

# J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



**Parsha Pinchas**  
**July 26, 2024 / 20 Tamuz 5784**  
Volume 29, Issue 41  
Candlelighting: 8:33 pm

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## Friday, July 26

7:00pm Early Mincha / Maariv  
8:33pm Candlelighting  
8:35pm Mincha / Maariv

## Shabbos, July 27

8:45am Shacharis  
*Kiddush is available for sponsorship*  
7:25pm Pirke Avos  
8:25pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos  
9:40pm Maariv

## Sunday, July 28

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

## Monday, July 29

~~8:00pm~~ Will not meet this week  
(R. Nisenbaum)

## Tuesday, July 30

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

## Wednesday, July 31

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

## Thursday, August 1

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)

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

## Parsha: Pinchas

Following the advice of Bala'am, the Midianites sent their daughters to entice the Jewish men to sin. One Midianite princess named Kozbi, even seduced a prince from the tribe of Shimon, Zimri ben Salu. He defied Moshe's warnings and flagrantly sinned with her. This created a terrible desecration of G-d's name, and G-d's anger was kindled against the nation.

When Pinchas, a grandson of Aharon the High Priest, saw what had happened, he acted zealously. He recalled a law he had learned from Moshe, that in specific instances, the law might be taken into one's hands even without a trial in court. Pinchas killed both Kozbi and Zimri. This action appeased G-d's anger. G-d rewarded Pinchas with His eternal covenant of peace.

This reward may seem out of character with Pinchas' deed, but upon a closer look, this is not so. The Torah takes pains to point out the source of Pinchas' actions, that they were not merely the violent outburst of some wild fanatic. Pinchas was a descendent, in both body and spirit, of his grandfather Ahron, the great lover and pursuer of peace. He even conferred with Moshe before acting, proving that it was not a rash decision. His motivation was one based on love and concern for the Jewish people, to pacify G-d's anger.

Not everyone could have been excused for such behavior. Only someone on the caliber of Pinchas,

with his sincere motivation and impeccable character, was allowed to show such zealotry for the sake of G-d's name. G-d's reward to Pinchas of the blessing of eternal peace is proof of His satisfaction with Pinchas.

There may sometimes be a necessity for a violent reaction to different situations. However, this must not be the rule. The commentaries suggest that it was for this reason that, following this incident Joshua was chosen to succeed Moshe after his death, and not Pinchas.

Moshe took another census of the people before his death. He explained how the land would be divided among the people, a portion for each son. Although the daughters' needs were taken care of before the son's inheritance, only the sons received a portion in the Promised Land. The daughters of Zelafchad complained to Moshe that their father had not left over any sons, and they, too, wanted a portion of the land. The Talmud explains that the daughters of Zelafchad were motivated out of a love for the Promised Land, and not because they felt it was an injustice. This was also an example of zealotry for sincere purposes. G-d instructed Moshe that when a father would leave no sons, the daughters would receive his inheritance.

## Mazel Tov

Dan & Ruth Jacob upon the  
Bar Mitzvah of their son

## Insights: Pinchas

**May G-d appoint a man over the nation who shall go out before them and come in before them... (Num 27:16-17)** A city's rabbi passed away and the rabbi's son claimed that the position was his by right of inheritance, as mentioned in Jewish law. The people, however, did not want the son as their leader. They came to the Chafetz Chaim to decide. The Chafetz Chaim said that although we find that positions can be passed on to children, the position of high priest who led the troops to war was not [passed down]. The reason is because this leader had to be a warrior, and that is not something which is hereditary. In earlier times, the Chafetz Chaim explained, the rabbi was primarily a teacher and guide for his flock. Today, however, in the face of so many distractions and so much opposition to Torah, a rabbi must be a fighter—and that is not something that can be claimed as inheritance.

## Did You Know?

The blessing of Shehecheyanu is not recited during the Three Weeks, since it alludes to a joyous period of time, and the period of mourning is not joyous. Therefore one should not purchase an expensive set of clothing or a major purchase which requires this blessing. Generally, if the object will only be used by one person, the Shehecheyanu is recited. If the object will be used by several people, for example buying a house or car for the family, the blessing of Hatov veHameitiv is recited. Most authorities permit the blessing of Hatov veHameitiv during the Three Weeks, since no mention is made of the joyous time.

**Thought for the Week: Before you pace yourself, place yourself.** (A Candle By Day)