

# J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Vayeshev  
December 20, 2024 / 19 Kislev 5785  
Volume 30, Issue 8  
Candlelighting: 4:41 pm

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

## Friday, December 20

4:41pm Candlelighting  
4:45pm Mincha / Maariv  
8:30pm Shiur @ R. Nisenbaum

## Shabbos, December 21

8:45am Shacharis  
*Kiddush is sponsored anonymously in honor of the volunteers in the fundraising campaign.*  
4:10pm Laws of Shabbos  
4:35pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos  
5:50pm Maariv

## Sunday, December 22

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

## Monday, December 23

8:00pm Pathways to Prayer -  
The Amidah (R. Nisenbaum)

## Tuesday, December 24

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

## Wednesday, December 25

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

## Thursday, December 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](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: Vayeshev

The roots of all Jewish history can be traced to the story of our forefathers and their families. In the story of Joseph and his brothers the roots of the Egyptian Redemption can be seen.

Jacob favored his son Joseph more than his other sons. He taught him individually and made him a special colorful garment. This incurred the jealousy of his brothers. It was compounded further when Joseph related his prophetic dreams about his leadership to his brothers. Although the Talmud finds fault with Jacob's treatment of Joseph, his intentions were to prepare Joseph for the challenges he would have to endure before assuming leadership.

The brothers eventually conspired to kill Joseph, but then decided to sell him instead as a slave. They took Joseph's coat, dipped it in blood, and sent it to their father, implying that an animal had attacked him. Jacob could not be consoled. The brothers obviously acted improperly, yet their actions were also part of an orchestrated master plan to set the stage in Egypt for the family's eventual exile.

At the same time, Yehuda, the born leader of the brothers, and the one most affected by Joseph's dreams, started his own family. His first son, Ehr, died

and Yehuda had the widow, Tamar, marry his second son, Onan. Onan also died and Yehuda sent Tamar to her father's home. However, Tamar desired to have

children through Yehuda's family, and in a strange turn of events she fooled Yehuda into living with her. Yehuda did not even realize that he had made her pregnant. When confronted with the realization of what he had done, Yehuda publicly admitted to his actions, accepting full responsibility. Tamar bore twin boys, one of whom, Peretz, would be the forbearer of the Davidic, and ultimately the Messianic, dynasty.

Meanwhile, Joseph was taken to Egypt where he

became a servant in the house of one of Pharaoh's officers, Potiphar. Joseph was very handsome, and Potiphar's wife tried to seduce Joseph to sin, but he would not consent to her advances, despite all her efforts. As a result, she slandered Joseph and he was sent to prison, where he remained for eleven years.

Jacob's efforts in preparing Joseph paid off. Regardless of all the difficult circumstances he found himself in, Joseph maintained a positive disposition. This virtue would be of great importance when Joseph would later assume a leadership role.

### A Worthy Causematch

36 hours Dec 22-23.

[causematch.com/clevelandjlc24](https://causematch.com/clevelandjlc24)

### JLC Chanukah Party

December 30<sup>th</sup> 6:45pm at JFX.

Dairy dinner will be served.

Call for reservations.

### Issue Sponsorship

In memory of Shirley Pasternak on  
the occasion of her yahrzeit

## Insights: Vayeshev

...in three days Pharaoh will lift your head and restore you to your post...

**(Gen 40:10)** How did Yosef know to interpret the butler's dream that he would live and the baker's dream that he would die? Rav Elchanan Wasserman suggested that in the butler's dream he was working, serving the king. In the baker's dream he was only observing the birds eating his food but he was not active at all. Keeping occupied and busy is a sign of life. Doing nothing is a sign of death. A person came to the Chazon Ish with several problems that needed to be addressed. The Chazon Ish gave him considerable time. At the end of their meeting the man handed the Chazon Ish a donation, but the Rav refused it. "Rebbe, " the man said, "How can you live if you don't accept any money?" The Chazon Ish smiled and said, " I live off of my assistance to others."

## Did You Know?

The obligation to light Chanukah candles is incumbent upon both men and women. Although a husband and wife may both light with a blessing, common custom has it that a married woman fulfills her obligation through her husband's kindling, as a husband and wife are considered like a single being. Children are also encouraged to light their own candles, although there are varying customs regarding an unmarried girl lighting if she lives with her family. Some authorities say she can fulfill her obligation through her father's kindling too. If she lives by herself she must certainly light her own candles.

**Thought for the Week:** *G-d causes things to coincide, and we call them "coincidences."*  
(A Candle By Day)