

Summary of Unit 5: Values

(Begin from page 6 onwards)

1. Bein Adam LeChaveiro – Mitzvot between people
 - 10 Commandments are split into two halves: 5 relate to man and G-d and the other 5 relate to person to person.
 - We should strive to act like G-d and try and copy his ways. Eg G-d is Merciful.
 - Kiddush Hashem – Generates an awareness of G-d.
 - Chillul Hashem – Discourages others from connecting to G-d.

2. The Mitzvah of Tzedakah – Charity
 - From the word Tzedek – Justice
 - Judaism teaches that we have a responsibility and duty to give to the poor.
 - Should ideally give 1/10 of one's income to Tzedakah.
 - Maimonides lists 8 levels of priority when giving Tzedakah:
(1 = The most ideal way and 8 = the least ideal way of giving)
 - 1) Giving the poor person a job so they can feel independent.
 - 2) Giving where the giver and the receiver don't know each other.
 - 3) Giving where the giver knows the receiver but the receiver does not know the giver.
 - 4) Giving where the receiver knows the giver but the giver does not know the receiver.
 - 5) Giving before being asked.
 - 6) Giving after being asked.
 - 7) Giving with a smile but less than needed.
 - 8) Giving only because you feel forced to do it.

3. Order of preference: (1 = the most ideal)
 - 1) Relatives
 - 2) Close Family
 - 3) Neighbours
 - 4) People in the same city
 - 5) People in Israel

6) People living elsewhere.

4. Hachnasat Orchim – Inviting guests

- Included in the Mitzva of 'Love your neighbour as yourself'.
- Feeding the visitor and provide accommodation where possible.
- Try to meet the needs of the guests.
- Prepare food for the journey if the guests are travelling.
- One should accompany the guests out of their property.
- Reference to Avraham welcoming the guests into his tent.

5. Bein Adam LeMakom – Relationship between a person and G-d

Examples of Mitzvot in this category:

Mezuzah:

- There is a Mitzva in the Torah to place a Mezuzah on the doorpost of our homes.
- It is a declaration and reminder of our trust in G-d.
- On reverse side is one of G-d's names
- The Mezuzah is a reminder of the the events that took place when the Jews in Egypt placed blood on their doorposts.
- Reminder of G-d's presence in the world.
- Custom to kiss the Mezuzah as one passes it.
- 2 paragraphs of the Shema are placed in the Mezuzah which include themes on: unity of G-d / love of G-d / reward for Mitzvot.
- Kosher Mezuzah – hand written on parchment from a Kosher animal.
- It is written by a trained scribe – black ink and a quill pen.
- Need to fix a Mezuzah if one plans to live there for more than 30 days.
- Every door way should have a Mezuzah except a bathroom / toilet.
- Placed shoulder height – in a diagonal direction.
- Knowledge of the blessing recited.

6. Kosher

- Defintion of the word Kosher

- Reference to Chukim
- Reasons suggested for not eating meat and milk.
- Kosher animals: Split Hooves + Chews the cud
- Kosher birds: All birds of Prey are forbidden but nowadays we only eat those we have a tradition for: Chicken / Turkey / duck and goose.
- Kosher Fish: Both fins and scales (Crab + Lobster are not Kosher as they have no scales.
- Insects: All insects are forbidden and therefore all vegetables / fruit have to be inspected – Bug Free. (Grasshoppers are actually kosher but we don't eat them as we do not know which ones are actually permitted)
- Kosher Slaughtering – Shechitah by a trained shochet.
- Additional points: Not allowed to eat or cook meat and milk together.
- Kosher Kitchen – Two separate sets of cutlery / pots and pans etc.
- People wait 3 hours usually between meat and milk.
- Items which are neither are called parev.
- Understanding of supervised milk.
- Items of foods have to also come from a Kosher animal. Eg Eggs / Fish oil etc.
- Jewish symbols indicating the food is Kosher.