Dear Parents and Campers,

This Week...

This week's Parsha discusses what would happen when the Bnei Yisroel would go out to battle against our enemies. In front of all the soldiers, the officers would get up and announce that certain groups of people should leave the battlefield. One who has built a house but did not get to enjoy it, planted a vineyard but did not get to partake, or recently completed the first step of marriage but did not yet take his wife into his home - all these people should leave the battlefield. The justification the Torah gives is that it would be a tragedy if these people would perish in war, leaving someone else to come in and capitalize on their work.

But then the Torah adds a fourth category: Anyone who is אָרָא וְרָדָ הַלָּבָׁב eave. Rebbe Yosi Haglili says this is referring to a person who is afraid he will perish in war because of the Aveiros that he has. He too is excused from the battlefield.

On this, Rashi makes a beautiful point. Anyone who was not in the fourth category was so righteous, they would have nothing to worry about! If a Jewish soldier entered battle on a high spiritual level, he was assured success. So why are the first three groups being sent home to begin with?! They had Hashem on their side, and the outcome the Torah is concerned about would never come to pass! Why not let them fight, and when the war was over, they would go back to their house, their vineyard, or their wife? Answers Rashi it's true; they didn't have to go home at all. But the Torah wanted to include more categories in order to protect the dignity of those who were in group four. Everyone got up and left at the same time, and now no one knew if it was because of Aveiros, or one of the other reasons.

Amazing! The Torah feels it is worthwhile to severely diminish our number of troops going into battle, all to spare one who had Aveiros on his ledger from embarrassment. Every single Jew deserves respect and honor, no matter what life choices they made.

In addition to striving to give your children a funfilled summer, this was a focus from our staff as well. We tried to see the strengths of each individual, and worked to highlight their successes throughout the summer. Thank you for an amazing two months, and may you and our amazing Eeshay campers have a year filled with Bracha and Hatzlachah!

Have a great Shabbos,

Rabbi Glatt



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The whirlwind of week 8 has finally settled down. A couple laffy taffy wrappers, 3 wet and forlorn towels, and a holy sock were left in its wake. But we came through and had a fantastic final push to the end!

The trips were amazing! On Tuesday, Rabbi Glatt and Moshe Frishman led the Juniors up and down the ropes and slides of Kids Empire (which will soon crown Rabbi Glatt as its fearless leader), while Rabbi Kramer and Dan Flax took the Seniors to Fireball Mountain where their outdoor laser tag skills were tested and their helmets looked like they were meant to ward off alien mind control. On Thursday, we went to The Big Event Bowling and bowled each other over for an hour and a half before taking a stab at the arcades. Some boys got stuck upside down on the Virtual Reality Roller Coaster, but we figured out how to rescue them. Eventually.

On Wednesday, we started the soon to be ancient "Block Wars" tradition and had a fun, competitive day, full of races, craft competitions, and sky diving! I'm just kidding... we didn't race. We ended off the day with a Dollar Tree Scavenger hunt, which is always fun. Congratulations to Dan and the Naratogas (Naraganset and Saratoga) for winning! The ROCHes (Rest of Cherry Hill; pronounced "roaches") were only a handful of points behind. Other notable activities this week were Boulderdash and Slime making (I apologize for the messes)

Friday was our final day, and we made sure to end off strong. After learning groups, we played The Price is Right, followed by lunch (and a final "Would You Rather"), followed by swim. For the culmination of the summer, our pre-Shabbos Oneg was enhanced by Rabbi Kramer's presence, Rabbi Glatt's delicious cholent, ice cream, and was followed by an Awards ceremony. As our final activity, the boys enjoyed a video highlighting all the fun, wacky moments of the summer.

We would like to thank all of our staff members, who really put in a lot of effort and energy. They were very proactive and kept looking for ways to help or to improve camp. Looking forward to seeing you all around Cherry Hill this year!

Have a year full of bracha, hatzlacha, and shalom!

Rabbi Kaye



















