

DAF YOMI4 KIDS

מסכת
תענית
דף י"א

Inside the Daf



Imagine what it would be like to suffer while everyone around you is having a good time.

The גמרא teaches that it is wrong to appear well-off while the community is suffering.

רב יהודה says (in the name of רב) that whoever limits his eating during a famine will be saved from an unusual death like death by the sword or starvation.

A ברייתא proves from משה (Moses) that one should join in the suffering of his community. When the Israelites were suffering in battle against the Amalekites, משה, who was not fighting, raised his hands in prayer. When he became tired, he sat on a stone. The גמרא asks why he didn't sit on a mattress or pillow. The answer is, since משה saw that the community was suffering, he chose to suffer, too.

Another ברייתא says that when the community is suffering, a person who is not suffering should not say, "I will go to my house, eat, drink and be in peace." If he does, Hashem will not forgive him for this sin.

Two angels accompany every Jew, one at his left and one at his right. A ברייתא teaches that if someone separates himself from the community at a time of suffering, these two angels will declare that he should not see the comfort of the community when the suffering ends!



Did You Know...

רבי אלעזר says one should always act as if holiness rested in his intestines. Since his intestines are holy, he should make sure to provide them with proper nourishment!

WORD OF THE DAY:

צער

"PAIN/DISCOMFORT"

To Fast or Not to Fast

We usually think of fasting as a pious activity. It may surprise you to learn that the sage שמואל says that someone who fasts is a sinner!

שמואל's point may be proved from the case of the נזיר (Nazirite)*. Although a Nazirite takes it upon himself to be extra pious, he is called a "sinner" by the Torah (see במדבר ו,יא, Num. 6,11). Why?

רבי אלעזר הקליר explains that he is a sinner because he vowed to not drink wine. Now, if a נזיר is a sinner because he doesn't drink wine, all the more so is one a sinner if he fasts and doesn't eat or drink anything at all!

Since we know that fasting is sometimes a holy activity, the גמרא explains that fasting is praiseworthy for someone who is able to fast and tolerate the suffering. Someone who cannot is a sinner. Similarly, רבי ירמיה בר אבא says (in the name of ריש לקיש) that a Torah scholar should not fast since this will weaken him and make him unable to learn Torah.



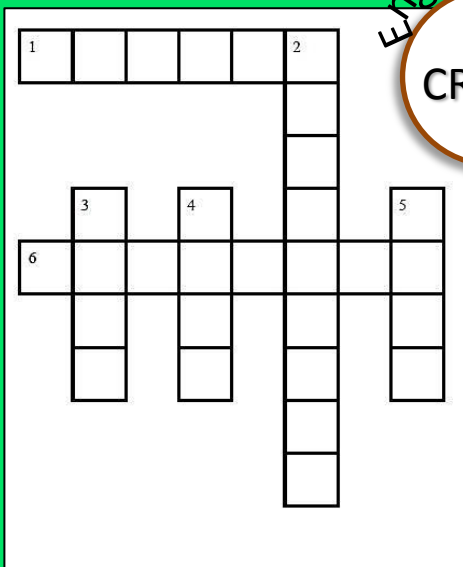
נזיר (NAZIRITE):
Someone who took a vow that does not allow him to drink wine, eat grapes, cut his hair or come into contact with a dead body for a certain amount of time. When the time period of the vow comes to an end, the Nazirite brings a number of sacrifices.

A Moment קדות

The cookies that were cooling in the kitchen were irresistible to young Noah. He knew his mother had warned him against taking any, but she wasn't home right now and probably wouldn't notice if just one was missing. He decided to eat the forbidden morsel.

"I saw what you did," said his older brother, "but what's more important is that Hashem saw you too. The גמרא says, that when Hashem judges us for what we have done the bricks and stones of our own home will testify to everything we did when we thought we were in private. The lesson is, there is no hiding from Hashem no matter how alone we feel!"

Games



English

WORD
CROSS

Across

- 1. A Nazirite may not eat
- 6. נזיר, in English

Down

- 2. Nazirite brings a number of these
- 3. Nazirite cannot cut this
- 4. Nazirite may not drink
- 6. Nazirite may not come into contact with this

תענית דף י"א – Review Questions

1. What should one do if one's community is suffering?

2. Why is a Nazirite a sinner?

3. How does one act as if holiness rests in his intestines?