



B'NAI DAVID-JUDEA

Shabbat Shorts

Let's now address a practical scenario: What if there is no wine over which to say Kiddush?

In LA, we are blessed to have access to a variety of wines in our kosher (and regular) grocery stores, as well as bulk discounts and even a nearby winery! But for Chazal, regular access to wine was apparently a common concern.

Generally, all agree that wine is preferable-- if not required-- for Kiddush. "But במקום שאין יין מצויי - in a place in which wine is not available" the Shulchan Aruch explains that there are some who allow for beer or other beverages besides water to be used (272:9). The Mishnah Berurah clarifies that these beverages that may be used for Kiddush are called 'chamar medinah' and they are limited to drinks that people drink together socially (beer, alcoholic drinks, and even coffee or tea when alcohol is unavailable). When chamar medinah is used, 'shehakol' is the blessing recited.

The Rosh, by whom the Rema holds, adds a distinction here between Kiddush during the nighttime and Kiddush during the daytime. He rules that at night if wine is not available, the challah should be used instead because it is essential to the meal (לצורך סעודת שבת). But on Shabbat morning, he allows for other beverages to be used.

Fascinatingly, the Mishnah Berurah brings in his personal experience: במדינתנו שהיין ביוקר ורוב שתיית המדינה הוא משאר משקין לא נהגו אפילו הגדולים להדר אחר יין "In the land we live in where wine is expensive and the most popular drinks of the nation are other beverages, even those who are great in Torah learning do not customarily seek after wine on Shabbat morning since that Kiddush is only a rabbinic obligation" (272:29). Here the Mishnah Berurah strikingly shows there was a *preference* in his time to not use wine on

Shabbat day (as Kiddush on Friday night is biblically required and Kiddush on Shabbat day is rabbinically required, allowing more room for leniency during the day).

How does this all apply today for us?

1. Wine-- even if it means opening a new bottle-- should be used for Kiddush when possible. This is one of the main ways we observe kavod Shabbat, honoring Shabbat.
2. When wine is not an option-- because of cost or availability-- Kiddush should be said on bread Friday night and on a beverage that qualifies as chamar medinah on Shabbat day.

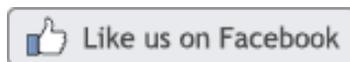
But what about someone who cannot drink wine? Like a person who is allergic to sulfites, someone with an addiction to alcohol, a woman who is pregnant and who is not drinking wine, or someone who just doesn't like wine? And where does grape juice fit into all of this? Stay tuned for the exciting answer on the next Shabbat Short!

NEW!! Send us your Shabbat questions, and we will address them in upcoming Shabbat Shorts!!

I love feedback!
rabbanitalissa@bnaidavid.com

B'nai David-Judea 8906 West Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90035
director@bnaidavid.com

See what's happening on our social sites



See what's happening on our social sites



B'nai David-Judea, 8906 W. Pico Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90035

SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}.

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by rabbanitalissa@bnaidavid.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today

