



Family Parsha Sheet

Parshat Re'eh 5779

Parsha in a nutshell

“See,” says Moses to the people of Israel, “I place before you today a blessing and a curse”—the blessing that will come when they fulfill G-d’s commandments, and the curse if they abandon them.

These should be said on Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal when the people cross over into the Holy Land of Israel.

A Temple should be established in “the place that G-d will choose to make dwell His name there,” where the people should bring their offerings to Him; it is forbidden to make offerings to G-d in any other place.

A false prophet, or one who entices others to worship idols is not allowed; an idolatrous city must be destroyed. The identifying signs for kosher animals and fish, and the list of non-kosher birds (first given in Leviticus 11), are repeated.

A tenth of all produce is to be eaten in Jerusalem, or else exchanged for money with which food is purchased and eaten there. In certain years this tithe (the giving of the 10%) is given to the poor instead. Firstborn cattle and sheep are to be offered in the Temple, and they are eaten by the kohanim (priests).

The mitzvah of charity obligates a Jew to aid a needy fellow with a gift or loan. On the Sabbatical year (occurring every seventh year where we refrain from farming), all loans are to be forgiven.

Our Parshah concludes with the laws of the three pilgrimage festivals—Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot—when all should go to “see and be seen” before G-d in the Holy Temple.

Adapted from Source: https://www.chabad.org/parshah/article_cdo/aid/2272/jewish/Reeh-in-a-Nutshell.htm



HOW FAR CAN A FOX RUN INTO THE WOODS?

Next parsha newsletter the answer will be revealed.

Email Dr. Jones at parsha@asjds.org with the subject header “riddle” before Monday morning and the first student with the correct answer will win a prize.



#1 How Do You Get A Baby Alien To Sleep?

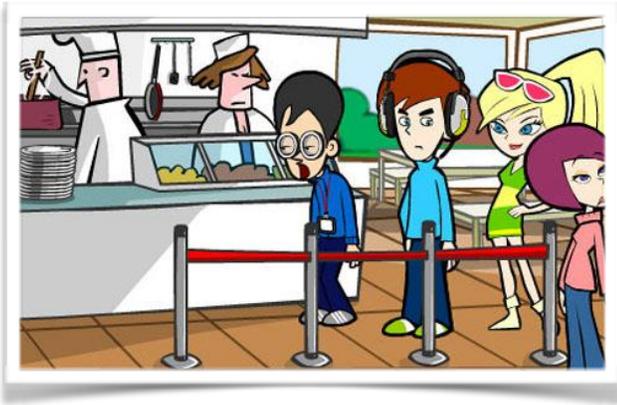
#2 Why Is A Bad Joke Like A Bad Pencil?

#3 What Kind Of Tree Grows In Your Hand?

#4 When Do You Stop At Green And Go At Red?

#1 You rocket.
#2 Because it has no point.
#3 A palm tree!
#4 When you're eating a watermelon!

ANSWERS BELOW



Story: Self Serve

"You call this a portion?" a kid snarled to the older man serving in his summer camp's cafeteria lunch line.

"Why, I need a microscope just to see what it even is - then again, maybe I don't wanna know. Anyway, put that tiny thing back and give me a different one!" the kid demanded. The man sighed and switched the kid's portion.

Jay, who was a couple of places behind in line and had been watching the whole thing, turned to Ed, the kid one place in front of him and whispered, "Isn't it rude, the way that kid's talking to him?"

"So what?" Ed shrugged as the line moved forward. "You must be new here. At this camp, everyone does it. It's the only way to get anything decent around here. Anyway, it's my turn." Ed held his tray up to the server, "Give me something decent, or you're going to have to scrape it up off the floor when we leave!"

After a few more snarks, he finally took his food and Jay, who was indeed new at the camp, reached the front of the line. Silently he took the portion the man offered and moved on with a nod.

And so it went day after day, Jay watched the campers bad-mouth, rank on, make fun of, and generally trample over the various food-servers, janitors and service personnel. And while he - who'd always believed in treating everyone with respect - didn't join in, he also found himself kind of

'getting used' to their behavior. It didn't shock him anymore and started to seem almost okay.

One lucky lunchtime, Jay, who by now had become expert in the camp's schedule and layout, had actually beaten all the other campers in their mad dash to the cafeteria and was very first in line.

He grabbed his tray and brought it forward to the server, who he hadn't seen there before, who proceeded to give him the puniest piece of chicken on the platter.

Jay gulped. He was really hungry after a whole morning of sports and by now also an expert on the rude, rowdy lingo his campmates hurled around, got ready to let loose a string of insults and epithets that would put this stingy server in his place. He opened his mouth, but the words seemed stuck. He'd never mouthed off at an adult before. Sure, the other guys did it all the time, but deep down Jay knew it wasn't right for them - and it wasn't right for him.

"Uh, thanks," he said. "Do you think I could please possibly have a bigger piece, though?"

The server looked up, as if checking Jay out, then shrugged, "Why not?" he said, switching pieces and sending Jay on with a grin.

As he moved on, Jay looked back, for no special reason, and noticed that the line was moving faster than usual - even the most obnoxious kids were just taking their portion and hurrying on.

He sat down and Ed joined him.

"I got a lousy portion, but nothing I could do," Ed grumbled, picking at his plate. Before Jay could question him, the boy went on, "With 'Drill Sergeant,' the head counselor taking over for the server, who'd gone home sick today, I didn't dare complain or he would've had me bounced from the camp - or if I was lucky, maybe just had me do a gazillion jumping jacks instead. Hey," he looked at Jay's portion, "how'd you end up with such a big, good piece?"

Jay stopped chewing as he realized just how close he'd come to getting 'chewed up' himself by getting drawn into his fellow camper's improper ways. "It was simple. I just asked nicely." (Source: <https://www.aish.com/tp/pak/fp/127681438.html>)

STORY DISCUSSION

Why do you think Jay was prepared to act rude when he was first in line?

Was the behavior of the campers acceptable? Why or why not?

Why do some people tend to imitate those around them?

What would you have done if you were Jay?

LESSON FROM THE PARSHA

In this week's portion (Deut. 12:30-31) the Torah instructs the people not to imitate the idol worshiper's cruel and mistaken ways teaching us not to imitate inappropriate behavior.



Student D'Var Torah

by Elisabeth Benson (5th Grade)

Rejuvenating the Land and Ourselves:

In פרשת ראה (Parshat Reeh), Moshe continues teaching בני ישראל (the Jewish people) about various מצוות (commandments) before they enter ארץ ישראל (the land of Israel). He talks about the laws of כשרות (Jewish dietary laws), the laws regarding the שלש רגלים (Three major Jewish holidays), and others.

One of the laws he talks about is called שמיטה (Shmitah - Sabbatical year). שמיטה is when you work the land for 6 years, and on the seventh, it "rests," no work is to be done on it.

The פרשה (Parsha) states:

"מקץ שבע שנים תעשה שמיטה" (טו:א) (Every seventh year you shall practice remission of debts.)

This made me think of my own recent rest period over summer break. The working of the land for 6 years is similar to when I am in school during the

school year, in 'study mode'. I work until summer break, which is similar to the land resting.

שמיטה isn't all about letting the land rest on the seventh year. It's also about forgiveness of loans to the poor and release of indentured servants. As an incoming fifth grader, I have no loans to forgive or servants to release, but I do have relationships with my parents, friends, and siblings. Summer break is

like שמיטה period for my friends, siblings, parents and I. Sometimes, you need time to forgive someone if you got in a fight with them. For example, if you got in a fight with your siblings, and then after some time passes, it's like it never happened. Time passing also gives them time to forgive you, too.



One of the messages of this פרשה is to use the rest time we have to refresh ourselves and our relationships. I hope you were all able to use your summer break to get you refreshed and ready for a whole, new, and exciting school year.



PARSHA Q&A

The answer to each question comes straight from the passukim (verses) of the parsha. The end of each question has the chapter and verse in the parsha so you can find the answer from within the Chumash or turn the page over and read the answers below. [Click here](#) to go to Sefaria for this weeks Parsha

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|---|--|
| 1. What is the name of this week's Parsha? | 1. Re'eh |
| 2. On what condition will Bnei Yisrael (Jewish people) receive the blessings from Hashem? (11:27) | 2. By following Hashem's commandments |
| 3. What kind of location are the "blessings and the curses" to be said by the people? (11:29) | 3. On two different Mountains - Mt. Gerizim for the blessings and Mt. Ebal for the curses |
| 4. What river would the Jews have to cross to get to Israel? | 4. The Jordan |
| 5. If a person finds an idol, what should he do with it? | 5. Destroy it |
| 6. When kosher meat is prepared in a kosher way, what part of it can't you eat? (12:6) | 6. The Blood, YUCK! |
| 7. If someone says they are a prophet and they say to not follow Hashem, can you believe them? (13:4) | 7. No, even if he shows you what seems like magical signs |
| 8. What are the signs of a kosher animal? (14:6) | 8. Split hooves and chews its cud (that means the food goes into the stomach and back into the mouth for chewing) |
| 9. What are signs of a kosher fish? (14:9) | 9. Fins and scales |
| 10. What kind of break are you supposed to eat on Passover and why? (16:3) | 10. Unleavened bread - Matzah - because the Jews left Egypt where they were slaves in a hurry so the bread did not have time to rise |
| 11. What holiday is seven weeks after Passover? (16:9-10) | 11. Shavuot also known as the Feast of Weeks and is when we rejoice over receiving the Torah. |
| 12. Which four individuals are under Hashem's "special protection"? (16:11) | 12. A Levi, convert, orphan, and widow. |

Akiba-Schechter Jewish Day School
 5235 S. Cornell Ave., Chicago, IL 60615
 P 773-493-8880 | F 773-493-9377 | admissions@akibaschechter.org

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