
The Commandment of Filial Loyalty:

Teaching by Example

The commandment to “honor thy father and thy mother” doesn’t stop with just the command. It continues with the justification “in order that you may lengthen your days upon the Land which the Lord your God gives you.” Although this continuation may not be completely intended as a full explanation for the commandment, it does serve as a partial rationale. Loyal coming to the aid of our parents when they need help allows our parents to live longer, and setting an example of such filial aid and loyalty with our own parents sets the expectation of such loyalty and aid from our own children, which will allow us to live longer. Further, filial loyalty is the basis of tribal and national loyalty. And tribal-national loyalty is the chief security for the tribal-national territory, the Land which God has given us. The primary way for a people as a whole to live long and prosper is for them to be loyal. And the primary way in which loyalty is procured is not by force but rather by seeking loyalty from our children by way of our own example to our parents.

The commandment to honor thy father and mother thus becomes the basis for all familial and national loyalty. Of course, loyalty to parents famously can conflict with loyalty to country, and those situations are not easy or simple, because filial loyalty does have a priority over other loyalties. But loyalty from the next generation can only be ultimately expected and gained through the showing of loyalty to the previous generation. And the next generation’s loyalty is the most important loyalty which must be gained if the tribal-national project is to continue and its land to be kept in continuity of tenure. Without a guarantee of the loyalty of the next generation, a guarantee that there will be future continuity, even the present generation’s national project will be liable to falter. Of course, quite a bit more than just example can be used to ask for loyalty. The very inclusion of this topic and its reinforcement as an exhortation in the Ten Commandments and other prophecies and proverbs shows that it’s perfectly OK to exhort others to honor their parents and be loyal. Parents and elders are perfectly entitled to rebuke “children” for their disloyalty and rebellion. Parents have every right to rebuke their children for their failure in this commandment. But ultimately, the main way loyalty is gained from our children and our extended tribes and peoples is by our example of showing such loyalty and respect ourselves. That is exactly why the rationale for this commandment must be explicitly mentioned here: Mentioning the rationale serves a didactic aim: It is teaching us that respect and loyalty is best taught by example.



Shabbat Yithro

January 21-22, 2022 | Shebat 19-20, 5782

SCHEDULE

Candle Lighting | 4:42 pm

Friday Evening Services | 4:45 pm

Zemirot | 8:30 am

Shahrit | *Including reading of the Ten Commandments* | 9:00 am

Jr. Congregation | 10:30 am | Levy | Led by teen leaders and Mrs. Lisa Rohde

Kiddush | following services | *Sponsored by Margo & Benjamin Suckewer, in memory of Sonia & Chaim Suckewer, Raja Abramoff, and Joe & Anne Weaker*

NO Shabbat Afternoon Class this week.

Shabbat Afternoon Services | 4:40 pm

Habdala | 5:29 pm

Virtual Habdala | 5:45 pm | Rev. Z. Edinger

Weekday Service Times

Morning Services

Sunday: 8:05 am

Monday-Thursday: 7:05 am

Evening Services

Sunday-Thursday (Minha/Arbit): **4:45 pm**

*Reminder: **WELL-FITTED MASKS REQUIRED INDOORS. KN95 PREFERRED.** If you choose not to wear a mask outdoors when permitted, you represent & warrant that you're fully vaccinated.*

Please send UPDATED vaccination card(s) to info@shearithisrael.org. Many upcoming activities will require proof of UP-TO-DATE vaccination & boosters.

THIS WEDNESDAY

Special Livestream Lecture with Rabbi Soloveichik

Next Wednesday, January 26 | 7:30 pm

Livestreamed from the Sanctuary on our YouTube channel

Refer to our emails for the livestream link

**Delivered in memory of Dina & Norman Moskowitz a”h,
on the occasion of the *nahala* of Dina bat Dovid Aryeh**

A Wrinkle in Jewish Time:
Reflections on a Famous Book, Leap Years,
and the Jewish Calendar

KIDDUSH

Sponsor a Hot Outdoor Kiddush!

Sponsoring a kiddush is a wonderful way to commemorate a special occasion or honor a loved one. We could use a couple of sponsors each week to help maintain the warmth of our community!

To sponsor, visit shearithisrael.org/outdoor-kiddush.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mazal tob to Cindy & Stuart Ellman, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Edie Siona (Meira Yehudit), born to Arielle & Josh Rubin, in Santa Monica, CA.

Correction Condolences to **Yonina Gombert**, upon the passing of her grandfather. Rabbi Feldman was the founding rabbi of The Westville Synagogue of New Haven, Connecticut, where he served for 50 years.

If you are aged 65+ or immunocompromised, **NYC will send a trained clinician to your home to do a free PCR test.** Available 7 days/week, 9 am - 7 pm.
Call 929-298-9400 to schedule an appointment.

YOUTH

Join Our Youth Team!

Want to help make Shabbat and Holiday mornings special for kids aged 5 -12, or know someone who does?

We're hiring youth leaders!

College students and beyond welcome to apply.
Check out our emails or our Facebook page to view the job description and apply now - or share this opportunity with your friends.

RESCHEDULED

Youth Trip to the Tenement Museum: *At Home in 1911*

NEW DATE: Sunday, February 13 | 11:00 am

Meets at the Museum: 97 Orchard Street

Full vaccination required - bring proof!

Our youth are invited on a special tour of the recreated 1910s apartment of an Eastern European Jewish family earning a living in the garment trade. Like the majority of immigrants at the time, the Rogarshevskys faced many challenges – with the added difficulties of raising six children in a three-room NYC tenement. Step into their home and experience what daily life was like for an immigrant family in 1911 – balancing work, family, community, and an evolving cultural identity.

To register, visit shearithisrael.org/csiyouth5782.

Parent-Child Learning - with S'mores!

Next Session: Saturday Night, February 5

This session will be led by Seth Haberman, on the topic of:
“If God Wrote A Comic Book...”

For elementary school children and their parents or grandparents

To register, visit shearithisrael.org/csiyouth5782.