

# YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

## Weekly Update

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### Parshas Toldos

### פרשת תולדות

כ"ט חשוון תשס"ח—9-10 November

#### Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting:	3:47pm
Candle lighting:	4:33pm
Mincha - Friday:	4:35pm
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:13am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Mincha followed by Chabura:	4:30pm
Maariv:	5:35pm

#### Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday:	8:00am
Shacharis (Mon., Thu.):	6:40am
Shacharis (Tue., Wed., Fri.):	6:50am
Mincha/Maariv Sunday:	4:35pm
Maariv (Mon.-Thu.):	7:45pm

#### Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting:	4:26pm
Mincha - Friday:	4:25pm

## Calendar of Shiurim

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	7:55am–8:15am	Parsha Chabura	R. J. Levy	ROTATES
Shabbos	8:15am	Parsha Shiur	R. Steinberg	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Minchas Chinuch Shiur	R. Steinberg	OFF WEEK
Shabbos	After Mincha	Chabura	R. Steinberg	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Sunday	After Shacharis	Sefer Hachinuch	M. Buchbinder	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
Sun.-Fri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Chovos haLevovos	R. Steinberg	
Monday	9:00pm	Advanced Gemora: Makkos	R. Steinberg	
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

\*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

### THIS SHABBOS

#### Kiddush:

Kiddush is community sponsored.

#### Special Chabura:

This Shabbos between Mincha and Maariv: *Shemittah Today: Torah or Rabbinic Obligation? A Widely Debated Question with Profound Implications*, given by Rabbi Steinberg.

#### Bnos and Pirchei:

Both Bnos and Pirchei will IY"YH meet this week from 2:30pm to 3:30pm at LMS.

#### New Pirchei Group:

There is a new group in Pirchei for 6th—8th grade boys. A gemara shiur, learning Gemara Ta'anis. If you are interested in sponsoring a Pirchei Shabos please contact Rabbi Ari Silver, 610-668-6833.

All submissions, suggestions, and sponsorships should be directed (by Wednesday evening) to the editor of the Weekly Update, פלוגי בן פלוגי (weeklyupdate@yiml.org).

**Hakaras Hatov:**

Please join us in thanking all of the women who take care of arranging the kiddush at YIML every week, and Gershon ben Shalom for the splendid chullent we have the pleasure of consuming.

Thanks also to all the post-kiddush and post-shabbos elves who work tirelessly to remove potato chips from the shul carpet.

**Advanced Gemora Shiur:**

The Advanced Gemora Shiur with Rabbi Steinberg, now learning Masseches Makkos, meets on Monday nights at 9:00 PM. Mareh Mekomos are sent out by e-mail in advance of the shiur. To join the e-mail list, contact Rabbi Steinberg: [rabbi@yiml.org](mailto:rabbi@yiml.org).

**UPCOMING EVENTS****YIML Women's League Meeting:**

Program Planning for the Coming Year.

Bring your ideas and enthusiasm to the home of Dini Steinberg at 302 Pembroke Rd. on Monday November 12 at 8:30PM.

**ONGOING EVENTS****Chevra Mishnayos:**

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Zeraim.

See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

**Women's Tehillim Group:**

The Women's Tehillim Group meets Mondays at 9:45am at 345 Bala Ave.

**Are you on our e-mail list?**

To subscribe to the shul mailing list, send a message to [majordomo@chaseplanet.us](mailto:majordomo@chaseplanet.us) with the following in the message body (all one line): `subscribe yiml YOUR-EMAIL`

**Rabbi Steinberg Contact Information**

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**D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky**

This week's parsha begins the saga of the long, almost endless struggle between Yaakov and Esav. Yaakov buys the birthright from a hungry Esav and then, coached by his mother, Rivka, he dresses like Esav and receives blessings from his father Isaac.

I have received numerous letters throughout the years pondering those actions. Indeed, Yaakov himself is wary of acting in a seemingly devious manner and is reassured by his righteous mother who accepts full responsibility for his actions.

When Esav arrives for the blessings, his father tells him that his younger brother cleverly took all the blessings, but Esav, despondent as he may be declares to his father, "He (Jacob) took away my birthright and see, now he took away my blessing!" He adds, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me? Isaac answered, and said to Esau, "Behold, a lord have I made him over you, and all his kin have I given him as servants; with grain and wine have I supported him, and for you, where – what can I do, my son?". And Esau said to his father, "Have you but one blessing, Father? Bless me too, Father!" And Esau raised his voice and wept. (Genesis 27:36-38).

I often wondered about the lesson of this repartee. Esav, clearly angered by Yaakov's cunning, still has clarity of mind to ask for a blessing. Yitzchak seems to demur, inferring that there is nothing left. But Esav prevails by pleading, even crying for a blessing. And only then does his father acquiesce and bless him as well.

Was there a blessing left or not? Can pleading with the saintly patriarch produce a previously non-extant blessing? Maybe Esav's tears taught a lesson even for the children of Yaakov?

In the summer of 5761 30,000 Boy Scouts joined together in Virginia for a national Boy Scout Jamboree. Among the myriad groups of scouts who attend this event that occurs every four years are many Jewish Scouts as well. Mike Paretzky, a Vice Chairman of the GNYC Jewish Committee on scouting, was the kosher food liaison to the jamboree. Special food was ordered from O'Fisheh caterers of Baltimore, so that the Jewish scouts would be able to nourish their bodies as well.

One of the scoutmasters, a Jewish man caught a glimpse of the kosher offerings. He had never eaten a kosher meal in his life, yet when he saw the special meals, something stirred. He and his troops were being served pork-this and bacon-that for breakfast, lunch and supper, and all of a sudden this man decided he was sick of the monotonous treif stuff. He wanted to eat kosher. Scoutmaster Paretzky gladly let him partake in a meal, but that was not enough for the fellow. The man decided to keep kosher during the entire jamboree!

Mr. Paretzky agreed to accommodate the neophyte kosherphile, but a skeptic approached him. "Mike," he said, "why are you wasting your kosher food on this fellow? He is not going to eat kosher after this is over, and he observes absolutely nothing! Why waste the food on him?"

Mike answered with an amazing story of the Chofetz Chaim. When Russian soldiers entered the town of Radin, Jewish townfolk prepared kosher meals for the Jewish soldiers in the Czar's army. Soon their acts of charity seemed to fly in their face as they saw the soldiers devour the food and then stand on line to receive the forbidden Russian rations.

When they complained to the Chofetz Chaim and threatened to stop preparing kosher food, he reflected with an insight that must be passed on to generations.

"Every mitzvah that a Jew does, every good deed and every bit of kosher that he eats is not a fleeting act. It is an eternity. No matter what precedes or ensues, we must cherish each proper action of a Jew."

The wayward son, Esav is at first told by his father that there are no blessings. But he cries bitterly and cannot fathom that fact. "Is there nothing left?" He asks. It cannot be. And he was right. There is always some blessing left to be found. No matter how far one has strayed, no matter how bleak a situation looks. There is always blessing. We must pursue it, even cry for it, and when we receive the tiniest blessing it may seem trivial, even fleeting, but it is with us for eternity.

From: <http://www.torah.org/learning/drasha/5762/toldos.html>