passing of their son
David Kramer z'l

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

PIRCHEI 2016



We are excited to announce the relaunch of **Pirchei Boys Program** on Shabbos afternoon. **Yehudah Levin** will be running the program with a **new structure & improved healthier snacks**. Ages 6- 11. After Mincha on Shabbos. All parents are encouraged to bring their boys for this special time on Shabbos and collect them from the hall after Maariv.

BNOS 2016



Bnos is starting this Shabbos afternoon! **Girls age 5 to 11 yrs**
Venue: **Diamond family, 18 Carron Rd, Glenhazel**. Meet at shul at **4.15pm**. For more info or you would like to host one week please contact **Karen Shor 0828989027**