



# Table Talk



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## Birthdays



Jamie	Bomszyk
Jamie	Herman
Cody	Silverstone
Kim	Lewis
Natasha	Segal-Cantor
Gilla	Thwaites
Elliot	Campbell
Lauren	Ferster
Ziva	Levenson
Stefan	Sherman
Jamie	Zvikler
Daniel	Radnor
Natasha	Radnor
Oscar	Hamburger

## A Bite of Inspiration

### Parashat Acharei -Kedoshim

#### The spirit of Mitzvot

"You shall observe My ordinances and My laws in order that the person may do them and live by them." The Talmud cites this verse as the basis for waiving a Torah prohibition when there is a threat to life. Thus, one is required to provide whatever help is necessary on Shabbat to save a life, even though this involves a transgression of the Shabbat. The *Rabbi of Kotzk* offered another interpretation of this verse: "You shall observe My ordinances . . . and bring life into them." Performing mitzvot as a matter of rote without joy and excitement is inadequate. Observance of mitzvot must be vibrant and lively. One who fulfils mitzvot by bringing life into them will lead a

life of joy, of holiness, of forever coming closer to G-d.

#### Living Among People

Hashem told Moshe to speak to the "entire congregation of the Children of Israel . . ." Hashem commanded Moshe to state this verse to the entire congregation because the majority of the essentials of Torah are summarized here. To attain holiness, one need not be isolated and withdrawn; to the contrary, the admonition was stated in an assembly to show that we must learn to sanctify ourselves by behaving properly among people.

#### Israel's Declaration of Independence

We, members of the people's council, representatives of the Jewish community of Eretz-Israel and of the Zionist movement, are here assembled on the day of the termination of the British mandate over Eretz-Israel and, by virtue of our **natural** and **historic** right and on the strength of the resolution of the united nations general assembly, hereby declare the establishment of a Jewish state in Eretz-Israel, to be known as **The State of Israel**.



שבת  
שלום

## Side Dish

### Yom Haatzmaut

#### The need for a Jewish State

The history of the Jewish people begins with Abraham, and the story of Abraham begins when G-d tells him to leave his homeland, promising Abraham and his descendants a new home. The land is described repeatedly in the Torah as a good land and "a land flowing with milk and honey" The land of Israel is central to Judaism. Many laws are tied to the land of Israel, and can only be performed there. Some Rabbis have declared that it is a mitzvah to take possession

of Israel and to live in it. In modern times Israel stands ready to take in any Jew in need. No longer will a Jew have to flee from country to country to find refuge. More positively, the State of Israel brings to an end the image of the stooped Jew, hiding from those around. We can, and we must stand tall and proud. Proud of state and our brethren who defend it.

Happy 61<sup>st</sup> Birthday



## Celebrating Success

### Medinat Yisrael

A light among the nations

Military achievements

Diplomatic overtures

Scientific innovations

Sixty years of hi-tech

Sports

Artists and cultural institutions



מזל טוב