



#YHTyouandme

## Table Talk Parshat Vayera

*"Throughout history, Jews were called on to value children. Our entire value system is built on it. Our citadels are schools, our passion, education, and our greatest heroes, teachers. The seder service on Pesach can only begin with questions asked by a child. On the first day of the New Year, we read not about the creation of the universe but about the birth of a child – Isaac to Sarah, Samuel to Hannah. Ours is a supremely child-centered faith."*

-The Lord Rabbi Dr. Jonathan Sacks

### בראשית י"ח:ט

כִּי יִדְעֹתִיו לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא אֶת־בְּנָיו וְאֶת־בֵּיתוֹ אַחֲרָיו  
וְשָׁמְרֵי דֶרֶךְ ה' לַעֲשׂוֹת צְדָקָה וּמִשְׁפָּט לְמַעַן הִבְיָא ה' עַל־  
אֲבָרְתָּם אֶת אֲשֶׁר־דִּבֶּר עֲלֵיו:

### Genesis 18:19

For I have singled him out, that he may instruct his children and his posterity to keep the way of Hashem by doing what is just and right, in order that Hashem may bring about for Abraham what He has promised him."

### אפוד בד על הגדה של פסח, מגיד, ארמי אבד אבי ט"ו:א'

ואת עמלנו אלו הבנים כמ"ש כל הבן הילוד היאורה  
תשליכוהו, ר"ל כי כל עמל אדם בדר' חקותו להנחיל דרכו  
לבניו אחריו, ע"ד כי ידעתיו למען אשר יצוה את בניו ואת  
ביתו אחריו ושמרו דרך ה', ולזה אברהם טרם שהובטח על  
זרע אמר ה' אלקים מה תתן לי ואנכי הולך ערירי, ר"ל לא  
שחש על רכושו שיגיע לזולתו רק על הדרך אשר סלל  
בעבודת ה' למי ימסור וילמד דרך הקודש. לזאת תשוקת כל  
אדם ישיארו בניו אחריו ללמד דרכו, ויחשב לו כאלו הוא  
בחיים ע"ד דוד הניח בן כמותו נאמר בו שכיבה יואב כו'  
נאמר בו מיתה, ולזה אנו מבקשים למען לא ניגע לריק ...  
ופרעה רצה להעביד בניהם, ולזה אמר ואת עמלנו אלו  
הבנים, ופרעה רצה להרוג הבנים כמה שנא' כל הבן הילוד  
כו':

### Ephod Bad on Pesach Haggadah, Magid, First Fruits Declaration 15:1

**Our toil: this refers to the children:** The main reason that a person toils in the ways of God is to make sure that his legacy is passed on to his children. This is what the Bible says regarding Abraham: "For I have singled him out that he may instruct his children and his posterity after him to keep the way of the Lord..." (Genesis 18:19) Abraham did not worry about his positions but about passing on his beliefs to his children. This is what most people worry about – teaching their children the holy way of G-d. That is why we pray, "Let us not labor for emptiness (*lareek*) nor allow our children to suffer confusion." ...The opposite of such children is reek, emptiness. Pharaoh wanted to subjugate the children of Israel so that they would not grow up to be God-fearing people. By killing the children, Pharaoh wanted to destroy Israel's hope.

### Let's Talk!

Why is it important for parents to teach their children about Hashem?

How does Avraham teach his children about Hashem?

What would happen to the Jewish people if we did not invest so much in teaching our children?

What Torah have your parents taught you?

What special mitzvot did you learn to keep from your parents?

...check out our podcast for Parshat Vayera:

<https://anchor.fm/yhtpov/episodes/7---Discussing-Shared-Values-With-Yeshiva-High-School-Administrators-e2f92n>