**Class # 40– Parshat V’etchanan - The Shema: the declaration of the ultimate fan!**

Advanced Fellowship Parsha Class - Sponsored in memory of Alice Toby Barbanel Z”l

Rabbi Pinny Rosenthal - prepared collaboratively with Rabbi Yoni Sacks

Videos -<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HnoPf3Udqo>

1. What does a sports fan watch? How much? When?
2. What does he wear? When?
3. Does a sports fan decorate his house differently?
4. What does he teach his children?
5. Why is there so much passion and energy involved?
6. How does he relate to other fans?
7. How does the non- fan feel?

***The Shema***

שְׁמַ֖ע יִשְׂרָאֵ֑ל יְה--וָ֥ה אֱלֹהֵ֖ינוּ יְהוָ֥--ה ׀ אֶחָֽד׃ וְאָ֣הַבְתָּ֔ אֵ֖ת יְהוָ--֣ה אֱלֹהֶ֑--יךָ בְּכָל־לְבָבְךָ֥ וּבְכָל־נַפְשְׁךָ֖ וּבְכָל־מְאֹדֶֽךָ׃ וְהָי֞וּ הַדְּבָרִ֣ים הָאֵ֗לֶּה אֲשֶׁ֨ר אָנֹכִ֧י מְצַוְּךָ֛ הַיּ֖וֹם עַל־לְבָבֶֽךָ׃ וְשִׁנַּנְתָּ֣ם לְבָנֶ֔יךָ וְדִבַּרְתָּ֖ בָּ֑ם בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ֤ בְּבֵיתֶ֙ךָ֙ וּבְלֶכְתְּךָ֣ בַדֶּ֔רֶךְ וּֽבְשָׁכְבְּךָ֖ וּבְקוּמֶֽךָ׃ וּקְשַׁרְתָּ֥ם לְא֖וֹת עַל־יָדֶ֑ךָ וְהָי֥וּ לְטֹטָפֹ֖ת בֵּ֥ין עֵינֶֽיךָ׃ וּכְתַבְתָּ֛ם עַל־מְזוּזֹ֥ת בֵּיתֶ֖ךָ וּבִשְׁעָרֶֽיךָ׃

Listen[understand], Israel, God is our Lord, God is One.

And you shall Love God your Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might. These concepts which I am command you today must remain on your heart. Teach them to your children and speak of them when you are at home, when traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Bind [these words] as a sign on your hand, and let them be an emblem in the center of your head. [Also] write them on [parchments affixed to] the doorposts of your houses and gates.

 Rashi comments - What is the "love" that is here commanded? The next verse tells us: והיו הדברים האלה THESE WORDS [WHICH I COMMAND YOU] SHALL BE [UPON YOUR HEART] — for thereby you will arrive at a recognition of the Holy One, blessed be He, and will cleave to His ways (Sifrei Devarim 33:1).

There are 7 mitzvot identified in the parsha of Shema as identified by the Rambam:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| To unify Him, |  |
| To love Him, |  |
| To read the *Shema* twice daily, |  |
| To study Torah and to teach it [to others] |  |
| To tie *tefillin* upon our heads |  |
| To tie *tefillin* upon our arms |  |
| To affix a *mezuzah* |  |

As we said, Fans have a passion for a specific activity, be it a sport, a musical group or an ideology. The passion results in a central life focus centered on watching games, attending concerts, or talking about teams and musical groups.

1. What type of Fan is Moshe encouraging the Jewish people to be?
2. What are the Features of this fan?

3) Which mitzvot obviously translate the characteristics of a fan described in the parsha into legal activities?

4) Which mitzvot do not so obviously translate the characteristics of a fan into legal activities?