

Parshat Terumah Exodus 25:1-27:19

The portion of Terumah, which means gifts, is basically a listing of the work that was to be done in connection with construction of the Tabernacle.

The Israelites had to be trained to understand that in everything they did, they were to think of G-d and His Torah. By building a sanctuary, which they could carry with them, they had a constant reminder of G-d's presence among them and of their duties towards Him.

In order to build the sanctuary, it was necessary to raise money. Thus, the first fund raising campaign in Jewish history.

G-d tells Moses to call upon every Israelite to make a contribution for the Sanctuary. Moses is not told, however, how much each person is to give; whatever a person wanted to give was acceptable.

Food for Thought:

- 1. How relevant are these ancient Jewish laws to life today?
- 2. In Judaism, why Tzedakah is considered such an important commandment?

Shabbat Shalom
Candle lighting time is 5:53 pm

