PARSHAT

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Yachad Shabbos Packet

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Parsha Questions:

1. Why is kindness towards the dead called "*chesed shel emet*" — kindness of truth?
2. Give three reasons Yaakov didn't want to be buried in Egypt.
3. How do you treat a "fox in his time" (i.e., a commoner who rules)?
4. "When I was coming from Padan, Rachel died on me... I buried her there on the way to Efrat..." Why did Yaakov say all this to Yosef?
5. Initially, why was Yaakov unable to bless Efraim and Menashe?
6. What does *pillalti* mean?
7. What does "*Shechem*" mean as used in this week's parsha? (two answers)
8. Which individual is called "the *Emori*"? Why? Give two reasons.
9. What did Yaakov want to tell his sons but was unable to?
10. What privileges did Reuven lose due to his rash actions?
11. What congregation from Yaakov's offspring did Yaakov not want to be associated with?
12. What did Yehuda do after he heard Yaakov rebuke Reuven, Shimon and Levi? Why?
13. What does milk do to teeth?
14. Why is Yissachar like a "strong-boned donkey"?
15. With what resource did both Yaakov and Moshe bless Asher?
16. In Yosef's blessing, Yaakov said, "They embittered him..." Who are "they"?
17. Which descendants of Binyamin "will divide the spoils in the evening"?
18. From whom did Yaakov buy his burial place?
19. What oath did Yosef make to Pharaoh?
20. Which two sons of Yaakov did not carry his coffin? Why not?

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Parsha Answers:

1. Why is kindness towards the dead called "*chesed shel emet*" — kindness of truth?
   47:29 - Because the giver expects no reward from the recipient.
2. Give three reasons Yaakov didn't want to be buried in Egypt.
   47:29 - a) Egypt's ground was to be plagued with lice; b) At the time of the resurrection, those buried outside Israel will suffer; c) So the Egyptians wouldn't make him into an idol.
3. How do you treat a "fox in his time" (i.e., a commoner who rules)?
   47:31 - Bow to him.
4. "When I was coming from Padan, Rachel died on me... I buried her there on the way to Efrat..." Why did Yaakov say all this to Yosef?
   48:7 - Yaakov thought Yosef harbored resentment since Yaakov had not buried Yosef's mother, Rachel, in the *Ma'arat HaMachpela*.
5. Initially, why was Yaakov unable to bless Efraim and Menashe?
   48:8 - The *Shechina* departed from him.
6. What does *pillalti* mean?
   48:11 - "I thought."
7. What does "*Shechem*" mean as used in this week's parsha? (two answers)
   48:22 - a) The actual city of Shechem; b) A portion.
8. Which individual is called "the *Emori*"? Why? Give two reasons.
   48:22 - Esav. a) He acted like an Emorite; b) He trapped his father with words (*imrei pi*).
9. What did Yaakov want to tell his sons but was unable to?
   49:1 - When *mashiach* will come.
10. What privileges did Reuven lose due to his rash actions?
    49:3 - Priesthood and Kingship.
11. What congregation from Yaakov's offspring did Yaakov not want to be associated with?
    49:6 - Korach and his congregation.
12. What did Yehuda do after he heard Yaakov rebuke Reuven, Shimon and Levi? Why?
    49:8 - He drew back. He was afraid that Yaakov would rebuke him for the incident with Tamar.
13. What does milk do to teeth?
    49:12 - It makes them white.
14. Why is Yissachar like a "strong-boned donkey"?
    49:14 - Just as a donkey bears a heavy burden, so the tribe of Yissachar bears the yoke of Torah.
15. With what resource did both Yaakov and Moshe bless Asher?
    49:20 - Oil-rich land.
16. In Yosef's blessing, Yaakov said, "They embittered him..." Who are "they"?
    49:23 - Yosef's brothers, Potifar and his wife.
17. Which descendants of Binyamin "will divide the spoils in the evening"?
    49:27 - Mordechai and Esther.
18. From whom did Yaakov buy his burial place?
    50:5 - From Esav.
19. What oath did Yosef make to Pharaoh?
    50:6 - Yosef swore not to reveal Pharaoh's ignorance of Hebrew.
20. Which two sons of Yaakov did not carry his coffin? Why not?
    50:13 - Levi, because he would carry the *aron* (holy ark). Yosef, because he was a king.

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Dvar Torah:

In this weeks Parsha, Perek Mem Zayin Pasuk Caf Ches, it says, “Vayechi Yaakov,” “And Yaakov lived.” Many commentataters ask why does the Parsha that discusses Yaakov’s death start with the words, “And Yaakov lived.”

One answer lies with the gematria of the word Vayechi. It has the numerical value of 34. Now we know Yaakov lived till he was 147 years old, so what does this number mean to us? Of those 147 years, it is said that he enjoyed only 34 of those years. The first 17 years of when Yosef was born until he was sold, and another 17 years when he was reutined with Yosef, his beloved son, in Egypt.

It is so important to live everyday to the fullest. Hashem has given us so much in this world and if we don’t take advantage of everything, we wil truly miss out.

Wishing everyone a restful, peaceful, and meaningful Shabbos!

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Torah Treat:

In this weeks Parsha, Yaakov twists his hands when he blesses Yosef's two sons Ephraim and Menashe. In honor of the "twist" we will be making cheese babka twists from the famous Busy and in Brooklyn.

What you will need:

1. Cheese Filling:
   8oz. block cream cheese, softened
   2 tbsp sugar
   1/2 tsp vanilla bean paste or 1 tsp vanilla extract
   1 egg yolk
2. Vanilla Crumbs:
   ½ cup flour
   ½ cup sugar
   ¼ cup melted butter
   1 tsp vanilla extract
   pinch salt
3. 2 sheets puff pastry, thawed
   1 egg + 1 Tbsp water, for egg wash

Let's get started:

1. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. Set aside. Preheat oven to 375°F.
2. Prepare the cheese filling: In a bowl, combine cream cheese, sugar, vanilla, egg yolk. Beat until creamy.
3. Prepare the vanilla crumbs: In a second bowl, combine the flour, sugar, butter, vanilla, and salt. Mix until crumbly.
4. Prepare the babka straws: Working with one sheet of puff pastry at a time, roll the dough out lightly to form a large rectangle. With the short side facing you, Spread half of the cheese mixture on the bottom lower half of the dough; fold uncoated half over cheese side.
4. Using a pizza cutter, cut the pastry into ½-¾-inch strips. Transfer each strip to one of the baking sheets, spaced an inch or so apart. As you set them down, twist the ends in opposite directions to give the straws a spiraled look. Repeat with second sheet of puff pastry and the remaining cheese filling.
5. Brush straws lightly with egg wash. Sprinkle with vanilla crumbs.
6. Bake until puffed and golden, about 25 minutes.

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