

## Shailos with Rabbi Willig #162

1) My son was going to shower before going to night seder ( after Tzeis Hakoachavim). He asked if after his shower does he need to put his tzitzis back on?

2) I was wondering if I can use my kitchen aid mixer for Pesach to do the following. I wanted to get an attachment that hooks on to the machine to shred potatoes. If I get all new attachments , can I use the motor of the mixer to shred the potatoes .? So much easier than grating potatoes by hand.

3) At an auf ruf, are they allowed to give a grandfather an aliyah right before his grandson?

4) A yeshiva is running an event on Motzaei Shabbat; may they ask non-Jewish faculty to set it up during Shabbat, if that would certainly involve melachah? What if they volunteer? Is there a difference between an event at the yeshiva and an event in a non-Jewish venue?

5) May an individual daven for ruchni things on Shabbos, like a bakashah for her children to become talmidei chachamim?

6) The Shulchan Aruch (Orach Chaim 66:3) says one should respond to the chazan's Modim by just saying "Modim anachnu lach" at certain points in davening. Does that include saying Amen, or does one just say "Modim anachnu lach"?

7) The Shulchan Aruch (Orach Chaim 328:37) permits ingesting מאכל בריאים on Shabbat even if it is medicinal. However, as brought in Orach Chaim 328:32 one may not do this where the ingestion is obviously medicinal, as in a case of gargling vinegar and spitting it out. If a person who is obviously ill ingests מאכל בריאים, is that prohibited as "obviously medicinal"? Or is it only a problem where the actual act of ingestion does not resemble a normal act of eating?

8) A husband and wife in my community both want to get divorced, since they are both very unhappy with their marriage. There is no serious wrong here according to both of them. Rather, they married young and have grown apart, each of them in different ways. Should I discourage this, encourage this, be silent or something else? I worry that divorce is bad (but the kids are all out of the house) and I worry that unhappy marriages lead to zenus (no reason to think this is true in this case, but just it is always true) and so much more. The couple are both well off and money is not really an issue. What should be my view?

9) I am in the process of writing communal guidelines for my shul. Can Rabbi Willig tell me which of the possible permissible ways to heat up food on Shabbat? I generally encourage a hot plate or a warming draw. Is there more ways I should list?

10) in the zmanim charts for Mincha Gedolah we used to see the charts for Mincha Gedola would use half of the shaos zemanios when calculating the time for mincha gedolah. Recently the charts have all said Mincha gedola lechumra counting the half hour to be 30 minutes which could make a difference of 5-6 minutes during the winter months. What is the appropriate time to use for Mincha Gedolah.

11) What does Rebbe recommend to answer when people ask about breaking fast before the Megillah on Purim night?

12) Can Rebbe please review the various *shitot* for the responsive parts of Hallel when davening with a minyan? Does everyone say all the paragraphs (*hodu, yomar, yomru & yomru*) as well as respond with *hodu*, or just say *hodu*? What should one do when davening alone? If one is in a Sefardic community where only the chazan says *hodu, yomar, yomru & yomru* and the congregants say only *hodu*, should one do that or say the full text silently.

13) When we take out multiple sifrei torah, is there a specific place where you are supposed to put down the 2nd sefer when putting on the bima. I have seen people insisting one way or another but have not been zoche to see a source for this.

14) We learned recently in dafyomi that there is no need for the underside of the tefillin retzuos to be black. But is it preferable to have the new 2 sided black retzuos so that there is no problem of the top black peeling unbeknownst to the wearer? Or do we say that this is not our mesorah?

15) If someone wraps himself with a blanket to keep warm during the daytime, is there a need for tzitzis? I assume not but why? Is there a difference if it is made of 100% wool?

16) Regarding mishloach manos:

a. Does a bottle of water or seltzer count as one? Is the halacha different if it is flavored?

- b. Is it preferable to send with a shliach? If yes, can a child who is not a "bar shlichus" be used as the shliach?
- c. Is one allowed to send to a secular Jew who will not make a bracha on them?
- d. What should a married woman who is in aveilus within yud eis chodesh do if someone brings her mishloach manos? Should she say she is accepting them for her husband?

17) a. A congregant approached me and said since he is starting to bald, he wants to just get a bald haircut. What are the guidelines as to what is permitted?

b. The style amongst teens is to get a very short cut on the sides of their head and leave a long "chup" on top in front. The youth leader wanted to know if he should speak about it, and if so, what issues are there to discuss? He believes that there is a chance that if he explains the issues some might contemplate and possibly change but some might get offended.

- 18) a. Does a totally detached separate storage shed in one's backyard require a mezuzah?
- b. Where would one put a mezuzah if the door closes in such a way that it can't be put on the doorpost?
- c. If someone signs a lease and is renting a house for a year, when should he put up the mezuzah and when should he make the bracha?
- d. Someone is attending a college and is dorming in an apartment with separate rooms and a common living space. There are five rooms, and four Jews and one non Jew occupy them. I assume that there is a chiyuv on his individual room. But is there a chiyuv of mezuzah on the main doorway to the apartment and the shared areas?
- e. Someone bought a house with mezuzas already still up from the previous owner. But he intends to use the side entrance to the house as his main entrance. Should he change the position of any mezuzas that were put up assuming the front entrance as the main entrance? Should he wait until he actually starts using the side entrance?
- f. Someone bought a property in Florida as an investment property with the thought that he may possibly move there in a few years. It is in a mostly Jewish development. Is he responsible/able to put up mezuzos [with a bracha] and when?

19) Non-jewish [father] and jewish mother have a firstborn baby boy...baby R'L dies after 30 days without a pidyon haben, father later converts - is there a chiyuv to do pidyon haben after death and who would do it if yes?

20) Dairy pancakes (20% dairy) were taken directly off the pan on a fire and placed onto a ceramic meat plate. Status of plate...any difference for Ashkenazim / Sephardim?

21) A family is making a wedding right after pesach. They typically observe the 1<sup>st</sup> half of sefira. While the wedding of course wouldn't be an issue should they switch to the second 1/2 this year so that everyone can take haircuts? Dance with live music during sheva brochos?

22) For those that do sell real chometz, with Pesach ending on a Thursday night, can someone deliberately save/purchase a bag of flour before pesach? Freeze challah? Keep a full box of pasta? Etc. While stores do it, is the individual also allowed?

23) In today's economic society, what are criteria for distribution of matanos levyonim funds collected through a shul fund? Is someone/a family struggling to make ends meet a fulfillment of the mitzvah?

like a wristwatch but does not tell time, it gathers fitness data. The metzius as explained to me is as follows: during Shabbos nothing happens in an observable way, after Shabbos when he opens the app he will see all the activity data that was collected over shabbos. However, if he takes it off things happen, the device senses that it is being removed and the lights on the device will blink or flash etc.. a) is he allowed to wear this thing in shabbos) if it is already on his wrist on shabbos is it better to take it off or continue wearing it?