

## THE MESIVTA'S MESSAGE

## A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FROM MISSOURI TORAH INSTITUTE

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Parsha Rabbi Mendy Rosner

### THE POWER OF A TZIBUR

This week's פרשה begins with קרח fomenting a rebellion against קרח fomenting a rebellion against בהונה over the בהונה being given to אהרן and his sons. The אהרן in and in a strange way. The פסוק says "ויקח says פסוק "יצהר בן קהת בן לוי" (and took," but then does not tell us what he took. "ערו explains that הוא קרו actually took himself; he separated himself from the rest of משה רבינו with this and into this manifold."

The implication from רש"י is that this was a necessary step for קרח to be able to question the בהונה. Had psychologically and emotionally from the rest of בני ישראל, all the other סברות and נגיעות that would not have resulted in rebellion. Our ראש ישיבה, R' Henach Leibowitz זצ"ל explains that כלל ישראל as a whole was very supportive of משה רבינו and those around him. Therefore, had קרח still viewed himself as part of the nation, he would have been convinced to see things like the rest of בני ישראל. Through separating himself, he was able to break free from the influence of the ציבור and challenge משה.

# MTI Recent Happenings

Ahron Orlansky 9th Grade

#### RAFTING ON THE HUZZAH

on a rafting trip. After an hour and a half bus ride, we pulled up to Huzzah Creek in Steelville, MO. It was a hot, sunny day. After we all put on sunscreen, we walked down a rocky path to the river and got right into the rafts. Each raft was able to hold at least eight people.

Being in the raft required a lot of teamwork. For example, my raft had nine people in it. We needed two people on each side rowing the oars hard. Additionally, they had to row in unison with the other side. If the raft went too far towards the right, the right side alone had to row really hard to get the raft on a straight path, and same with the left.

into the water filled trip, it started to rain. Soon after, we saw lightning and heard thunder - it was a real storm. Everyone had to pull to the side, onto a rocky shore. At this point, it was pouring. We took our oars and we propped our rafts against them, making ourselves a makeshift shelter from the rain that we were able to sit under.

# Message

Aryeh Winter 11th Grade

In פרשת פרשת קרח, מהשת and his rebellion challenge the authority of awa. It's easy to understand משה smotive for challenging משה thought that being a תלמיד thought that being a קרח in the שבט of זו, he should have earned himself a powerful position under משה רבינו

Many rishonim ask the following question. A large percent of קרח's group of rebels were from שבט were cligible for a position under משה, so what could have possibly influenced them to side with קרח and fight against!

שבט ראובן בש"י explains that שבט ראובן רש"י neighbored שבט לוי, and specifically הקרח, S family. Due to the conflict between קרח and amany of the leaders of שבט ראובן were influenced by קרח and unfortunately sided with him.

We need to take מרשת קרח 's message to heart. If the great tzadikim of שבט ראובן couldn't see through the קרח fo שקר and got influenced by him, so too we need to be very careful about who we surround ourselves with, because influence is an extremely powerful thing.

## Sparks of Mussan

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#### Rav Yisroel Meir HaCohen -The Chofetz Chaim

R' Eliezer Shulevitz asked the Chofetz Chaim to recommend someone as a Mashgiach and dean of the Lomza Yeshiva. The Chofetz Chaim named a person whom he warmly recommended for the position.

A short while later, R' Eliezer from the Chofetz Chaim instructing him not to accept decided to go in person to clarify the matter. When he came to Radun, the Chofetz Chaim explained that after the first letter had been written, the candidate had come to his home. We the Chofetz Chaim had inquired as to how he was doing, the man complained bitterly about his situation. "As soon as I heard that he was a complainer," said R' Yisroel Meir, "I rushed you the second letter, for a complainer is not fit to influence talmidim."

We can learn from here the incredible no that connecting to a ציבור has to shape and mold an individual. This idea can be used as a for growth. When one is trying to develop מידות טובות and is struggling with his יצר הרע, he should join a group of people who value those מידות and make himself a part of that group. This will in turn provide him with the Co to stay strong despite the challenges. And if 1"n one finds himself in a group that is having a negative אצה an עצה, an עצה to extricate himself would be to mentally separate himself from the group and thus mitigate the negative השפעה.

As our school year draws to a close, we can look back on an amazing זמן of growth, fueled by the fact that as a group we have been focused on our goals in מוסר and thus lifted up and provided חיזוק

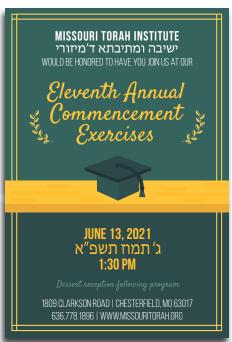
to the entire ישיבה. Though we are parting ways for the summer and heading to various locations, let us make sure to keep our connection strong and continue to reap the benefits of the בח הציבור.

## Thank you for joining us!

Hachnasas Sefer Torah & **Annual Dinner** in memory

of Shlomo & Marsha Fredman a"h







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