

North American Inclusion Month
NAIM
BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Parshat Yitro
“The Secret of Being Happy”

In this week's parsha, Parshat Yitro, Hashem gave us the Torah and we received the Ten Commandments. One of the Ten Commandments is to not be jealous and wish for what someone else has. Here, Hashem commanded Bnei Yisroel to not desire what belongs to others, as it is tempting to see something another person has and to want it for yourself. However, the sin of wanting what another person has leads to actions such as fighting, stealing, and other arguments.

We must remember that each one of us has amazing strengths and qualities that are unique to ourselves. Instead of desiring what someone else has, we can recognize the good within us. The Torah wants each person to be happy with what he or she has, in all aspects of life. It says in Pirkei Avot: "Eizeh Hu Ashir Hasameiach Bichelko"- "Who is rich? He who is happy with what he has."

This is a very good lesson for all of us to remember. In this month where we recognize the importance of inclusion, we must try to focus on and appreciate all the qualities and strengths that each of us have, while recognizing the good in others, as well.

Shabbat Shalom!



For more information contact:
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