

# J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



## Parshas Yisro

February 6, 2026 / 19 Shevat 5786

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Candlelighting: 5:31 pm

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

### Friday, February 6

5:31pm Candlelighting

5:35pm Mincha

8:30pm **Parsha Shiur**  
@ R. Nisenbaum

### Shabbos, February 7

8:45am Shacharis

*Kiddush is available for sponsorship*

5:25pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos  
6:40pm Maariv

### Sunday, February 8

9:15am **Parsha Class**  
(R. Nisenbaum)

10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"  
(R. Stoll)

### Monday, February 9

8:00pm Mitzvos and Meaning:  
Tefillin & Mezuzah  
(R. Nisenbaum)

### Tuesday, February 10

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

### Wednesday, February 11

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

### Thursday, February 12

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](http://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: Yisro

Yisro, Moshe's father-in-law, was a priest in Midian. He was a seeker of truth and had experimented with all the known religions of the time. Like all the other nations he also heard about the wonders G-d had performed for the Jewish people when they left Egypt. He appreciated the precision of G-d's retribution against the Egyptians, measure for measure for all their sins. However, unlike the other nations, he decided to act upon his inspiration and join the Jewish people.

Shortly thereafter, Yisro saw the people waiting to hear Moshe's rulings and judgment, from early morning until night. Yisro felt it was not respectful for the people to have to wait all day to have their questions answered. Furthermore, he was concerned that Moshe would get worn out. He suggested to Moshe that they set up a different system, where there would be lower courts trained, where people could present their minor disputes and queries. Moshe heeded his father-in-law's advice.

This was a lesson in truth, that even the advice of a newcomer to the community could be accepted by the leader without any reservations. An honest criticism or suggestion must be listened to, regardless of its source. The Talmud comments

that a wise person is one who learns from everybody.

This portion also describes the Revelation at Sinai. Although G-d offered all the nations His Torah, the Jewish people answered in unison "We will do, and we will hear." They agreed to accept all G-d's commandments, even before hearing what they were. This act of faith on their part earned the Jewish people an eternal status of chosenness.

The world came to a standstill as G-d communicated the Ten Commandments to the people. The Rabbis say that only the first two commandments were heard directly from G-d. After the first two, the people were too frightened to hear the rest directly from G-d, so Moshe relayed the remaining commandments to them.

After the Revelation, Moshe climbed to the top of the mountain for forty days where G-d taught him the rest of the commandments and all their details.

Although the Ten Commandments were only a sampling of the 613 mitzvos in the Torah, the commentaries explain that all the commandments are alluded to in these ten. Besides the commandments themselves, though, the experience of Revelation at Mount Sinai left an indelible mark upon World History.

## Insights: Yisro

**You shall not covet (Ex 20:14)** A man came to Rav Ahron Leib Shteinman with a query. His business was very successful, and he wanted to purchase a luxury car. His wife, however, was concerned that the fancy car would create jealousy among their friends and neighbors. The man asked if there was validity to his wife's concern. Rav Shteinman asked the man, "Tell me, have you completed studying the Talmud?" The man was astounded, "Of course not, Rebbe! I am a busy man." The Rav continued, "Have you mastered a tractate of the Talmud?" Again, the man said "No," "Do you at least know a chapter of Talmud by heart?" Again, the man responded in the negative. Rav Shteinman concluded, "You can tell your wife there is nothing to be concerned about. There is nothing about you that people would envy!"

## Did You Know?

If a person recites a blessing in error, for example he thought he was drinking a glass of wine and recited *Borei Pri Hagofen*, and then realized it was another drink, if he corrected himself within a couple of seconds, he has fulfilled his obligation, and he need not recite a second blessing. Once a couple of seconds have passed, however, he should say "*Baruch Shem k'vod malchuso l'olam va'ed*," thus correcting the blessing in vain, and then recite the proper blessing. If a person erroneously recited *Borei Minei Mezonos* or *Shehakol* on any food, he need not repeat the proper blessing. Similarly, if one recited *Borei Pri Ha'adama* on a fruit from a tree, he need not repeat the blessing.

**Thought for the Week:** *The danger signs of the past are the welcome signs of the present*  
(A Candle By Day)