



The Tree of Life
www.etzchaimnj.com

October 22, 2010

Cheshvan 14, 5771

Congregation Etz Chaim

Weekly News

The Highest Measure of Devotion

"...For now I know that thou art a G-d fearing man, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, from me."

The akedah was the tenth trial which Abraham experienced and passed. Several of the other tests also reflected the high moral character of the first Patriarch. Why, then, was the akedah singled out as the criterion for his title, "a G-d fearing man"?

The observance of a mitzvah involving physical pleasure, when one concentrates solely on the act of the mitzvah itself, ignoring the deep feelings it evokes, is extremely difficult. When Abraham was commanded: "Lay not thy hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him..." he would have been forgiven a sigh of relief that his favored son's life had been spared. However, Abraham denied himself this luxury. He withheld the blade in the same spirit of focused devotion with which he had been prepared ([see below](#))

Brachot/Amen Breakfast Party
Sunday, October 31, 2010
10:30 AM
at the Home of
Maggie Newman
39 Aspen Drive
Livingston
RSVP
Maggie Newman
973-533-4478

Davening Times

שבת

Friday, Oct. 22

Candle lighting -
5:48 PM

Mincha - 5:53 PM

Saturday Oct 23

Shacharit -

Main - 9:00 AM
Sephardi - 9:10 AM

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Kiddush is Available for Sponsorship

Israel Action

Mike Sachs, AIPAC's Northeast Regional Director, will address the congregation on the key items on AIPAC's agenda - preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, ensuring Israel is treated fairly in peace negotiations and countering efforts to delegitimize the Jewish state.

November 6

FIDF New Jersey Chapter
6th Annual IDF Tribute Dinner
In Honor of the Lone Soldiers of Israel

November 6th, 2010 at 8pm

Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel and Conference Center
2 Meadowlands Plaza, East Rutherford, NJ 07073

For more information please contact the Director of NJ Margo Katz at 212-244-3118 x14 or margo.katz@fidf.org you can also

Mincha - 5:38 PM
Shabbat Ends - 6:54 PM

Sunday

Shacharit - 8:30 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:00

Daily

Shacharit - 6:45 AM
Ma'ariv - 7:45 PM

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Kiddush Chairs

To sponsor a kiddush, please
call:

Kiddush Chairs:

Marci Lefkovits
973-994-1401
marcinj@comcast.net

or

Maggie Newman
973-533-4478
magsn1226@aol.com

CLASSES

Sunday -
Livingston Community Kollel -
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

purchase tickets on our website at www.fidf.org

Dr. Daniel Gordis

Path to Peace: Any Roads Left?

Monday, November 15th 8:00 PM

Temple B'nai Abraham
300 E Northfield Road
Livingston, NJ

Kristallnacht Commemoration

Wednesday, November 10, 7:30pm

"Wrestling with God: Theology in the Ghettos"
Commemorating the 72nd anniversary of Kristallnacht, guest speaker **Erin Leib Smokler** will explore the writings of Holocaust-era rabbis to discover how they reckoned with their circumstances. [For more information about the program and the speaker, click here.](#)

Youth Corner

**Yachad Shabbaton coming up next week,
October 29 - 30!!!**

Men's Club

The Men's Club had a successful golf outing on October 6th. We thank everyone who attended and hope they had a good day. We would also like to thank the sponsors as well for making it a great day. The Men's Club is looking into new activities and will advise any upcoming event.

Neil Kaplan and Alan Schall

Yasher Koach, Alan and Neil, for a wonderful day! And a successful fund-raiser! Thank you!

[\(continued from above\)](#)

to offer his child upon the altar, finding another way to sacrifice to G-d by using the ram. Abraham transcended the joy of the mitzvah in doing G-d's will for its own sake. And

Monday -
R. Shlomo Krupka - 8:00 PM

Tuesday -
Arachim Lecture Series in Hebrew -
8:30 PM
R. Natan Kapustin - 9:00 PM
@ the home of
Selene & Boaz Brickman

Wednesday -
Kollel - 8:30 PM
Women's One on One
Learning - 8:30 PM
Mel Kapustin - 9:00 PM
Krav Mega - 8:30 PM

Thursday
R. Shlomo Krupka - 11:30 AM

for this reason he deserved the recognition as a genuine "G-d fearing man".

During Israel's history, we have become adept at offering our lives for the sanctification of G-d's name. Living al kiddush Hashem, however, is also a talent which Jews throughout the centuries have cultivated to a degree unknown among the general world's population. Following the way of Abraham, these genuine children of the Covenant have sanctified His name through lives devoted to talit, tefillin, kashrut, taharat hamishpacha, and the entire tapestry of precepts emblazoned with the seal of the House of Israel.

This is the lesson for us to hold as the ideal - living as a Jew, not simply dying as a Jew; being "G-d fearing" and "G-d loving" in all aspects of our daily lives.

Rabbi Shlomo Krupka ([back to the top](#))

Shabbat Shalom,

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