



# KMS Family Parsha

LEARN ABOUT THE PARSHA WITH THE KMS YOUTH DEPARTMENT  
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בראשית - Breishit

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## PARSHA QUESTIONS

ANSWERS ARE ON THE BACK

- 1) What did Hashem create on each day of Creation?
- 2) Which is the only day of creation that does not say "וַיֵּרָא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב"?
- 3) What is the only letter of the Aleph-Bet that does not appear in the creation story in Perek 1?
- 4) From where do we know that the Jewish day starts at night?
- 5) What is the 1st Mitzvah in the Torah?
- 6) Hashem told Adam and Chava not to eat the fruit from which tree?
- 7) Where do we learn that one must not add to a commandment from Hashem?
- 8) What was Kayin's job and what was Hevel's job?
- 9) Who was the oldest person who ever lived? How old was he when he died?
- 10) How many generations were there from Adam to Noach?

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Discussion starter for your Shabbat table..

**How can you use your creativity to make the world a better place?**

## DID YOU KNOW?

The 1st Letter of the Torah (Chabad.org)

Why does the Torah start with the letter beit, the second letter of the Hebrew alef-beit, rather than with the first letter, alef?

The Midrash Tanchuma (Bereishit 5) asks this question and answers as follows: "Because alef is the first letter of the word "arur" – "cursed," whereas beit is the first letter of the word "baruch" – "blessed."

But this explanation is difficult to understand. Alef is also the first letter of beautiful words, such as "emet" – "truth," or "ahavah" – "love," while beit is also the first letter of bad words such as "barad" – "hail" (seventh of the ten plagues of Egypt), and "bli'ya'al" – wickedness. Why then does the Midrash offer an explanation that doesn't seem to fully answer the question?

The Midrash may be alluding to the following: The letters of the Hebrew alef-beit also serve as numbers. Each has a number-value – alef equals one, beit, two, and so on. By extension, alef can mean to care about only one person, oneself, and to forget about others. Beit, on the other hand, means coexistence, caring and getting along with another. The Torah starts with a beit to teach us that caring about others is baruch – the source of all blessing, and that alef – selfish caring only about oneself is arur, cursed.

Happy 969th Birthday Mr. Methuselah.. Happy Birthday to you.



# PARSHA ANSWERS

- 1) 1 - Light and Darkness, 2 - The Heavens, 3 - Land/Sea/Plants/Trees, 4 - Sun/Moon/Stars, 5 - Birds/Fish, 6 - Animals/Man, 7 - Shabbat
- 2) It does not say כִּי־טֹב on the 2nd day b/c Machloket (division) was created on that day ("ויבדל בין המים").
- 3) The letter Samech does not appear until Breishit 2:11.
- 4) 1:5 - ויהי ערב ויהי בקר יום אחד - it mentions evening before morning.
- 5) 1:28 - פרו ורבו ומלאו את־הארץ וכבשה - Be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and master it."
- 6) They could eat from every tree except the Etz Hada'at (Tree of Knowledge).
- 7) From Chava. Hashem commanded her not to eat from the tree but she added not to touch it. Because she added to the command she eventually came to transgress it.
- 8) Kayin was a farmer and Hevel was a Shepard.
- 9) Metushelach lived until 969 years old!
- 10) There were 10 generations from Adam to Noach. There were also 10 generations from Noach to Avraham.

# ELISHEVA'S PARSHA CHALLAH



This week we start reading the Torah all over again - how exciting! Now more than ever we are learning to appreciate our world even more. When we think about how carefully Hashem creates each and every thing around us, we might want to think about how we take care of all those things. There are many habits we can change and many actions we can do to protect our planet. If we protect our planet and take care of it we are also helping each other, because then we have a beautiful and safe place to live in. So what will you do to make our planet and our earth safer and better?

## DVAR TORAH

Dalia Albert - 12th Grade

"Now the earth was astonishingly empty, and darkness was on the face of the deep, and the spirit of God was hovering over the face of the water. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light." (Genesis 1:2-3)

The Chofetz Chaim zt"l said that these verses at the beginning of the Torah deliver great inspiration in times of darkness. At the beginning of creation, the world was completely dark without even the slightest hint of any light. One cannot vanish darkness by fighting it with all their might, but if you light one small match the darkness vanishes.

When the whole world is in complete darkness, one guarantee by Hashem, "Let there be light" is enough to light up the entire world! This concept is taught to children as soon as they begin learning Torah. Even if there are times when the world is surrounded by a spiritual darkness which threatens its survival, there is always hope. In one second Hashem can free His word and there will be glorious light.

Whenever we feel pain it is because we instantly tell ourselves that things are horrible and that everything is hopeless. At moments like these we struggle to foresee a bright future. Yet if we remember that Hashem has the power to shine forth a magnificent light, we will conquer our negative attitude of discouragement. From the bottom of our hearts we can rely on Hashem in the darkest of times to shed light on the world.

In bleak moments, even before the first light appears, we will be full of hope. We realize that the darkness itself is all part of Hashem's plan. Whenever we feel darkness, we need to think with a positive attitude and make it a habit of repeating, "Let there be light." Just by repeating these words over and over we can begin to feel the light of Hashem entering our hearts and souls. Even if your personal situation remains as it is despite your tefillot, when you experience Hashem's light and believe in Him you will have the strength to deal with any situation that comes your way with your spiritual strength. Hashem has the power to redeem us in a heartbeat. During these times of Covid-19, what better lesson than this to remind us all that regular participation in shul minyanim, active participation in shul programming, and a steadfast commitment to Torah and Mitzvot can all serve as the beacons of light that will sustain our hope and emunah to bring us out of gray skies and into brighter/better times.. B'ezrat Hashem, that time will hopefully arrive very soon!