

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parsha Chayei Sarah (M. HaChodesh)
November 10, 2023 / 26 Cheshvan 5784
Volume 29, Issue 5
Candlelighting: 4:54 pm

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

Friday, November 10

4:54pm Candlelighting
4:55pm Mincha / Maariv
8:30pm Parsha Shiur
@ R. Nisenbaum

Shabbos, November 11

8:45am Shacharis
*Kiddush sponsored by
Shmuel Halpern in honor
of Chasan Bereishis*
4:15pm Laws of Shabbos
4:45pm Mincha
6:00pm Maariv

Sunday, November 12

9:15am Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)
10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)

Monday, November 13

8:00pm The Wisdom of Koheles -
(R. Nisenbaum)

Tuesday, November 14

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

Wednesday, November 15

8:00pm Nach Still Speaks -
Tehillim (R. Stoll)

Thursday, November 16

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

New episodes twice a week!

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

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 Jeremy Pomerantz upon his
upcoming wedding

Insights: Chayei Sarah

...the maiden to whom I shall say, 'Please tip your jug that I may drink' and who replies, 'Drink and I will also give your camels to drink' she will You have designated for your servant. (Gen 24:14) Chesed requires foresight into understanding other people's needs. Rav Yerucham Levovitz was once boarding a train, when his glove caught in the closing door and fell off. Rav Yerucham quickly removed his other glove and tossed it out of the train as well. His traveling companion looked at him quizzically. Rav Yerucham explained, "When I realized that I could not retrieve my glove, I understood that I would have no use for the other single glove. But I also realized that anyone who found the single glove would similarly have no use for it. I figured if I tossed the matching glove to the same area, somebody might find both gloves and be able to use them." One of Rav Yerucham's disciples commented, "I could have reached that same conclusion too, but not for several minutes, and by then it would have been too late. Rav Yerucham's greatness was the fact that he was always thinking about the needs of others."

Did You Know?

One who sees a funeral procession in progress should accompany the procession for at least six feet. If he cannot escort them he should at least stand until the procession passes. When burying the deceased, the people should fill the grave with earth until a mound remains several inches above the ground. Only then does the mourner recite the kaddish. After the kaddish the people attending form two rows facing each other and the mourner walks between the two rows and the people bless him the prayer of consolation.

Thought for the Week: It is very difficult to have your material and not your materialism.
(A Candle By Day)