

THE WESTMOUNT WEEKLY

Friday, October 30 – Friday, November 6, 2026

LATEST REVIEW | October 28, 2026 | Revision 7

Parshas Vayeira 5787

FRIDAY MORNING | OCTOBER 30

6:57:38 AM	Earliest time for tallis and tefillin (10.2°)
6:30 AM	First Shacharis
7:25 AM	Kitzur Shulchan Aruch class
8:00 AM	Second Shacharis



EREV SHABBOS DRUSH
What Must Leave Before Shabbos Enters?

[CLICK TO VIEW / READ](#)

FRIDAY NIGHT | OCTOBER 30

5:28 PM	Shir HaShirim
5:53 PM	Mincha / Kabbolas Shabbos / Maariv • Candle lighting

SHABBOS VAYEIRA | OCTOBER 31

8:00 AM	For men and women: What Makes You Feel Alive?	CLICK TO READ
8:45 AM	Main Shul Shacharis	
8:45 AM	Sephardi Shacharis • Sephardi Shul Room	
8:50 AM	Repeat for men and women: What Makes You Feel Alive?	CLICK TO READ
9:30 AM	Moriah Room Shacharis • Dads' class with Mordechai Michalowicz follows	
10:30 AM	Youth Program	
10:30 AM	Ladies' class • Dvora Volfson	
11:15 AM	Congregational Kiddush • Shabbos drush When We Cannot See What Comes Next - CLICK TO READ	
5:25 PM	Mincha	
5:55 PM	Shalosh Seudos: How Do We Say Goodbye to Shabbos? • Shelly's siyum	CLICK TO READ
7:00 PM	Shabbos ends / Havdalah	

Local times: Chabad Thornhill and Hebcal; Shabbos ends according to Westmount's 50-minute-after-sunset practice.

CONGREGATIONAL KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship available - Please contact the Rabbi to arrange a sponsorship.

MORIAH ROOM KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Larry and Lily Tobis - In memory of Lily's parents, Ralph and Edith Horowitz a"h
(22 and 16 Cheshvan, respectively).

SHALOSH SEUDOS SPONSORSHIP

The Glowinsky family - On the yahrzeit of Shelly's father, Zvi Hirsh ben Avraham Chaim a"h,
and in honour of his siyum on all Mishnayos.
Shmuel Scheinbach - In memory of his father, Zalman ben Yitzchak HaLevi a"h, on his yahrzeit.

MAZEL TOV

To Stanley and Ingrid Mann on the engagement of their daughter Rachel to Jake Wyman.
Mazel tov also to grandparents Jeff and Julia Kallmeyer.
To Rick and Natalie Naor on the birth of a granddaughter in Israel.
Mazel tov to the parents, Alyssa and Uriel Zohar, and to the baby's siblings.

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Verna Pillemer and her family on the passing of her beloved mother, Denise Segal a"h.
May Hashem comfort them among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

CLOCKS GO BACK: Turn your clocks back one hour before bed on Saturday night.

DAVENING & LEARNING

Sunday, November 1 – Friday, November 6, 2026

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	SUN 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6
Earliest tallis & tefillin	6:00:01	6:01:13	6:02:25	6:03:37	6:04:49	6:06:01
First Shacharis	8:00	6:15	6:30	6:30	6:15	6:30
Kitzur class	—	7:25	7:25	7:25	7:25	7:25
Second Shacharis	—	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00
Madreigas HaAdam	—	1:25	1:25	1:25	1:25	—
Mincha	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	4:44 PM
Maariv	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	—
Sefer Chareidim	8:45	9:30	9:30	9:30	—	—

Shacharis, tallis/tefillin and Kitzur times are AM. All other class and service times are PM.

Clocks go back one hour on Sunday, November 1. All times on this page are Eastern Standard Time. Tallis/tefillin: 10.2°, Hebcal, Thornhill.

EVENING CLASSES | NOVEMBER 1-6

MON NOV 2 | 8:00 PM Parsha HaShavua: Chayei Sarah - Rabbi Yossi Michalowicz

MON 8:30 PM Mishnah Berurah - Mordy Michalowicz

TUE 8:30 PM Mishnah Berurah - Mordy Michalowicz

THU NOV 5 | 8:00 PM Semichas Chaver - Rabbi Yossi Michalowicz

THU 9:30 PM Chassidus on the Parsha - Rabbi Tsvi Heber

TUE NOV 3 | 8:15 PM Talmud: Maseches Megillah - CANCELED

EREV SHABBOS CHAYEI SARAH | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

4:19 PM Shir HaShirim

4:44 PM Mincha / Kabbolas Shabbos / Maariv - Candle lighting

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Kiddush - Shalosh Seudos - A Torah class - A day of learning

To arrange a sponsorship and dedication: westmountshul.com/sponsor

This week's Congregational Kiddush sponsorship is available. Please contact the Rabbi.

Donating Has Never Been Easier

Visit westmountshul.com. On a desktop, click Donate at the far right of the homepage. Enter your amount and contact details, choose General Donation or a sponsorship, and tell us the purpose in 'Reason or dedication.' You may also enter a requested sponsorship date before completing payment.

Sponsorship

Sponsorship

General Donation - No Sponsorship

Full Kiddush \$2,000

Kiddush co-sponsor \$1,000

Kiddush in-part sponsor From \$500

Shalosh Seudos \$200

Dads Kiddush \$200

Reason or dedication (In honor /memory/support)

Requested sponsorship date

Westmount Shul & Learning Centre invites you to a

MELAVE MALKA A PRACTICAL WORKSHOP



How to Help Someone Choose Jewish Burial

Starting the conversation about cremation—with care, clarity and confidence.

A relative. A neighbour. A longtime friend.
Someone you know may be considering cremation.
Learn how to reach out before decisions are made.

THE CREMATION CRISIS IS REAL. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

ABOUT 1 IN 2
American Jews are cremated.

EVERY 16 MINUTES
Another Jew is cremated in the U.S.

U.S. estimates reported by NASCK / End Cremation • endcremation.org

LEAVE WITH TOOLS TO START THE CONVERSATION

- Begin a sensitive conversation with warmth and respect.
- Respond to concerns about cost, convenience and the environment.
- Explain why Jewish burial matters—and help someone take the next step.



Workshop led by

Yael Davidowitz

Director of Outreach & Project Last Kindness, NASCK

A Columbia University-trained nurse and experienced Chevra Kadisha volunteer, Yael helps Jews of every background understand the meaning of Jewish burial.

Motzaei Shabbos • November 14, 2026 • 8:00 PM
Westmount Shul & Learning Centre • Thornhill, Ontario

Generously sponsored by Ron and Carla Beker



FREE OF CHARGE
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE
westmountshul.com/register
Registration closes Monday, November 9 at 11:59 PM
(Toronto local time)

One caring conversation can make an eternal difference.

WESTMOUNT SHUL INVITES YOU

CHANUKAH BINGO NIGHT & SILENT AUCTION

Bingo! Prizes! Food! Auction! Fun for All!



B I N G O				
4	17	35	50	69
12	28	41	58	74
7	27	★	49	62
15	23	40	56	68

★ **OVER \$1,000** ★
IN BINGO & AUCTION PRIZES!

PRIZES INCLUDE
TWO PAIRS OF
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS TICKETS!



MOTZEI SHABBOS • DECEMBER 5, 2026
2nd Night of Chanukah
Doors open 7:30 PM • Bingo begins 8:00 PM

Westmount Shul
10 Disera Drive, Unit 250

ADMISSION • CASH AT THE DOOR \$10 Adults • \$5 Children under 10 <i>Maximum \$80 per family</i>	SILENT AUCTION TICKETS Sold at the door: 1 for \$2 • 5 for \$8 • 10 for \$16
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NEW THIS YEAR: LOUD MICROPHONE SYSTEM!

REGISTER ONLINE BY THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
WestmountShul.com

[Click here to register](#)

Help make the evening a success by donating good prizes. Please contact the shul office.



Join over 5,500
participants
worldwide
who are learning
the same
Halachos.



Semichas Chaver

REVOLUTIONIZE YOUR TORAH LEARNING!

Learn and remember
for years to come
the most common
halachos that arise daily.

New Zman New Topic!

Hafrashas Challah,
Terumah & Ma'aser

**SEMICHAS CHAVER AT WESTMOUNT SHUL
THURSDAY NIGHTS • 8:00 PM**

WESTMOUNT SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE

THE POWER TO CHOOSE

Bechirah • Free Will • Divine Providence

An inspiring eight-part Motzaei Shabbos series
with **Rabbi Yossi Michalowicz**

*If Hashem knows the future,
how free are we?*

— OPENING CLASS —
SATURDAY NIGHT • NOVEMBER 21
6:15 PM

Eight one-hour classes • PowerPoint presentations • Questions & discussion

— 2026 —
November 21 & 28
December 12, 19 & 26

— 2027 —
January 2, 9 & 16

No class December 5 — Chanukah Bingo Night

Start your week with Torah.
And still have the rest of Motzaei Shabbos to enjoy.

Westmount Shul & Learning Centre
10 Disera Drive, 2nd Floor, Suite 250 • Thornhill



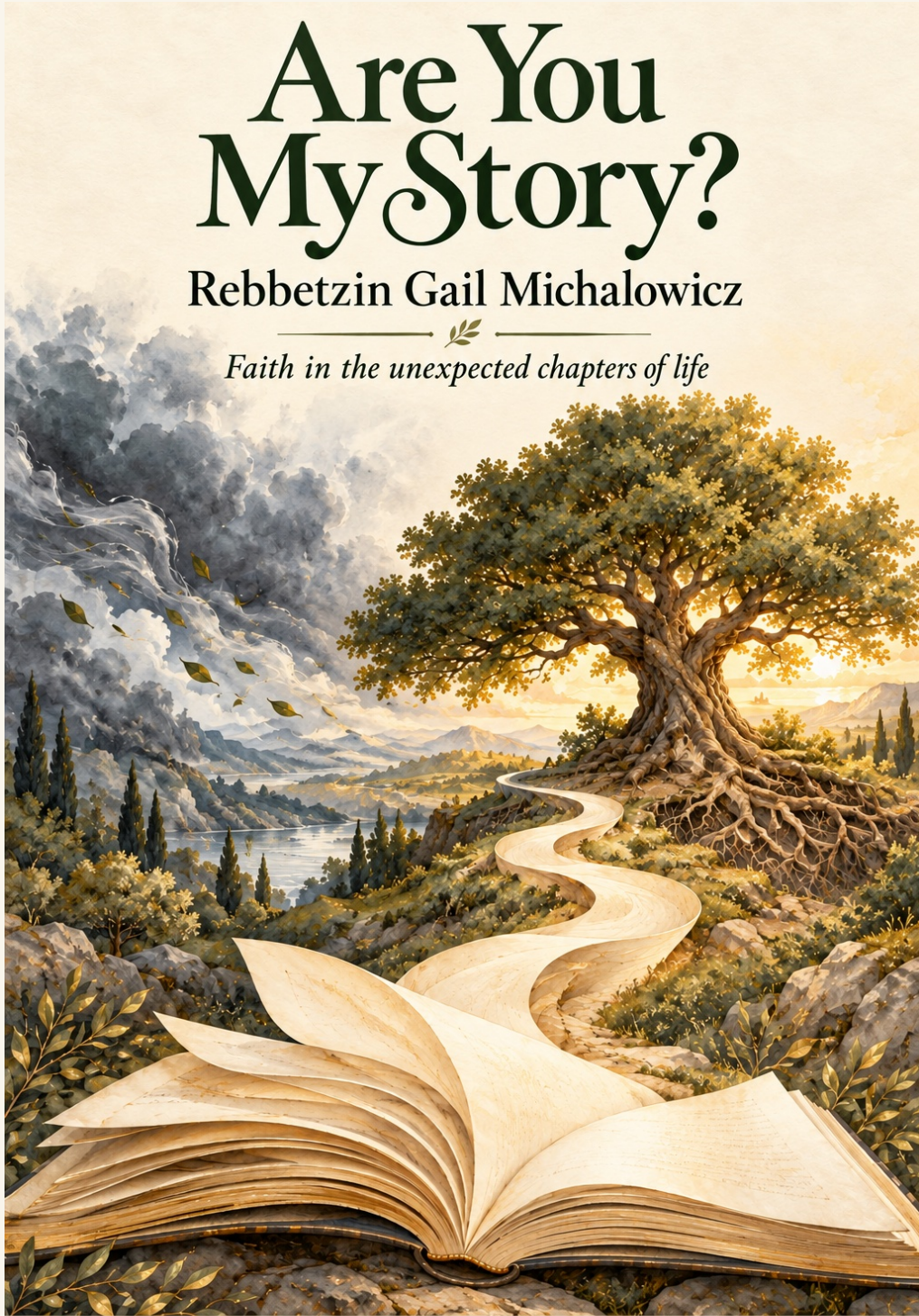
The latest class from the Rebbetzin

Rebbetzin Gail Michalowicz • Westmount Shul

Are You My Story?

Rebbetzin Gail Michalowicz

Faith in the unexpected chapters of life



westmountshul.com/are-you-my-story



Click here to watch the class or read the transcript

westmountshul.com/are-you-my-story

Watch • Read • Share



Not What He Wants Advertised

I'm involved in *kiruv*, so we often have guests at our house who are just beginning to keep Torah and *mitzvos*. One Shabbos, my friend Yisrael happened to pass by our house and stopped in to say good Shabbos. When he left, the guests asked who he was. I told them that he's a friend, and that he runs a property management firm. To bring across the point that a responsible job and a Torah life can coexist very nicely, I mentioned, "He learns for a half-hour every morning before Shacharis and every night after Maariv." It made the right impression. They were amazed at his dedication. But then I felt uneasy. I know Yisrael, and I know

that he is not at all satisfied with the amount of time he puts into learning. He's always talking about "getting it together" and finding more time in his day for Torah. If he heard me tell these people about his half-hour in the morning and half-hour at night, he'd be mortified. But I truly meant it as a compliment. Was I allowed to say this to my guests?

—Menachem



What's the Psak?
Do you know the halachah?

A Yes.
The guests will look favorably at Yisrael.

B No.
To Yisrael, it's not a compliment.

C Yes,
but only if it was clearly a praise of Yisrael.

Acclaim or a Calamity?

Menachem has not said something that, on its face, is a negative statement. In fact, both Menachem and the people hearing the statement see it as praise. However, Yisrael has clearly expressed his belief that his learning schedule is not adequate for a person at his level, and therefore, Menachem knows that Yisrael would see his comment as negative. This is what makes it *loshon hora*.

Whether a comment is positive or negative depends on how the speaker, the listener, and the subject would interpret it.¹ Certainly, if the comment would cause the listener to see the subject in a negative light, that comment is forbidden. And even if the listener sees it as a compliment, it is still forbidden if the subject would not want this comment to be made about him.² The fact that the speaker considers the information to be

praise does not turn it into permitted speech.

Therefore, Menachem should not have mentioned Yisrael's learning schedule even if he meant it as praise, because Yisrael—the subject of the comment—feels that it puts him in a negative light. This is true even though both Menachem and his guests consider the comment positive. Instead, he should have simply mentioned that Yisrael learns every morning and night, without saying how long he learns.

Answer: The halachah is B.

Reviewed by **Rabbi Moshe Mordechai Lowy**

Rav Pam, zt"l, advised great caution when presenting halachic scenarios to the public, as each situation is unique. This *shailah* is for discussion only; actual halachic decisions should be made by a rav or halachic expert on a case-by-case basis.

The Shmiras Haloshon Shailah Hotline: 718-951-3696 2-3PM / 9-10:30 PM

1 Sefer Chofetz Chaim, Hilchos Loshon Hora, 5:6
2 Be'er Mayim Chayim, Hilchos Loshon Hora, 4:1

We are an **אדרבה** family

We don't **rush** to judge. We **pause** to understand.



See the
good
in the
heart
of a Yid



Adapted from
**Quill of
the Heart,**
a CCHF
publication

Itzik, the town water carrier, was one of the happiest people in town. He was a simple man who woke up early, learned a little, prayed a little, and then walked to the river at the edge of town to bring water to his customers.

Back and forth he'd go with his heavy buckets, every day but Shabbos. But he was grateful; he made a living and could feed his family without turning to *tzedakah*. And that contented, humble nature made him beloved by his customers.

One day, people noticed that Itzik was using his "time off" to go around town collecting *tzedakah*. They wondered what happened. He was always so proud of supporting his family.

Most people shrugged it off, but one

man felt Itzik was taking money he didn't really need. He told the Rav, who called Itzik in for a conversation.

He Was Willing to Look Bad to Do Good

The Rav tried to get to the bottom of the story, but Itzik remained silent. The Rav's voice became more insistent. In

the waiting room, Moshe, one of the town's wealthiest men, could hear every word.

Suddenly, Moshe burst into the Rav's study. "Tell him, Itzik!" said Moshe. "You don't have to keep the secret anymore!"

Moshe walked out and Itzik finally explained.

Moshe had stopped

paying for his water. After a few months, Moshe's wife confided in Itzik that they had gone broke, but Moshe was too proud to admit it.

From then on, Itzik lowered himself in the eyes of the whole town, going house to house with a *pushke* to secretly support Moshe's family.

With tears in his eyes, the Rav kissed Itzik's forehead and cried, "I pray that I will be allowed to share your lot in *Olam Haba!*"



See the
good
What's the
Real
Story?



Adapted with
permission from
*The Other Side of
the Story*,
by Rebbetzin
Yehudis Samet,
published by
ArtScroll/
Mesorah
Publications

Yehudis had a favorite seat for *chuppahs*: four rows back, on the aisle. At her friend's son's wedding, she arrived a full half-hour early to get it.

Just before the *chuppah*, a woman approached.

"Would you mind moving down two seats?"

Yehudis glanced down the row. There were still seats available. *She comes at the last minute and needs*

Why Did She Need My Seat?

MY seat? But Yehudis moved, and everyone shifted down.

A minute later, the woman waved to a girl of about twelve near the doorway—and gave **her** the aisle seat. Yehudis couldn't believe it. *I came half an*

hour early so somebody's daughter could have the best seat in the room? The woman didn't even sit down in the seat next to the girl. She disappeared toward the back.

The music began. Yehudis tried to concentrate, but she was annoyed. Then she noticed something strange: The girl wasn't looking at the *chuppah*. She was staring toward the doorway.

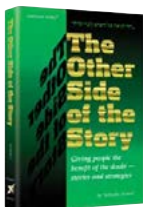
Suddenly, the girl jumped up. A woman had just entered. The girl ran to her, threw her arms around her, and began to cry.

Why had the girl needed Yehudis's aisle seat so badly?

Can you **Crack** the case?



The woman who had asked Yehudis to move returned. "That's her mother," she whispered. "She's been very sick. Until tonight, nobody knew whether she'd be well enough to come. The girl begged me, 'Please put me somewhere I can see the *chuppah* and the door. I don't want Mommy to come in and not be able to find me.'" Yehudis looked at the empty aisle seat. She had thought a spoiled child had been given the best seat in the room. But for that little girl, the most important thing happening that night wasn't under the *chuppah*. It was coming through the door.



DEDICATIONS

לעיני בתשבע רחל ע"ה בת ר שמעון יבלח"ט • לעיני חיים יחיאל מיכל בן רפאל פיוועל שניאור ז"ל • לזכות רפואה שלימה למשה שמריה יוסף חיים בן רבקה רחל

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