**Class # 19- Preparing For Pesach In A Year Like No Other**

Senior Fellowship Leadership Program

**Rabbi Pinny Rosenthal**

1. **Why is the Torah so extreme with the prohibition of Chametz?**

What are the various Mitzvot and Prohibitions?

The Torah describes eight mitzvot: three positive commandments and five negative commandments. They include:

1. the prohibition against eating chametz from noon of the fourteenth of Nisan onward;
2. the commandment to destroy all chametz from the fourteenth of Nisan onward; The Rabbis added the rabbinic mitzvah of searching your house on the night of the 14th.
3. the prohibition against eating chametz for the seven days of Pesach; [the punishment is karet – cutting off from the Jewish people]
4. the prohibition against chametz being seen in our possession for the seven days of Pesach;
5. the prohibition against chametz being found in our possession for the seven days of Pesach;
6. the commandment to eat matzah on the night of Pesach;

7) the commandment to relate the story of the exodus from Egypt on that night. The Rabbis added the mitzvah of eating Maror [without the Passover offering], the four cups of wine, & the reciting of Hallel]

**Devarim 16:1-3 – Passover**

16:1 Safeguard the month of standing grain so that you will be able to keep the Passover to God your Lord, since it was in the month of standing grain that God your Lord brought you out of Egypt at night.

16:2 In the place that God will choose to be dedicated to His name, you shall sacrifice the Passover offering to God your Lord [along with other] sheep and cattle.

16:3 Do not eat any leaven with it. As part of [the celebration] you shall eat matzah for seven days. This shall be hardship bread, since you left Egypt in a rush. You will then remember the day you left Egypt all the days of your life.

1. **How do you prepare your house in under two hours for Pesach?**
   1. What type of cleaning do you need to do?
   2. How do you prepare your kitchen?
   3. Searching for Chametz
   4. Selling Chametz
   5. Fast of the first-born
   6. Burning the Chametz