J.L.C. *Connections*

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter

Parsha Chayei Sarah
November 6, 2026 / 26 Cheshvan 5787
Volume 32, Issue 5
Candlelighting: 4:57 pm

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

Friday, November 6

4:57pm Candlelighting
5:00pm Mincha / Maariv

9:15pm Shiur @ R. Nisenbaum

Shabbos, November 7

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush is sponsored by Ahron Grosman upon the occasion of his aufruf

4:50pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos
6:04pm Maariv

Sunday, November 8

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

Monday, November 9

8:00pm *"Foundation of a Nation – Rivkah" (R. Nisenbaum)*

Tuesday, November 10

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

Wednesday, November 11

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

Thursday, November 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

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: Chayei Sarah

Sarah died at 127 years old. Her death proved to be an additional challenge for Abraham. After all he had gone through to prove his allegiance and love for G-d, he now had to maintain faith and dignity in the face of tragedy.

Although G-d had promised the land of Canaan to Abraham, it was not yet his. Abraham had to deal with the Hittites to purchase a burial spot for his wife in the Cave of Machpelah in Hebron. Although the Hittites offered him the cave as a gift, he insisted on buying it. He did not want to remain beholden to them. Later, they sold him the land for an exorbitant sum of money.

Shortly after Sarah's passing, Abraham occupied himself with finding a wife for his son Isaac. This was necessary to set the scene for the next stage in the development of the Jewish people. Abraham would not allow his son to marry the daughters of Canaan, because of the bad character traits that seemed to be prevalent among them, and he was afraid these traits would be passed on to his descendants. Yet, being that Isaac had been sanctified earlier, when G-d had commanded Abraham to bring him as a sacrifice, he was not allowed to leave the Land of Canaan. Like an animal sacrifice, he could not be removed from Jerusalem. Abraham therefore entrusted his servant, Eliezer, to find a wife from his own family in Aram Naharayim.

Eliezer searched for a woman of exemplary character to complement his master's son. He decided on a test to tell if a woman was truly a kindhearted person. He would ask her to draw him some water to drink from the well. If she would draw for him and also offer to water his camels, it would prove she was truly a compassionate person and deserving of marrying Isaac. Eliezer then prayed to G-d that he be successful in fulfilling his mission.

Rebecca fulfilled Eliezer's request and offered to water his camels and find lodging for them to sleep. Eliezer was overjoyed and presented gifts to Rebecca before even asking her father's permission that she return with him. The wonder of finding such a generous and sensitive woman so soon after he had prayed, encouraged his faith that G-d had answered his prayers.

The Torah says that after Isaac married Rebecca and brought her to his tent, he was comforted from the loss of his mother. The Talmud explains that as long as Sarah had lived, her candles remained lit from one Shabbos to the next. There was also a blessing in her dough, and an aura of holiness hovering over her tent. When Sarah died, these symbols ceased. With Rebecca's appearance they returned once again. Rebecca had proven to be a worthy successor to Sarah.

Mazel Tov

to Ahron Grosman upon his marriage

to Stuart and Jodi Spiegel upon the engagement of their daughter

JLC Shabbaton

November 20-21
Hilton Garden Inn
Reserve now!!

Insights: Chayei Sarah

Avraham told his servant who controlled his household ...swear by G-d ...that you not take a wife for my son from the daughters of Canaan… (Gen 24:2-3)

Although Avraham trusted his servant with his entire household, he needed him to take an oath when it came to finding a wife for Yitzchak.Rav Yisrael Salanter once visited a small town. The innkeeper, seeing what appeared to be a distinguished Jew, asked if he was a shochet, since he had an animal to slaughter and the shochet lived a distance away. Rav Yisrael replied that he was not. A few minutes later Rav Yisrael asked the innkeeper if he could lend him a sizable amount of money. The man looked at Rav Yisrael in surprise, "Why I don't even know you! How can I lend you so much money?" Rav Yisrael told the innkeeper, 'Listen to your own words! If you don't trust me with money, how could you trust me with the kashrus of your meat? We see from Avraham that a person's trust for monetary matters is easier than the trust regarding spiritual matters. Where and how a person places his trust says a lot about what he truly values."

Did You Know?

The earliest one may pray Mincha, the afternoon prayer, is a half hour after noon. (In Halacha, noon refers to half the daytime hours.) According to most opinions, it may be prayed until sunset, or a bit afterwards. In the winter, this can often prove difficult. The Rabbis teach that the reward for Mincha is thus greater than that of praying the morning and evening prayers. If one forgot to pray Mincha, after the evening prayer he may recite the Amidah a second time as compensation. Any additions inserted for the evening prayer, such as the prayer for the New Moon, should be recited in the second Amidah, too.

Thought for the Week: *We should certainly be level-headed – but with heights, not the depths.* *(A Candle By Day)*