



KMS Family Parsha

LEARN ABOUT THE PARSHA WITH THE KMS YOUTH DEPARTMENT
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וַיֵּיצֵא - VaYeitzei

11.28.20

PARSHA QUESTIONS

ANSWERS ARE ON THE BACK

- 1) Why does it say that Yaakov departed Be'er Sheva on his way to Charan?
- 2) What happened in Yaakov's dream?
- 3) When Yaakov woke up he prayed "וַיִּשְׁבְּתִי בְּשָׁלוֹם." What did he mean?
- 4) How many years did Yaakov work in order to marry Rachel?
- 5) Why were Leah's eyes weak?
- 6) What were the names of Yaakov's four wives?
- 7) According to Rashi 29:35 why did Leah only thank Hashem with the birth of her 4th son Yehuda?
- 8) Which children were born to each wife?
- 9) What did Rachel take before she left her father's house?
- 10) Where are there two Aramaic words in this weeks Parsha?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Discussion starter for your Shabbat table..

What has fear of failure stopped you from doing?

DID YOU KNOW?

Thanksgiving

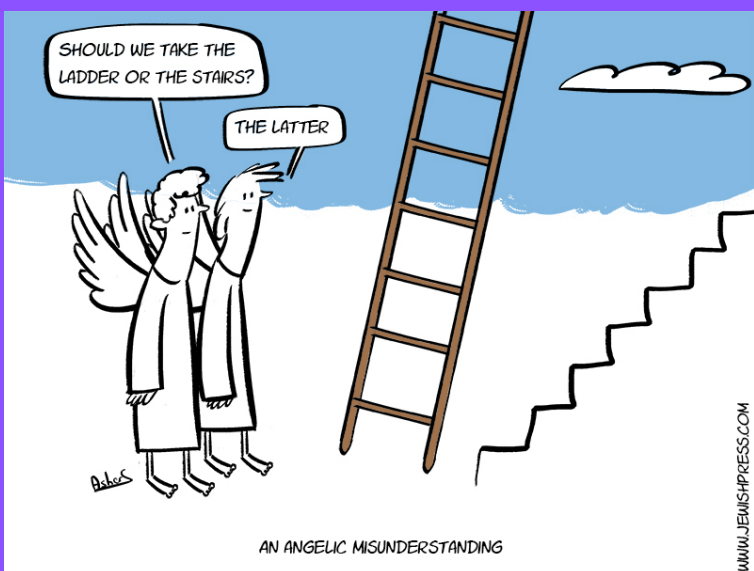
The Hebrew term for Gratitude is Hakarat HaTov, which literally means "recognizing the good." It is very easy to focus on what is not the way we want it. But Judaism teaches us not to take the good for granted. Instead, we acknowledge and thank Hashem for the good things in our life all the time.

We begin each day by saying מודה אני, thanking Hashem for restoring our Neshama to us. We say Birchot HaShachar, thanking Hashem for basic abilities like being able to see and stand up. We make Brachot on the foods that we eat, taking the time to acknowledge their source. We even say a Bracha upon going to the bathroom, appreciating every aspect of the complex human body.

In Pesukei D'Zimra we recite "מזמור לתודה," in Shmoneh Esrai we recite "מוֹדִים אֲנִיחֵנוּ לָךְ," in Aleinu we say "ואנחנו הודו לך" and in Hallel we say "כי טוב."

Indeed, Judaism, Yahadut, comes from the word Todah. To be Jewish is to be thankful.

This weekend, as America celebrates Thanksgiving and eats Turkey (ironically, called Hodu in Hebrew) let us reflect on the many things we should be thankful for and remember to express that thanks every single day.



PARSHA ANSWERS

- 1) Rashi 28:10 - When a tzaddik leaves a city they leave a void.
- 2) A ladder was going up to heaven with angels going up and down.
- 3) Rashi 28:21 - Yaakov davened that he would return without sin, not learning from the ways of Lavan.
- 4) Yaakov worked 7 years, but when Lavan switched Leah and Rachel Yaakov had to work another 7 years to marry Rachel.
- 5) Rashi 29:17 - Leah cried a lot because she thought she was destined to marry Eisav.
- 6) Rachel, Leah, Bilhah, and Zilpah.
- 7) Yaakov was destined to have 12 sons and he had 4 wives, so Leah assumed each wife would have 3 sons. When she gave birth to her 4th son she expressed thanks for receiving more than she expected.
- 8) Leah - Reuven, Shimon, Levi, Yehuda, Yissachar, Zevulun, Dina; Rachel - Yosef and Binyamin; Bilhah - Dan and Naftali; Zilpah - Gad and Asher.
- 9) Lavan's idols. When he came looking for them she hid them under her seat on the camel.
- 10) 31:47 - *Yagar Sahaduta*, meaning "wall of testimony." Yaakov and Lavan made this mound of stones to symbolize their treaty.

ELISHEVA'S PARSHA CHALLAH



HOW AMAZING WOULD IT BE TO BE ABLE TO HAVE A DREAM LIKE YAAKOV WHERE WE LITERALLY SEE HASHEM SENDING US PROTECTION FROM ON HIGH? WE HAVE TO CLOSE OUR EYES AND IMAGINE THAT SAME PROTECTION AROUND US. IT'S THERE. WE JUST HAVE TO BELIEVE IT!

DVAR TORAH

Avigayil Rabin- 9th grade

In this week's Parsha Ya'akov is sleeping outdoors, running from his home, about to go to Lavan's house. He has his famous dream of a ladder standing on the ground, and **מַאֲלָכִים**, angels, going up and down. What is the significance of a ladder? Why did he dream of a ladder and not something else, like stairs or a ramp?

It is taught in Pirkei Avot 1:2, that the world stands on 3 pillars: Torah, Avoda, and Gemilat Chessed. (**תורה, עבודה, וגמילת חסד**) Just like these 3 things support the world, a ladder as well gives support. This is hinted at in the Hebrew word **סֶלֶם**. The "ס" stands for **סוֹמֵךְ נוֹפְלִים** - helping those who have fallen, representing Gemilat Chessed. The "ל" stands for **לִימוּד תוֹרָה** - learning Torah. And the "ם" stands for **מִקְדָּשׁ** where Avoda was done - Avoda. The ladder isn't just a random part of Ya'akov's dream or just a way for Angels to get up and down. It's symbolic of what supports the whole entire world. **תורה, עבודה, וגמילת חסד**.

This is an important message as Ya'akov, at this point in his life, where he is vulnerable, alone, and about to go somewhere unfamiliar (Lavan's house), as long as he kept to these 3 things, HaShem would always keep him safe. And we can apply this lesson to us as well. We all experience daily challenges just living in the world. But as long as we can stick to **תורה, עבודה, וגמילת חסד**, HaShem will be with us as well, our world being fully supported.