

## Being Great in Every Area

Rabbi Duvie Zeidel

2016

In this week's Parsha, Parshat Emor, we learn about the various types of blemishes that makes an animal unfit for a sacrifice. One of the blemishes is referred to as a "sarua," which means that the animal cannot have one eye larger than the other eye. The question arises: Why is this considered a blemish? When Rav Nissan Alpert spoke at his Rebbe, Rav Moshe Feinstein's funeral, he explained that the greatness of Rav Moshe was that he was a gadol, great Torah scholar, in every area. The sarua represents that one is greater in one area but not so much in other areas. In order for one to become great, he must be great in every area of Judaism which Pirkei Avot explains is Torah, Tefila and Chessed. In this week's Parsha, we also learn about Shabbat and the Holidays. The Meshech Chachma explains that the difference between Shabbat and Yom Tov is that Shabbat is a day between man and Hashem whereas Yom Tov is a day between man and friend. Hashem gave the Jewish people Mitzvot both in areas between man and Hashem such as Shabbat, Kashrut, Tefillin and more. Hashem also gave us Mitzvot between man and friend such as welcoming guests, giving Tzedaka, visiting the sick and more. Between the time of Pesach and Shavuot, when we look forward to receiving the Torah and mourn for the students of Rabbi Akiva, we should

make sure to work on areas both relating to man and Hashem and between man and friend.

### Parsha Questions

- 1) Where is a Kohen not allowed to go? Why? (Cemetery because he is holy)
  
- 2) Which type of Kohen is not even allowed to go to the cemetery of his parents? (Kohen Gadol)
  
- 3) Why does the Torah repeat the term “emor” at the beginning of the Parsha? (For the parents to educate their children)
  
- 4) Which Holiday takes place on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Nissan? (Pesach)
  
- 5) What do we count between Pesach and Shavuot? (Sefirat HaOmer)

6) Which Holiday do we blow Shofar on? (Rosh Hashana)

7) When is Yom Kippur? (10<sup>th</sup> of Tishrei)

8) When is the first night of Sukkot? (15<sup>th</sup> of Tishrei)