

## Parshat Acharei Mot-Kedoshim

### Loving Your Friend Like Yourself

#### Sammy A. & Rabbi Duvie Zeidel

It says in Parshat Kedoshim that “You should love your neighbor as much as you love yourself.” Thank you to my family members who have come to my Bar Mitzvah today. Thank you to my teachers and therapists in Kulanu for helping me learn. Thank you to my mom and dad who taught me to be the man I am today. Thank you everyone for coming to my Bar Mitzvah. Mazal Tov!

The question arises: if one is obligated to love their neighbor like themselves, then we should treat others like ourselves? For example, if I would like to buy myself a Ferrari, I should be obligated to buy my friend one as well? Furthermore, Rabbi Akiva says that this Mitzva is a great principle in the Torah. On the other hand, in Masechet Bava Metzia we learn that if two people are in a desert and there is only enough water for one of them, one should grab the water while the other person perishes. Rabbi Akiva states based on the verse in Parshat Behar, “You shall live with your brother,” that your life comes before your friend. On the one hand, Rabbi Akiva teaches us to love your fellow friend while on the other hand, your life comes before your friend’s life? The answer is that in Masechet Shabbat (31A), it says that one should not treat someone in a way that he would not want to be treated. In life, we are obligated to take care of ourselves. However,

when it comes to our fellow, one should make sure to treat them properly. One should always treat others in the way they would want to be treated. This is the message that Rabbi Akiva is conveying in this Parsha. Between Pesach and Shavuot, the students of Rabbi Akiva perished and we mourn since they did not exemplify this teaching of their teacher by not respecting one another. The Beit HaMikdash was destroyed because of Sinat Chinam, baseless hatred. May we merit to treat others with respect which will ultimately bring us Moshiach speedily and in our days!

### Parsha Questions

#### Parshat Acharei Mot

- 1) What Holiday do we learn about in this week's Parsha? (Yom Kippur)
- 2) Name two things that one is not allowed to do on Yom Kippur. (Eat, drink)
- 3) Who was the first Kohen Gadol? (Aharon)
- 4) When was the only time of year that the Kohen was allowed to go into the Kodesh HaKedoshim? (Yom Kippur)
- 5) How many goats were brought in the Temple on Yom Kippur? (2)
- 6) What happened to the Azazel goat? (It was thrown off the cliff)
- 7) Name a difference between the Chatat and the Olah? (The Chatat is eaten and the Olah is totally burnt)
- 8) What does one have to do after slaughtering a beast or fowl? (Cover its blood with dirt)

#### Parshat Kedoshim

- 1) What does Kedoshim mean? (To be separate and holy)
- 2) How do we become separate and be holy? (To do Mitzvot and stay away from sins)
- 3) If a farmer drops a stalk of grain on the ground, what happens to the stalk? (He leaves it for the poor people)
- 4) If you tell a person that someone else said something bad about them, what is it called? (Rechilut)
- 5) What is nekama? (Revenge- doing something bad to someone because they did something bad to you first)
- 6) We are not allowed to wear shatnez. What is it? (A mixture of wool and linen)
- 7) When someone plants a fruit tree, how many years is the fruit not allowed to be eaten? (3)
- 8) What do we do when a Talmud Chachom (Torah scholar) walks into the room we are in? (Stand up)

## Parsha Questions

### Parshat Acharei Mot

- 9) What Holiday do we learn about in this week's Parsha? (Yom Kippur)
- 10) Name two things that one is not allowed to do on Yom Kippur. (Eat, drink)
- 11) Who was the first Kohen Gadol? (Aharon)
- 12) When was the only time of year that the Kohen was allowed to go into the Kodesh HaKedoshim? (Yom Kippur)
- 13) How many goats were brought in the Temple on Yom Kippur? (2)
- 14) What happened to the Azazel goat? (It was thrown off the cliff)

- 15) Name a difference between the Chatat and the Olah? (The Chatat is eaten and the Olah is totally burnt)
- 16) What does one have to do after slaughtering a beast or fowl? (Cover its blood with dirt)

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