

מסכת
תענית
דף טז

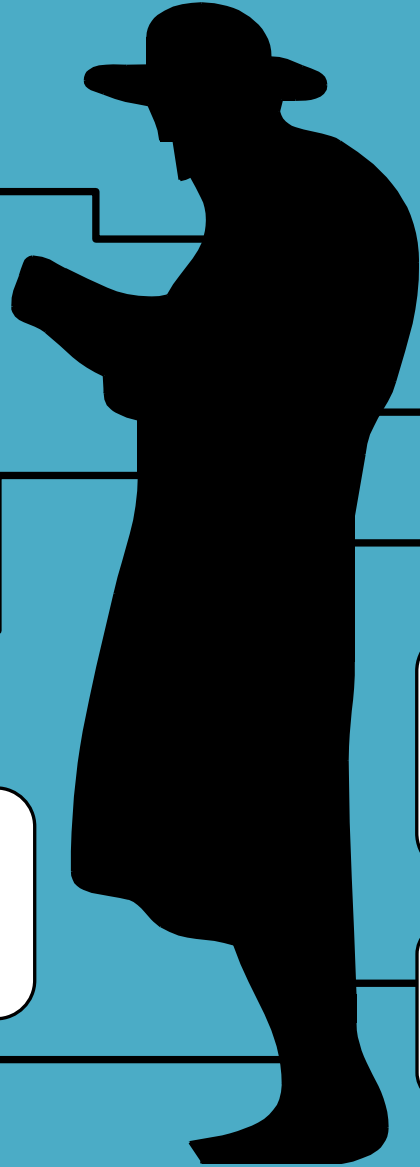
DAF YOMI4 KIDS

Inside the Daf

The מְשֵׁנָה taught that during the final seven fasts for rain, a שְׁלִיחַ צִיבור (prayer leader) is chosen who has children to feed, but no food to feed them (see pg. 51). This way, the prayer leader will pour his heart into the prayers to end the drought. רַבֵּי יְהוֹנָדָה lists other traits the שְׁלִיחַ צִיבור should have (see diagram below).

ANATOMY OF A PRAYER LEADER

WORD OF THE DAY:
לאו
"NO / NOT"



PLEASANT VOICE
He should be able to sing a sweet melody and have a pleasant voice

FARMER
He should be someone who works on a farm and needs rain

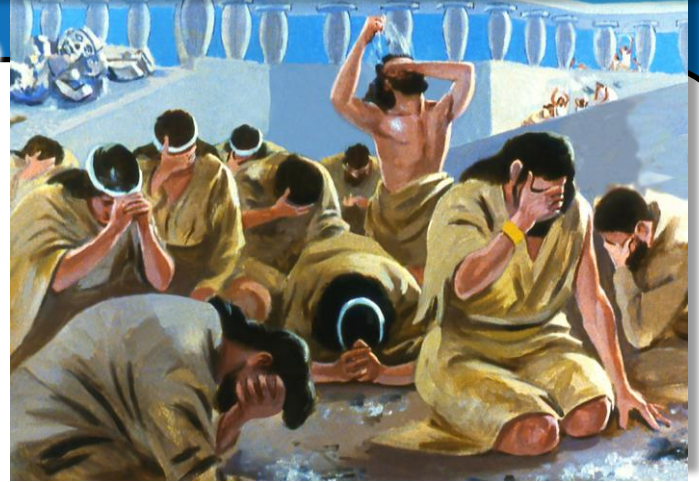
CHILDREN
The prayer leader should have small children and no means to feed them

SCHOLAR
He should be an expert in the TANACH (Pentateuch, Prophets and Writings), Midrashim, Jewish law, Aggadah and all the blessings.

GOOD YOUTH
He should not have ever had a bad reputation. Even when he was young he never did anything to be ashamed of

HUMBLE
Not only must he be humble, but the community must also want him to be its prayer leader

Nineveh's Repentance



It is probably the greatest success story ever told. The prophet, יוֹנָה (Jonah), is sent by Hashem to order the great city of Nineveh to repent. The people of the city took this order to heart. They fasted, wore sackcloth (a type of clothing woven from goat hair; sackcloth was often worn in times of distress and mourning), and truly repented.

On the last set of fast days for rain, after the public have put ashes on their heads, an elder reminds the people of the Nineveh's repentance.

"Our brothers!" says the elder, "sackcloth and fasting don't cause our prayers to be answered! It is repentance and good deeds that cause prayer to be answered. It is written about the people of Nineveh that Hashem saw their *deeds* that they repented from their bad ways (see יוֹנָה ג', Jonah 3,10)."

Even though the people of Nineveh wore sackcloth and fasted, that wasn't what was most important to Hashem. Hashem forgave them because they stopped doing evil.

A Moment

"Alex!" shouted his mother. "I told you not to hit your little brother!"

"But I said I was sorry!"

"But then you went and hit him again," said his mother. "The גְּמֵרָא says that someone who does something wrong, and admits to it, but does it again, is like someone who goes into a מִקְוֵה (ritual bath) to purify himself but is holding a dead rat the whole time! It is obvious that the מִקְוֵה doesn't make him pure!"

"Your apology is only meaningful," concluded his mother, "if you don't do the wrong thing again!"



Did You Know...

שְׁלִיחַ צִיבּוֹר
If one has to choose between a שליח ציבור who is an elderly scholar and one who is fluent in the prayers, we chose the one fluent in prayers.

Games

תענית דף ט"ז – Review Questions

1. Name two qualities the prayer leader should have according to רבּי יְהוֹדָה.

2. Which city repented?

3. Who should we choose? A scholarly prayer leader or one who knows the prayers fluently?

WORD SEARCH

PROPHET
NINEVEH
FASTING
SACKCLOTH
REPENT
JONAH

I	B	E	B	R	I	O	P	U	B	T	G	R	M	B
V	B	Z	L	X	E	U	R	W	I	Y	M	Z	L	Y
O	R	V	E	T	U	P	O	L	U	H	L	K	S	I
E	P	J	X	T	I	L	P	J	Q	F	Y	J	A	Y
O	T	J	L	H	Q	O	H	E	R	X	S	S	C	H
H	T	L	O	L	G	E	E	M	F	K	N	B	K	X
K	F	R	Z	N	K	K	T	D	U	M	P	C	C	T
K	X	L	X	H	A	H	O	U	C	C	O	Y	L	O
R	E	P	E	N	T	H	C	T	A	K	V	X	O	J
U	T	Q	W	D	N	Z	F	X	G	U	B	A	T	P
D	P	D	P	I	V	S	I	Z	U	T	A	U	H	K
Q	Y	T	V	E	M	U	J	R	M	N	X	L	F	K
L	J	D	R	K	N	N	I	N	E	V	E	H	Q	X
F	A	S	T	I	N	G	S	Y	N	C	V	A	R	B
Y	Q	S	T	T	Z	G	H	E	A	J	T	P	Z	I