

**Tell a story**  
**Parshah Metzora**  
**by Julie Zhuk on 2023-04-22**

**Comments**

Last week's parsha and this week's parsha are linked together. This week's parsha is a continuation from last week. The focus is more of how one's actual home becomes impure. When this happens, everything must be taken out.

The parsha states the main reason why someone's house became impure was because of the negative way people in that house spoke. There's a story about a family not wanting to share any of their tools the neighbors constantly asked to borrow. It turned out that the house became impure and everything was taken out. The family was embarrassed for everyone to see they had everything and just didn't want to share.

The Torah warns that if a Jew views their possessions as something exclusively their own this trait isn't as bad as speaking negatively about others. It is still considered not good because the person is undermining their relationship with the people of Israel. By doing this, they are compromising their relationship with their home in the land of Israel. By not sharing the tools within their home with others around them, they were susceptible to caring only about their own home and not being apathetic to what was going on in the rest of the land.

The Torah teaches it's important to do more than not harm one another. Every Jew must see their possessions as a means to live a life of meaning. This includes transcending themselves and sharing with others. A lot of this week parsha has to do with the power of speech. It's important for us to be friendly and help anyone in need.

Maimonides says it's good for Jews to rejoice, it's considered a mitzva. If a Jew isn't including their neighbors or others around them. They are considered rejoicing of their gut. When there is a holiday to be celebrated, it is important for Jews feed people who are converts, widows, orphans, and anyone who is poor and destitute. The joy that Jewish people strive for comes from using our homes to transcend ourselves.