

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parsha Ki Savo
August 28, 2026 / 15 Elul 5786
Volume 31, Issue 44
Candlelighting: 7:48 pm

Waxman Torah Center · 2195 S. Green Road · University Heights, OH 44121 · (216) 691-3837 · www.clevelandjlc.com

Friday, August 28

6:30pm Early Mincha / Maariv
7:48pm Candlelighting
7:50pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, August 29

8:45am Shacharis
*Kiddush is sponsored by
Ahron Grosman in honor
of his engagement*

6:40pm Pirke Avos
7:40pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos
8:56pm Maariv

Sunday, August 30

9:15am *Parsha Class*
(R. Nisenbaum)
10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)
8:30pm *Maimonides' Laws of
Repentance*
(R. Nisenbaum)

Monday, August 31

8:00pm *"Lessons from Yonah"*
(R. Nisenbaum)

Tuesday, September 1

8:00pm Tanna d'vei Eliyahu
(R. Stoll)

Wednesday, September 2

8:00pm Nach Still Speaks –
MISHLEI (R. Stoll)

Thursday, September 3

8:00pm Sefer HaChinuch: R. Stoll
10:15pm Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)

Torah Podcast

Listen to Rabbi Nisenbaum's
"Torah Podcast" at Spotify, Apple
Podcasts, iHeartRadio, and more,
or download at
www.maverickpodcasting.com

Weekday Minyanim

7:00am Shacharis (M-F)
8:00am Shacharis (Sun)
10:00pm Maariv (Sun-Th)

Class Connection

R. Nisenbaum:
425-436-6200 #352171
"The Torah Podcast" weekly
at all podcast locations

R. Stoll:
Zoom: 876-619-3551
Audio: 669-900-9128

Parsha: Ki Savo

The people were instructed in the mitzvah of *bikkurim*, to bring the new fruits of the season to the *kohen* in the *Beis HaMikdash*, the Temple. When the first fruits of Israel's seven species (wheat, barley, grapes, figs, dates, olives and pomegranates) began to blossom, the farmer would mark them by tying a ribbon around them. Later, when the fruits ripened, they were decorated in beautiful baskets and brought to Jerusalem amidst great fanfare and joy. The Talmud describes how the people traveled together in large groups accompanied by musicians, and how all the inhabitants of Jerusalem greeted them.

The owner gave the fruits to the *kohen* who placed them next to the altar. The person then recited a paragraph expressing appreciation to G-d for His involvement with the Jewish people from the very beginning of their nationhood. From early on, He had saved Jacob from the evil plans of Laban, had delivered the nation from the oppression of Egypt, and had brought them finally to the Land of Israel. As a token of appreciation for all of G-d's kindness, the person brings the first fruits of his labor, that which is closest to his heart, as a gift to G-d.

The first fruits arouse a sense of appreciation within a person. This, in turn, allows a person to reflect upon all the good that he has received, and offer thanksgiving for that too. When a person suffers a setback, it is very difficult to even imagine the positive things in his life, because he is so

consumed with his present difficulties. When one is enjoying the good things in life, though, he can begin to appreciate earlier things that, at the time, seemed to have been totally negative experiences.

Later in the portion, the opposite attitude is portrayed quite clearly. Moshe warned the people of the dire consequences they would face if they failed to follow the Torah properly. The Torah graphically describes the terrible punishments that would fall upon them. At the

culmination of the curses mentioned, the Torah predicts that, "In the morning you will say 'If only it were last evening,' and in the evening you will say, 'If only it were morning again.'" If a person is not able to appreciate all of G-d's kindness, he will find himself in such difficult straits that he will only be able to look longingly at the earlier times that had gone unappreciated.

Mazel Tov!

Ahron Grosman upon his engagement

Dr. Scott and Debbie
Peters upon the
engagement of their son

High Holiday Seats

Contact the shul to
reserve your seats.

Insights: Ki Savo

You should take from the first fruits... (Deut 26:2) The Mishnah states that when the fruit first blossoms one ties a ribbon to the fruit, to designate it as a gift to the *kohein*. Similarly, when a child is first born, he too should be designated as holy to G-d. After the Holocaust, Rav Eliezer Silver visited several monasteries where Jewish children had been hidden. He tried to have them released to the Jewish community. The church however denied that any of the children were Jewish. Rav Silver told them that he could identify the Jewish children within five minutes. The church allowed him to enter. Rav Silver sang out "Shema Yisrael!" Immediately many of the children began crying "Mama, Mama!" as the words woke up early memories of their parents reciting the bedtime Shema with them. The mitzvos that are done with children, even as babies, create powerful memories that last a lifetime.

Did You Know?

Erev Yom Kippur it is customary for all men to immerse in a mikveh. This should be done before praying Mincha in the afternoon, in order that the first viduy confession be recited in purity. One should also dress for Yom Tov before praying Mincha. After Mincha it is customary for parents to bless all their children. At the meal eaten before Yom Kippur, one should eat lighter foods such as fowl rather than meat. Many, however, have a custom to eat kreplach (meat-filled dumplings) at the meal. Some refrain from eating fish at this meal. Spicy foods should also be avoided.

Thought for the Week: *Things do not fall into disrepair; men fall into not repairing*
(A Candle By Day)