

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Lech Lecha

November 4, 2022 / 10 Cheshvan 5783
Volume 28, Issue 3
Candlelighting: 6:00 pm

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

Friday, November 4

6:00pm Candlelighting
6:05pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, November 5

8:45am Shacharis
(see below for Kiddush)
5:25pm Laws of Shabbos
5:55pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /
Maariv

Sunday, November 6

2:00am TURN CLOCKS BACK
9:15am Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)
10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)

Monday, November 7

8:00pm The Seven Shephards –
Avraham and Chesed
(2/8)

Tuesday, November 8

8:00pm Pirkei d'Rebbi Elazar
(R. Stoll)

Wednesday, November 9

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

Thursday, November 10

10:15pm Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)

Mazel Tov!

Daniel Grits and Melissa Orr
upon their engagement

Mazel Tov!

Rabbi & Mrs. Moshe Stoll
upon the engagement of their
daughter

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: Lech-Lecha

In the story of the Jewish people, Abraham is considered to be the first Jew because he recognized G-d on his own accord. Despite being scorned by the rest of society, and at great personal risk to his life, Abraham shared and spread his knowledge with everyone he met. It is for this reason that he was called "Avraham Ha'Ivri", or "Abraham of the Other Side." This would become the eternal role of the Jew, to spread the ideals of monotheism and morality throughout the world, despite great opposition.

Abraham and his wife Sarah had to endure ten challenges to prove, and to develop, their faithfulness to G-d. The Torah describes the various challenges at great length.

One of Abraham's challenges was to uproot his family, leave his homeland, and travel to an unknown land, which would only be revealed to him later. This was meant to develop his complete trust in G-d, and also to allow him to make a total break from his past environments and influences.

Shortly after reaching Canaan, a famine struck the land. Abraham and Sarah were forced to leave and travel to Egypt, where Pharaoh abducted Sarah. Afterwards, Abraham's nephew,

**Kiddush is sponsored by
Aviram Ashwal on the
occasion of his
grandfather's yahrzeit**

Lot, parted ways with his uncle, choosing to live in Sodom, among people whose ideology was the very antithesis of Abraham's. Yet when Lot was captured in war, Abraham risked his life to protect his nephew. Despite all these difficulties, Abraham and Sarah did not become disillusioned and maintained their faith.

Abraham and Sarah were childless for many years—despite G-d's promise to Abraham that he

would father a great nation.

This was also a challenge to Abraham's faith. Another one of Abraham's trials was the mitzvah of circumcision, which was given to him at the age of ninety-nine years

old. G-d made a covenant with Abraham that if he walked perfectly in His ways, G-d would bless him with children and give him the land of Canaan for his children. G-d commanded Abraham to seal this covenant on his body through the circumcision.

This mitzvah was given for all future generations too. Every Jewish male must be circumcised as an eternal sign between G-d and the Jewish people of His covenant with Abraham. Circumcision has remained the hallmark of the Jew, distinguishing him from the rest of the world.

Insights: Lech-Lecha

He treated Avram well for her sake... (Gen. 12:16)

The Talmud teaches that a man must be sensitive to his wife's honor since blessing comes to a home in a wife's merit, as we see that Avraham was enriched in the merit of his wife. Rav Yaakov Kozlik once asked a young married fellow, "Do you know why we affix the mezuzah on a slant to the door? There is a dispute between Rashi and Rabbeinu Tam whether the mezuzah is placed horizontally or vertically. By placing it on a slant we fulfill both opinions. This is a lesson that before entering the house we must be sensitive to consider a spouse's opinion, even when it is at odds with our own."

Did You Know?

The Talmud says that children, one's livelihood, and life itself are dependent upon good fortune and not on one's merits. This seems to contradict the very idea of prayer and mitzvos, where requests are made of G-d for these very things. The classic commentators suggest two answers: 1. Although fortune may determine these areas initially, prayer and deeds can change the outcome of the original decree. 2. Upon the Jewish people in general, prayer and deed can determine livelihood, children, and life; regarding how this affects the individual, however, depends upon one's good fortune.

Thought for the Week: *Many will give credit where it is due but will take it even when it is not due.* (A Candle By Day)