

# J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Ki Savo  
September 20, 2024 / 17 Elul 5784  
Volume 29, Issue 49  
Candlelighting: 7:10 pm

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

## Friday, September 20

7:10pm Candlelighting  
7:15pm Mincha / Maariv

## Shabbos, September 21

8:45am Shacharis  
*Kiddush is sponsored by  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Ross on  
the occasion of her  
mother's yahrzeit.*

6:05pm Pirke Avos  
7:00pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos  
8:17pm Maariv

## Sunday, September 22

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

## Monday, September 23

8:00pm **Art of Forgiveness – The  
Challenge of Forgive  
and Forget (3/4)**  
(R. Nisenbaum)

## Tuesday, September 24

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

## Wednesday, September 25

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

## Thursday, September 26

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

## Parshas: 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.

**High Holidays**  
Reserve seats now!

## Insights: Ki Savo

**These will stand to bless the people... (Deut 27:12)** A father who sent his son to a public school brought the child to the Chafetz Chaim to receive his blessing. The Chafetz Chaim, who did not know the man, said to him, "Why do you come to me for a blessing? If you give your child a proper Torah education the Kohanim already blessed at the mountain those who uphold the Torah. And if you send your child to a school where he does not receive a Torah education, what would my blessing help? The Torah says 'Cursed is the one who will not uphold the words of this Torah!'" The man was amazed that the sage knew where he sent his child to school and he decided to send the child to a Torah school.

## Did You Know?

Some have the custom to fast half-day on Erev Rosh Hashana as a means of preparation for judgment. Those who are weak or ill need not fast. Those who fast should preferably pray Mincha before eating. It is also customary to recite the annulment of vows Erev Rosh Hashana. It is recited before a Beis Din, or court, of three men, and both the person and the court must understand what the annulment entails. It may be recited in English. Relatives are also acceptable to serve on this court. Most women rely on the Kol Nidrei to annul their vows.

**Thought for the Week: Repentance is a process of recouper-ation.** (A Candle By Day)