Shailos with Rabbi Willig #175

1) Can Rebbe please review what to recommend to people going to Israel in these 5 weeks before December 4th, what someone from USA who goes to Israel should do for Visein Tal Umatar when in Israel and upon return ?

What if he is a chiyuv to daven for the amud?

2) How long into pregnancy when a woman had a miscarriage is there no pidyon haben for the next son that was born

3) If one takes out the Kiddush levanah cards on shabbos for after shabbos would that constitute הכנה? If not, what kind of task is considered a טירחא that would be הכנה ?

4) a) When I do the laundry on Friday, sometimes the last load is not ready to be put in the dryer until close to Shabbat. Mishnah Berurah 308:63 states that clothes so wet that they can not be worn are mukza all of shabbat, even when they dry out, but I saw that Rabbi Ovadva Yosef (Halichot Olam) argues that this is only when they will not be expected to dry.

b) Can I take these clothes from the dryer Friday night and use them?

c) Does it matter if they are done drying before Rabbenu Tam thinks shabbat should begin?

5) A woman in my community asked:

a) At the kiddush on Shabbos, after the rav makes kiddush and eats mezonos, am I allowed to just have a drink without eating mezonos as i "heard Kiddush"?

b) If Yes, when i come home and it is another 30-40 minutes before we have our shabbos seudah (kiddush will be made at home either way) am I allowed to continue drinking ?

6) Is there a problem to take or eat Kosher leftover Halloween candy brought by co-workers into the office?

7) In the calculations of the modern Jewish calendar, Lo Adu Rosh assures that Yom Kippur cannot fall on erev or Motzei Shabbos for very practical reasons. Yet the aleph of "adu" seems to guarantee that Hoshana Rabba not fall on Shabbos, so chibut arava could take place. A talmid asked me why did the calendar not prioritize avoiding aleph Tishrei falling on Shabbos rather than chibut arava, where both the mitzvos aseh d'oraysa of t'kias shofar and arba minim (two weeks later) could be kept?

8) What bracha does Rav Willig make on hydroponicly grown vegetables, eg romaine lettuce

9) A Jewish doctor is required to record patient information in the hospital on Shabbat.

a) May he pay a non-Jew to accompany him and record it for him?

b) Must he hire the non-Jew for weekday time as well, so that he is not asking for Shabbat melachah?

c) If the arrangement is made during the week, is there a need to hint, as opposed to asking directly?

d) How do the rules change if the recording is on a computer and is not printed out on paper?

10) An elderly couple are both in the beginning stages of dementia. Each has a 24 hour aide to take care of them. Their married son lives a half hour drive away. He wants to know if it is permissible for the aide [who has spent many years in frum Jewish homes and knows the laws of kashrus and milk and meat] to cook for them in their pots in their home with ingredients that he buys for them. If not, what other suggestions can I make?

11) If one is the only boy, but his parent wrote a halachic will so his sisters get an equal share, upon the parent's passing and inheriting, does he say shehechiyanu or hatov v'hameitiv? And exactly when does he make this bracha?

12) On shabbos, can Rebbe take me step by step through making tuna fish?

a) How can one open the metal can - fully with a can opener? Make a hole on the bottom first?

b) Can one squeeze out the oil from the tuna? When adding in mayo, should he preferably put in the mayo before he puts in the tuna?

c) And is a shinuy required for mixing- and what are practical acceptable shinuyim?

13) a. If one bought premade tzitzis in a store, can he assume that the person who made it kept 4 strings on one side the entire time he made it?

b. Is it preferable to tie one's own tzitzis if he could do it but it takes him about an hour to do it and it does not come out as nice?

14) What is the proper policy for a yeshiva high school regarding a boy who forgot his own tefillin and needs to borrow from a friend:

a) should he be told to daven with the tzibur without tefillin and put on tefillin later [is there anything he should then say with the tefillin on?] or

b) wait without tefillin [answering to the tzibur] and daven later with tefillin on?

15) A teenager lent his tefillin to his friend during davening with no intention of putting them back on. The second boy did a quick job and gave the tefillin back to the owner with plenty of time left to davening. His rebbe tells him to put the tefillin back on for the duration of davening. But should he make a bracha when putting them back on?

16) A boy who is turning 3 is having an upsherin as per his family's custom. The boy will put on a yarmulka and tzitzis after getting his haircut. Is it appropriate for the boy to wear tzitzis if he is still not toilet trained and wears a diaper?

17) If a woman is in shloshim for a relative or the year for a parent, is she allowed to send meals to others in the community [for example, after childbirth or during aveilus]?