

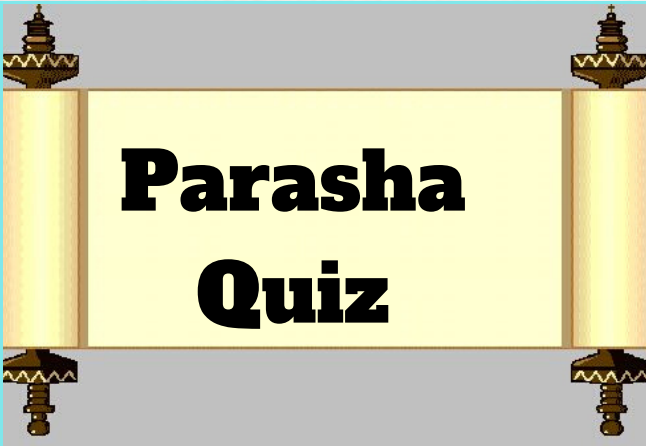


KMS Family Parasha

LEARN ABOUT THE PARASHA WITH THE KMS YOUTH DEPARTMENT

VaYeitzei: וַיֵּצֵא

12.7.19



Elementary:

- 1) What happened in Yaakov's dream?
- 2) How many years did Yaakov work in order to marry Rachel?
- 3) What Chesed did Rachel do for Leah?
- 4) How many children were born to Leah, to Rachel, to Bilhah, and to Zilpah?
- 5) Where did Rachel hide her father's Teraphim (idols)?

Middle/High School:

- 1) According to Rashi 28:10 why does the Torah tell us that Yaakov left Be'er Sheva on his way to Charan?
- 2) According to Rashi 28:11 where did Yaakov have his famous dream of the ladder to heaven?
- 3) According to Rashi 29:11 why does Yaakov cry when he meets Rachel?
- 4) According to Rashi 29:35 why did Leah only thank Hashem with the birth of her 4th son Yehuda?
- 5) According to Rashi 30:1 why was Rachel jealous of Leah?

What would you do?

Discussion starter for your Shabbat table..

Would you rather save the life of someone you are close to or save the lives of 10 random strangers?

Did You Know?

In Israel, they have been saying the request for dew and rain ("ותן טל ומטר") since the 7th of Cheshvan. Outside of Israel, we begin on Dec 5th. Why the difference?

The Mishna stipulates (Ta'anit 1:3):

בשלושה במרחשון שואלין את הגשמים. בן גמליאל אומר: בשבעה בו, חמשה עשר יום אחר ההג, כדי שיגיע אחרון שבשראל לנהר פרת.

On the 3rd of MarCheshvan we pray for rain. Rabban Gamliel said: On the 7th of the month, that is 15 days after the festival (of Sukkot), in order to allow the tardiest Israelite to reach the Euphrates.

In Babylonia, however, where rain was needed later, the practice differed, as the Gemara (Ta'anit 10a) explains:

חנניה אומר: ובגולה עד ששים בתקופה

Hananiah said: In the Diaspora (we don't begin) until the 60th day of the season (Tekufat Tishrei - the autumnal equinox).

If you forget to say it in the bracha of Barech Aleinu you may insert it in Shema Koleinu. If you completely forget it you must repeat the Amidah. For the 1st 30 days if you are not sure we assume you did not say it. After 30 days we assume you did.



Giving Thanks - Rabbi Ron Jawary (Aish.com)

"She [Leah] conceived again and gave birth to a son and said: 'This time I will give thanks to God.' Therefore she called his name Yehuda" (Genesis 29:35).

One of the underlying themes of the Torah is the importance of developing a sense of gratitude. It is interesting that Leah only expresses this gratitude after the birth of her fourth son. One of the ideas the Torah is teaching us is that when we receive any blessing or gift, we are naturally grateful. The difficulty is to retain that state of gratitude when the blessing becomes mundane and commonplace. After three sons, Leah could have easily lost her sensitivity to the Divine and the blessing of family. In order to maintain the excitement and gratitude she named her son "Yehuda," which means "thank you," constantly reconnecting to the appreciation of the gift of her son every time she called his name.

In fact, the Jewish nation is known by the name "Yehuda" to remind us continually of the importance of gratitude. That is why the Rabbis instituted blessings to say not only upon the most seemingly mundane occurrences, such as using the restroom, but also when we see or experience wonders of nature. When you are aware of the Divine, nothing is mundane.