

# DATA of Plano

Parshas Vayeitzei | 9 Kislev 5783 | December 3, 2022

## Friday

Minchah: **5:00**

Candle lighting: **5:01**

## Shabbos Day

Early Minyan: **8:30**

Shacharis: **9:15**

Latest time for Shema: **9:45**

Youth Groups: **10:30**

Kiddush: **11:45**

Mincha: **4:45**

Maariv / Shabbos ends: **6:05**

**Avos Ubanim: 7:00**

Please note: There is no Learners' Service this week.

## The Ladder of Life

By Rabbi Yissocher Frand

Yaakov had a dream about a ladder whose feet were on the earth and which stretched all the way up to the heaven.

The Medrash says that when the verse refers to the ladder “emplanted on the earth” it refers to the fact that Yaakov was (prophetically) shown Korach about whom it is written, “and the earth opened its mouth (to swallow Korach)”. The Medrash goes on to say that when the pasuk says that the head of the ladder reached the heaven, it refers to the fact that Yaakov was (prophetically) shown Moshe about whom it is written “Come up to HaShem (in Heaven).”

What does this Medrash mean? Rav Mordechai Ilan comments that what G-d showed Yaakov was the essence of the nation who would descend from him. Klal Yisrael is like a ladder. The Talmud in Megilah says, “This nation is compared to the dust and compared to the stars — when they go down they descend to the dust; but when they go up they ascend all the way to Heaven.” A ladder is the perfect representation of the Jewish people. No one ever remains standing on a ladder. It is either used to go up or to go down. People sit on chairs, on sofas, or beds. Those are pieces of furniture used for stationary positioning.

No body ever uses a ladder for simply standing.

That is what the Jewish People are all about. We are a nation that cannot remain stagnant. Either we will ascend and achieve wondrous heights or we will go in the opposite direction — to the dust! This is what the Medrash means by saying that G-d showed Korach and Moshe to Yaakov. They were the



two ends of the spectrum. On the one hand there was a person who was consumed with jealousy and what was his end? “The earth opened its mouth...” Because he was not ascending, he descended to the greatest depths possible. On the other hand, there was a Moshe Rabbeinu [our teacher], who demonstrated the far outer limits of what a human being is capable of achieving.

There is no standing in the middle. Stagnation itself is descent. Klal Yisroel (and indeed life in general) is a ladder with feet on the ground and the top reaching toward the heavens. It is up to the individual to decide which direction he will be heading — up toward Heaven or down to the greatest depths. This was the dream that G-d showed Yaakov about his future nation.

**Next week, Shabbos December 9 & 10, Rabbi Poupko will visit Plano.**

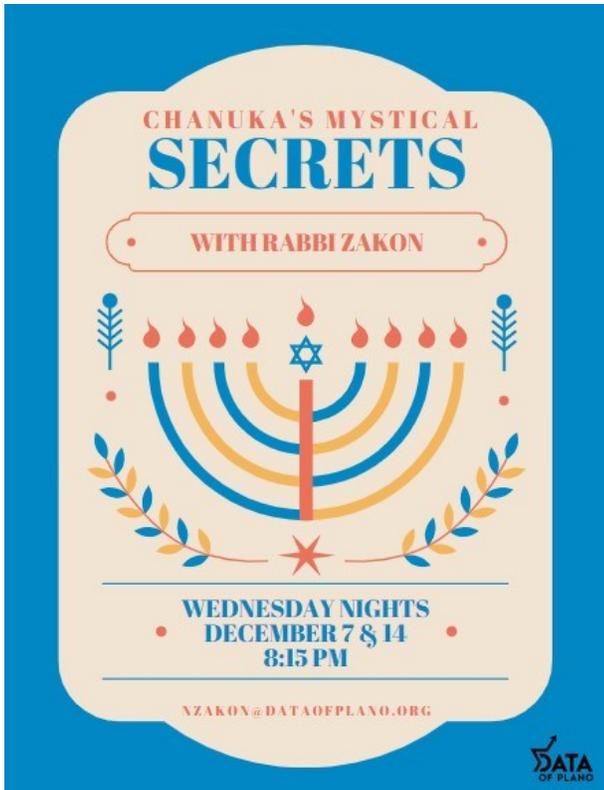
Thursday night at 8:15 for women - "The Unique Role of Women in the Chanuka Story"

Oneg on Friday night at the Fishleder home

Shabbos afternoon halacha shiur for men - "The Correct Time for Lighting on Chanuka"

**Liefecycle**

- Mazel tov to Ari and Ariella Kalendarov on the birth of a daughter, Odelia
- Condolences to Danielle Erotas on the loss of her grandfather



Raffi Erotas will be offering **karate lessons for boys** ages six to nine. Classes will be on Sundays 12:15pm - 1pm starting December 4th. Classes will be held at the Laizerovich Youth Center at DATA of Plano. Focus of the class will be teaching confidence and discipline through strength of self and learning to control your body. Students should wear clothing they can easily move in. Parents are recommended to watch lessons to encourage their children and assist them in practicing. Lessons are a suggested price of \$15 each, but no one will be turned away for any financial reasons and no charge for a trial lesson. Please contact nerotas7@gmail to RSVP.



**The Week Ahead**

- Sunday school** - Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
- Karate with Raffi Erotas** - Sunday, 12:15 p.m.
- Kinyan Masechta** - Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 p.m.
- Online community fundraiser** - Monday and Tuesday
- Hebrew reading course for adults with Rabbi Nissel** - Monday, 8:15 p.m.
- Partners in Torah** - Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
- Parsha Perspectives with Rabbi Yogi** - Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
- Mystical Secrets of Chanuka with Rabbi Zakon** - Wednesday, 8:15 p.m.
- Women's class with Rabbi Poupko** - Thursday, 8:30 p.m.
- Rabbi Poupko here for Shabbos** - Next weekend



This Monday, December 5th, will be DATA of Plano's 36-hour fundraising campaign. It's a important campaign for the annual budget, and it's a great way to get involved on behalf of the Plano community. To form a fundraising team, or for volunteer opportunities, please contact Rabbi Nissel

TDSD PTA  
PRESENTS 1ST ANNUAL

# PRE CHANUKAH BOUTIQUE

JUDAICA  
HOSIERY  
BABY/CHILDRENS JEWELRY  
WOMEN'S JEWELRY  
BABY ACCESSORIES  
"NICSESSORIES"  
"IKIPPAH"  
PAPER GOODS  
CHANUKAH GAMES  
PERSONALIZED ITEMS  
AND MORE!

FEATURING A  
SPECIAL DEMO BY  
JORDONA KOHN FROM  
THE MARKET



SUNDAY DECEMBER 4TH  
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM  
TDSD GYM  
6921 FRANKFORD ROAD

\*ADULTS ONLY