



PARSHA



וִירָא

3 Sources

In this week's *parsha*, we continue to learn the story of Avraham Avinu. Avraham accomplished many great things in his life, including overcoming ten tests from Hashem.

Pirkei Avot 5:3

With ten trials was Abraham, our father (may he rest in peace), tried, and he withstood them all; to make known how great was the love of Abraham, our father (peace be upon him).

פרקי אבות ה:ג

עשרה נסיונות נתנסה אברהם אבינו עליו השלום ועמד בכלם, להודיע כמה חבתו של אברהם אבינו עליו השלום:

Despite overcoming all of these challenges, Hashem reveals that this is not the feature that made Avraham so special.

Bereishit 18:19

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

בראשית יח:יט

כי ידעתי למען אשר יצוה את-בניו ואת-ביתו אחרי ושמרו דרך יהוה לעשות צדקה ומשפט למען הביא יהוה על-אברהם את אשר-דבר עליו:

Hashem says that what singles Avraham out is the fact that he will pass on the messages of *shmirat hamitzvot* and fighting for what is right to the next generation. When we follow in Avraham's footsteps and teach our children Torah, we are helping to connect them to the very moment when Hashem gave Bnei Yisrael the Torah at Har Sinai.

Gemarah Kiddushin 30a

Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi says: Anyone who teaches his son's son Torah, the verse ascribes him credit as though he received it from Mount Sinai, as it is stated: "But make them known to your sons and to your sons' sons," and juxtaposed to it is the phrase in the verse: "The day when you stood before the Lord your God in Horeb" (Deuteronomy 4:10), as Horeb is Mount Sinai.

מס' קידושין דף ל.

אמר רבי יהושע בן לוי: כל המלמד את בן בנו תורה מעלה עליו הכתוב כאילו קבלה מהר סיני, שנאמר: "והודעתם לבניך ולבני בניך", וסמיך ליה: "יום אשר עמדת לפני ה' אלסיך בחרב".

It is the very shortcomings of Avraham (and other great leaders found in Tanach) that allow us to relate to them and learn from them.

2 Quotes

"Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you."—Robert Fulghum

Instead of buying your children all the things you never had, you should teach them all the things you were never taught. Material wears out but knowledge stays. – Bruce Lee

1 Question

What is one lesson that you learned from your parents that you want to pass down to your children?