

Ultimate Parsha continued...

Many commentators suggest, instead, that the message for us is that no Jew is complete alone. We need other Jews to make an impact and reach our full growth. We see this most frequently in terms of a minyan; in this group setting, we know we are (thankfully) judged less strictly because each of us individually is less scrutinized. It is certainly a comfort for me personally to know I am surrounded by others davening with kavaneh.

In a school context too, we are all inter-dependent. Students depend on teachers, teachers depend on students, teachers depend on other teachers, students depend on other students, parents depend on teachers, and students and teachers depend on parents. Reaching outside the confines of the school, the school depends on the community, and the community depends on the school. A great example is when shuls offer joint programming with us, ask us for student volunteers for a shul program, or when parents come into the school to volunteer on a regular basis. It is wonderful and humbling to know that while we can and should absolutely call on others during times of need, we always need each other to thrive.

Shabbat Shalom,

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