



Woooooooooooooooooooooooooooooek 1

Wow who could believe that CAMP CHEVRA 2021 is here already!! Now when I say “already” it doesn’t mean I wasn’t marking off the days of my calendar like you were till we start camp. Every day since camp ended last year I would go over to the calendar on the fridge and make a big X on each day. I would then write down how many days there were left till the start of Chevra 2021. But finally, it’s here. We were so excited to start off the year the boys couldn’t help but just run into the beautiful AIR-CONDITIONED dining room. We all met the staff and all our friends that we didn’t see for one whole week and it was off to the learning. After some amazing learning groups, we all came back to the lunchroom to meet our counselors and the head staff. Rabbi Sherman is telling us all about this fun game with BEADS and strings. It sounds so

amazing I can’t even wait to start. Now its off to the fields for some outdoor fun and sports with my bunk. The first game we played is a terrific baseball game on these huge, amazing fields. The fields are so big and have so much room to play. At lunch it was pizza day!! Every boy got as much pizza as he wanted. Some boys even got so much they had to finish it on the bus to swimming. At the pool we learnt all the rules of the pool and it was time to relax in the cool water. On the first day of camp it was a whopping 98 degrees! This gets me very nervous because the hottest day of camp is always when we go to the Boulders game, so we have hotter weather to come!! For the special activity we all got together and had this super fun bead challenge. Every bunk had to gather and earn as many beads as they can and try to

string together words about Camp Chevra. There were so many beads and so many kids and so many strings!! The whole lunchroom was busy stringing big beads small beads red beads yellow beads well you get the point. In the end there were so many bunks with such long strings that we are still counting to see who the winner will be. After the first long and very hot day its time to get ready to go home to rest up for another day in camp. the second day brings with it even more fun but even more HEAT. As we hit the field and get ready for leagues, the boys are all trying so hard to get every run and every point. They are also trying to stay hydrated. As the sun beats down the drum beats on here at Camp Chevra. The cool pool is a blast and the lunch games are awesome. I even won sodas for my bunk for lining up in the right order of age and height. Even though it was hot we didn't want to miss out on the amazing new game of connect five. We had a blast running and strategizing as to where to put every folder. The blue, green, red and yellow teams all fought it out as to see who the best at this would be

connect four style game. everyone had a such a great time but its time to get back to the air conditioning. Dismissal time in camp is hard because it's the end of the day but I know tomorrow will just bring more fun in the sun. And it surely did not. It brought fun in the pouring rain!! Even with the fields wet and the grass soaked we still had an amazing beginning of the day in our beautiful building. The staff had a grueling basketball game and we all got to watch and cheer on our counselors. It was then dodgeball and line up in the gym. After some delicious lunch the skies cleared up and it was time for game one of Chevra leagues. My team this year is the best and I really think we will be winning the championship. After playing two league games and winning both (yay!! See told you) it was time for deal or no deal Bingo. Yes, this is where Rabbi Sherman offers fully paid for home and luxury cars for winners of bingo games. The pot kept getting bigger and bigger and better and better. I didn't win but it was so much fun playing such an exciting game. Well, its time to rest up and get ready for Friday in CAMP CHEVRA.

Chevra X

By Rabbi Wizel

Squeak...Squeak...Squeak!

My name is Michael, and I am a field mouse.

I might be tiny but trust me I know my way in and around Pomona Middle School, as that has been my home for the past 14 years. Life had been quiet around here until recently when Camp Chevra moved in and has had this building rocking on wheels from 9:00 till 4:30. Now I can tell that those boys are having the time of their lives but the last time I came out to introduce myself to the campers in middle of camp.... Well, I still see my therapist Dr. Moustain every Mondays and Thursdays for that....

But here is an interesting tidbit. Each day after camp ends, there is a group of around 35 boys that stay late and seem to really be enjoying themselves in a close-knit, fun setting. They begin their evenings with Mincha, and some staff member that they call Nosson Lazarus has been leading the Minyan everyday so far. I always make sure to squeak Amen extra loudly. It is impressive to watch this group daven (cuz remember, I live in the Pomona Middle School underground and the only 'praying' I see is spelled with an "E". Get it? As in prey).

After Mincha on Tuesday the boys were off to the gym for an intense game of lineup. I almost got squished under Asher Fried's foot but ran for my life at the last second. An elderly man wearing a polo shirt who the boys yelled at a lot (especially this Lazarus person) judged the game and in the end, 2 exceptionally talented young men by the names of Siklos and Haas won! Then everybody was off to the dining room where some Chassidish guy gave out... is that... O.M.G.... is that Ice cream Sandwiches?!?!?! This camp is AWESOME!!!! The best was that as soon as the boys finished their ice cream, they ran out the door to play a game of volleyball and I got to lick off some ice cream from Azriel Klein's wrapper.... YUM!

The next day I discovered an interesting sign to notify me when it was time for Chevra X. As soon as the car of the canteen director (whose canteen provides me with a lot of yummy midnight snacks) was within a safe distance from the parking lot, the boys officially began the Chevra X program. The elderly man with the polo shirt came in as all the campers waited with bated breath to hear which league team they would be in. As soon as they announced the teams for the 3rd time (and both Ansbachers and Zidels knew exactly which team they were on) all teams made their way to the fields for the first official game. From what I hear, team Yakobovich took the victory from team Musk in basketball despite the Musks having Shmuel Mordechai Baker, who became known as the best rebound guy on the court. After a quick ices break the boys went right back for their 2nd game of the day, which was awesome for me as I went to check out what the canteen had on the menu for tonight...

Thursday, I found the group missing a lot of its campers. Apparently, they all went to some indoor waterpark and rudely left the rest of the gang back in camp. I started feeling sorry for the boys in camp when I noticed that they were all piling into the Chassidish guy's and the polo shirt guy's cars. Apparently, they were also going on a trip. Not one to miss out on the action I hopped onto the Chassidish guys car and hung on for dear life as he drove (like a maniac) to Garnerville Kosher Grill for an amazing supper. The boys were given royal treatment as they were spoiled to some delicious takeout food (way better than what the canteen had on the menu for tonight). After checking out the kitchen's garbage I hopped back on to the Chassidish guy's car and made my way back to camp. When we got back it started getting dark, so I went directly to bed to rest up for the upcoming week. Apparently, it only gets better...

Squeak, squeak, have a great week!

Yours truly,

Michael Mouse

צו את בני ישראל ואמרת אליהם את קרבני לחמי ריח ניחוחי... (כח:ב).
“Command the Jews to bring an offering for me...” (28:2).

א"ל (נשא יא:תנחומא) say there were three times that משה רבינו was startled by commands that ה' gave him. These מצות which he was being taught, were very perplexing to him:

- 1) ה' commanded each Jew to give one half שקל calling it, “כפר נפש” (a redemption for their soul). משה רבינו wondered, considering how precious and valuable life is, how could one simply redeem himself with a small coin?
- 2) ה' commanded that the משכן, be built in a place where He could *dwell*. משה רבינו wondered how mere humans could possibly produce a resting place for the Infinitely Great G-d?
- 3) In our פרשה ה', commanded that כלל ישראל-ל bring the קרבן תמיד, Daily Offering, calling it “an offering for Me”. משה רבינו wondered how כלל ישראל-ל could offer anything sufficient enough for ה'?!

ה' gave one answer to all three of his quandaries. “Moshe, I’m not asking you to give according to *My standards*, I am asking you to give according to the best of *your abilities!*” ה' wants our effort and sincerity!

Every person is born with their own potential and abilities. Our job in life is to give it our all. Nothing **more** is expected, only **our best!** ה' say in ברכות (:ה), “whether you produce a lot or a little is not important, שמים only looks at your intentions and efforts!

Reb Naftoli Amsterdam once bemoaned his deficiencies to his Rebbe, Reb Yisrael Salanter. “If only I had the brain of the Shages Aryeh, the enthusiasm of the Yisod V'Shoresh HaAvodah, and מדות like you, Rebbe, then I could be a true servant of ה'!”

Reb Yisrael set him straight with the proper perspective. “You need to strive to serve ה' to the best of *your* abilities, with **your** brain, **your** heart and **your** מדות! That is what ה' desires from you!”

This idea is found once again in the פרשה when יהושע is appointed as the successor of משה רבינו. משה רבינו requested from ה' that the incoming leader possess *one fundamental trait* and ה' agreed with him regarding the importance of that trait. The leader must understand each Jew *individually*, according to his own capabilities!

Every morning we say a ברכה expressing our appreciation to ה' for who we are. “שעשה לי” “Thank You ה' for giving me everything that I need!” You provide me with all of my physical needs as well as my spiritual needs. We recognize that ה' provides us with all of our needs, to serve Him the best that we can! There is no competition to outdo anyone else! We are all here for the unified purpose of serving ה', and each of us possess different talents and capabilities which ה' has endowed us with. Our job is to bring out our unique potentials and to serve ה' to the best of our ability! We at Camp Chevra strive to accomplish these same goals. To allow all of our תלמידים to use the pressure free environment to grow throughout the summer as individuals coming closer to ה'. Have a great שבת.

Sincerely

Noam Peikes

BEST IN BUNK

BUNK (A) TRAINS - CHAIM WEIDERMAN

BUNK (B) PLANES - ABIE HERZBERG

BUNK (C) CARS - ARIEL KAHANA

BUNK (D) SHIPS - GAVI ADLER

BUNK AVRAHAM - ELIYAHU GELBEIN AND SHMUEL STRIMLING

BUNK YITZCHOK - DOVI FRIEDMAN AND YEHUDA PIEKES

BUNK YAAKOV - BENYOMIN DAVIS

BUNK DAN - ARIEL STEIN

BUNK MENASHE - AVI FISKUS

BUNK EPHRAIM - ARYEH ANSBACHER AND YOSEF MORDECHAI GUTMAN

BUNK REUVEN - SHUEY ROSEN

BUNK SHIMON - MEIR RUBIN

BUNK LEVI - SAMMY TENEMBAUM

BUNK YEHUDA - EITAN ZELIKOVYCH AND AKIVA WEINRAUB

BUNK YISSACHAR - ELYA ADLER AND CHAIM SCHUH

BUNK ZEVULAN - SHIMON WEINSTIN

BUNK XTREME - GEDALIA SIKLOS

BEST IN LEARNING

RABBI KRASNOW - SAADIA LIBEROW

RABBI BERMAN - DANIEL GREENFIELD

RABBI EISENBERG - EPHRAIM ZIMERMAN

RABBI WEINSTEIN - YISRULLY GOLD

RABBI WIZEL - AKIVA KAHANA

RABBI WEISS - NACHI FRIED

RABBI SHERMAN - SHLOMO OPPEN

RABBI ZISHA - ARIEL KAHANA

RABBI LOEWY - TZVI ELI KAUFMAN

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