- 1. As we know it's a mitzvah from the Torah to eat a kezayit of bread in the Sukkah on the first night and one must have in mind before he eats that he is sitting in the sukkah "zecher litziat mitzrayim" and you're fulfilling the mitzvah through eating.
- 2. Same rules apply to sukkot as pesach. It is best to eat your kazayit within 4 minutes, but it's a lot easier with bread than matzah.
- 3. If it rains on the first night it's obviously not a good thing. The gemara compares it to a master who calls his servant to pour him some water and then throws the water in his face. There are a number of opinions of what to do.
  - a. Rosh and the Ran hold that the rule of "If you are uncomfortable in the sukkah, you're exempt," doesn't apply to the first night and they would require you to sit in the sukkah and eat at least a kazayit even if it's raining. The Ashkenazim and even the Ben Ish Hai hold like this opinion.
  - b. The Raavad and Rashba disagree and hold that the first night is no different than the rest of the nights and therefore you are exempt.
  - c. The Shulchan Aruch holds like the second opinion and thus says your are exempt.
  - d. Out of the modern day Poskim, Rabbi Refael Baruch Toledano is a little more strict and he says since Sukkah, like Matza, has a din until midnight (hatzot) then one should technically wait until chatzot to see if it stops raining and then go inside and have your meal. He does admit that could be quite difficult so he says then wait an hour or two.
  - e. He is also more strict that which he says, if it doesn't stop raining after an hour or two, you should still say kiddush in the sukkah, bless shehecheyanu and have in mind the sukkah, but not to say "lishev basukah." He should wash his hands, eat a kazayit of bread in the sukkah and eat the rest of the meal in the house. And say birkat hamazon back home.
  - f. Hacham Ovadia is a more lenient in the matter. He says, that if possible it is best to wait a bit to see if it stops raining and then go inside. But if you see that the children are impatient or people are hungry, there is no obligation to wait and you should therefore say kiddush right away inside your house.
  - g. If it stops raining after you began your meal, first night or second night, everyone agrees that you must eat in the sukkah a beitzah of bread (60 grams), wash your hands, say hamotzi, bless lishev basukah and birkat hamazon.
- 4. Assuming that everything works out tonight, the order of Kiddush is as follows:
  - a. HaGefen
  - b. Kiddush Hayom (Asher Bahar Banu)
  - c. Lishev Basukah
  - d. Shehecheyanu
- 5. Tomorrow the order is reversed. First is Shehecheyanu and then Lishev Basukah."
- 6. At the Kiddush tonight we will not be reciting Lishev Basukah unless there is someone who is there and ready to eat bread in the sukkah. If you are, please approach me.
- 7. The rule of thumb is that whenever you are making Kiddush throughout the holiday, Yom Tov and Shabbat, the blessing of "Lishev Basukkah" is recited at Kiddush, not HaMotzi.
- 8. If you forgot to recite it by Kiddush, you say it by HaMotzi.
- 9. If you forgot to recite it by HaMotzi, you can say it anytime as long as there is still bread on the table and you are eating.