

# DATA of Plano

Parshas Vayeitzei | 9 Kislev 5779 | November 17, 2018

## Sermon

with Rabbi Zakon



### The Secret to Clear Water

### Friday

**Mincha/ Candle lighting: 5:06**

### Shabbos Day

**Shacharis: 9:00**

**Latest time for shema: 9:35**

**Learners' Service: 10:45**

**Kiddush following services:**

**11:45**

**Mincha: 4:40**

**Maariv / Shabbos ends: 6:10**

**Kol Hane'arim: 7:10**

## Learners' Service



### A Dreaming Jew

**From the Desk of Rabbi Yissocher Frand**

## Balancing Images



Yaakov Avinu [our Patriarch] dreamt of a ladder that was based on earth, with its top reaching up to Heaven. Angels of G-d were ascending and descending the ladder. The Talmud [Chulin 91] comments on the Angels' actions: They would ascend to examine the image of Yaakov, which was present beneath the Divine Throne and then they would descend to examine the image of the real-life Yaakov below.

What is the meaning of this imagery? Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik (1903- 1993) offered a beautiful insight into this Talmudic passage. The Angels were amazed at the similarity of the images. The earthly Yaakov's image was precisely the same as the Heavenly image of Yaakov. This was a tremendous accomplishment. There was an image in Heaven of who the Patriarch Yaakov was supposed to be. G-d perceived Yaakov's spiritual potential and created an image under his Heav-

enly Throne which represented that potential. Yaakov achieved in deed on this earth exactly what had been expected of him in Heaven. This was such a noteworthy accomplishment that it stirred the interest of legions of Angels who came to inspect this amazing phenomenon for themselves.

Rav Soloveitchik added that the same concept holds true for all of us. When G-d created each of us, he gave us certain gifts and talents and had something in mind for us in terms of how we should use those gifts and talents. Each of us has a Heavenly image. Each of us also has an earthly image of what we indeed look like. We must strive throughout our lives to try to ensure that the two images match up as precisely as possible. Finally, Rav Soloveitchik pointed out that Angels are not the only ones who look at the images of what is up above and compare them with what is here on earth. People have a strong sense of what the image of a



Torah-observant Jew looks like in Heaven, in the ideal. Wherever religious Jews go, people are comparing them with what they intuitively know to be the image of a religious Jew up in Heaven.

Everyone has an idea of what a Torah-observant Jew is supposed to be like, how he is supposed to act in business, how he is supposed to talk, what kind of lifestyle he is supposed to lead. People are constantly holding up the Earthly image to the Heavenly image. Unfortunately, not everyone matches up with the Heavenly image as well as our Patriarch Yaakov matched his Heavenly image. Unfortunately,

the “real-life image” of the so-called religious Jew is often not what it is really supposed to be, as indicated in Heaven. The religious community must be especially sensitive to this.

Our life's challenge is to become like Yaakov, to ensure that our two images match precisely.



## WE DID IT, TOGETHER

TOGETHER, WE RAISED OVER \$240,000 DURING OUR ONLINE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR RENOVATIONS AND EXPANSION. WE LOOK FORWARD TO GREETING YOU IN OUR NEW CENTER.

This week begins the season for the all-new “Kol Hane’arim” boys learning program on Saturday night, beginning one hour after Shabbos ends. Come learn with an adult, receive tickets for raffles, enjoy monthly refreshments, and receive sports tickets at the end of the season for consistent attendance. Extra raffle tickets distributed for those who arrive within ten minutes of the start time. For questions or sponsorship opportunities, please speak to Eden Markowitz at [edenmarkowitz@gmail.com](mailto:edenmarkowitz@gmail.com).

# KOL HANE'ARIM

Saturday night Torah study for boys with prizes, fun and monthly refreshments.



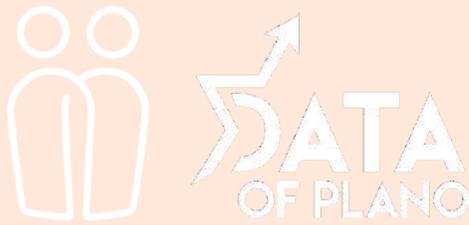
**Monthly refreshments**

**Learning for a half hour, followed by a weekly raffle for exciting prizes.**

**Participate 13 out of 17 weeks throughout the winter, and receive tickets to a sports game for every boy and a parent!**

**Weekly, one hour after Shabbos ends. Begins this week, November 17th.**





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