

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Vayetze
December 2, 2022 / 8 Kislev 5783
Volume 28, Issue 7
Candlelighting: 4:39 pm

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

Friday, December 2

4:39pm Candlelighting
4:40pm Mincha / Maariv
~~8:15pm Shiur @ R. Nisenbaum's~~

Shabbos, December 3

8:45am Shacharis
*Kiddush sponsored by the
Jim Ross family on the
occasion of his mother's
yahrzeit*

4:00pm Laws of Shabbos
4:30pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /
Maariv

Sunday, December 4

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

Maariv BEGIN SAYING
V'SAIN TAL U'MATAR

Monday, December 5

8:00pm The Seven Shepherds –
Ahron and Glory (6/8)

Tuesday, December 6

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

Wednesday, December 7

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

Thursday, December 8

10:15pm Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)

Flashes of Torah

R. Nisenbaum's new book is
now available!
Get your copy now.

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: Vayetze

Jacob left his parents' home to escape from his brother Esau's wrath, and to find a wife from his mother's family, as well.

On his way to Charan, Jacob stopped to sleep at the mountain of Moriah, the same spot that Abraham had brought Isaac as a sacrifice. He dreamed about a ladder reaching from earth up to the heavens. G-d spoke to him from above the ladder and promised Jacob that He would accompany him throughout his exile, and that eventually he would return to the Land of Canaan with his children. The ladder

represented Jacob's mission of bridging the spiritual world he had enjoyed until this point, and the physical world he would encounter in the house of his uncle, the deceptive Laban.

In Laban's house, Jacob had to overcome many difficult challenges. He offered to work seven years for Rachel, Laban's younger daughter's hand in marriage. Laban tricked Jacob into marrying his older daughter, Leah. Jacob had to work another seven years to marry Rachel. Although Jacob loved Leah, he did harbor some resentment towards her because of her involvement in this deception.

G-d saw Leah's pain and allowed her to bear children, immediately, unlike any of the other three Matriarchs. This endeared her to Jacob. She bore him a total of six sons, Reuben, Simon, Levi,

Judah; and then later, Yissachar, and Zevulun. She also bore Jacob a daughter, Dinah.

Rachel saw that she could not yet bear children, so she gave her maidservant Bilhah to Jacob as a concubine. Bilhah bore Jacob two more sons, Gad and Asher. Leah also gave her maidservant Zilpah as a concubine to Jacob. She too bore him two sons, Dan and Naftali. Finally, Rachel conceived, and she bore Jacob a son, Joseph. Later, on the road back to Canaan, she bore him another son, Benjamin, but she died during childbirth.

Laban tried to cheat Jacob out of his hard-earned wages. Jacob had to make numerous deals with Laban in order to receive his fair pay. Even then, only through miraculous intervention could Jacob prevent Laban from cheating him.

After twenty years in the house of Laban, Jacob spoke to his wives, and decided to return to his parents' home in Canaan. He tried to leave secretly, but Laban learned of the escape and caught up with Jacob's camp. Eventually, the two made peace with one another, and Jacob left peacefully. The peace was short-lived, however, as Jacob received word that Esau was awaiting his return with an army of four hundred men.

All these circumstances helped prepare Jacob with the fortitude he needed to be able to build the Jewish nation.

Mazal Tov
to Jonathan and Davida
Schultz and Dr. David and
Trish Rosenblum upon their
children's marriage

Insights: Vayetze

Yaakov departed from Beer Sheva and he went to Charan (Gen. 28:10)

The mere presence of a righteous man in a city leaves a great impression. Rav Yitzchak Hutner related that the coarsest place in the Lithuanian villages was the fish market where the sellers could be heard hawking their wares with coarse language. In the villages where Rav Yisrael Salanter set up a Beis Hamussar, a place where people would study books of ethical refinement, the language in the marketplaces was more refined. Although the sellers never frequented the Bais Hamussar, its presence in town had an impact on the entire village.

Did You Know?

It is customary to arrange a party on the first Friday night following the birth of a boy, even if the baby has not yet come home. This is called the *Shalom Zachor*, and it dates back to Talmudic times. Different explanations are offered for the *Shalom Zachor*: 1. Since birth is dangerous, we make a party of thanksgiving for a safe birth. A kiddush is similarly made for the birth of a girl. 2. The Talmud teaches that a child studies Torah in the womb, and then forgets it at birth. The party is to offer comfort for this loss, and to bless the child that he study and regain the loss. 3. A third reason suggested is to offer good wishes for a timely circumcision, as the child must first experience the sanctity of Shabbos before being circumcised.

Thought for the Week: To say that a response is normal is not to say that nothing can be done about it. (A Candle By Day)