

Young Israel of the Main Line

273 Montgomery Ave
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
www.yiml.org
www.chaseplanet.us/yiml

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg
610-667-3255
rabbi@yiml.org

Sherman Frager, President
610-667-7063



Parshas Vayetzei
November 12-13

פרשת ויצא
ו' כסלו

The story of our father Yaakov, as portrayed in this week's parsha, is certainly the harbinger of all of the Jewish story in the long centuries of our exile and dispersion. Yaakov arrives penniless and persecuted - a survivor from the ravages of the enmity and sword of Eisav. He is subjected to further humiliation and discrimination in the house of his erstwhile father-in-law and employer Lavan who exploits his talents and labor to the fullest.

In spite of this unfair treatment, Yaakov prospers and builds a family and future for himself. Yaakov's success in the face of overwhelmingly negative circumstances only enrages Lavan and his sons and Yaakov is eventually forced to flee and return to the Land of Israel. Here, he will again encounter enmity and great challenges to the survival of his family and himself.

Through all of this tumult and danger Yaakov perseveres and succeeds in building a family that will develop into an eternal and holy nation. And this is pretty much the story of the Jewish people over its over three millennia of existence. No other people or group of immigrants has ever done so much for its host nation as have the Jews. Yet, in the main, their efforts and achievements have been unrewarded if not even resented.

This phenomenon of ingratitude is Lavan's inheritance bequeathed in full measure to the non-Jewish world generally. The Jew may be elevated, exploited, rewarded or persecuted but rarely if ever is he truly appreciated. The world has a mental block against truly appreciating the role of the Jew in the progress of civilization. And in our current world, that mental block has been extended to focus mainly on the Jewish state of Israel.

The secret of Yaakov's ability to overcome Lavan, and to succeed in preserving the heritage of Avraham and Yitzchak, lies in his constant recollection of the great dream that he dreamt at the beginning of his sojourn in exile. God's presence in the house of Yaakov was a palpable one. He always felt God's presence over him and thus his vision of the long game that he was to play triumphed over the near sighted short game that Lavan always played. Yaakov, who is aware and confident in God's promise that "I will be with you," realizes that reversals and even tragedies are still only temporary events in the march of Jewish history.

It is the constant recollection of his great vision and dream that fuels Yaakov's strength and sense of purpose. Lavan's vision from Heaven is merely a warning not to further harm Yaakov. But he lacks grander visions - no ladders that can ascend heavenward and no sense of eternity. In this respect Lavan and Eisav resemble each other acutely. They are all about "now" - the additional pot of lentils and labor that can be squeezed out of the weak and defenseless with no thought about the ultimate future and the consequences of their behavior. Yaakov states that "tomorrow I will come into my reward" - Jews are concerned about their ultimate tomorrow and not just their today. He who is concerned about tomorrow is also successful today.

Adapted from "Today Depends on Tomorrow" by Rabbi Berel Wein
<http://www.torah.org/learning/rabbiwein/5771/vayeitzei.html>



Shabbos Schedule



Scholar in Residence Shabbos with Rabbi Jeremy Kagan

Candle lighting: 4:29pm

Mincha - Friday: 4:29pm

Yaakov's Ladder: Connecting Heaven and Earth 8:15pm

Parsha Chaburah by Rabbi Chaim Diamond: 7:55am

Rabbi's Mishlei Shiur: 8:15am

Shacharis: 8:45am

Sof Zman Krias Shema: 9:14am

*Corrupted Connections and their Consequences.
Following Kiddush, approximately 11:30am.*

Mincha: 4:15pm

Humility and Human Greatness. At Shalosh Seudos.

Medical Halacha Shiur given by Dr Daniel Eisenberg.

Maariv: 5:31pm

Today's Challenge: the Opportunity of Distance 8:30pm

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis: Sunday:	8:00am
Monday and Thursday:	6:40am
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday:	6:50am
Mincha/Maariv: Sunday:	4:30pm
Maariv: Monday through Thursday:	7:45pm
Candle Lighting and Mincha Friday:	4:23pm

Weekday Shiurim

Daily Mussar Shiur:	15 minutes before Shacharis
Mishna Brura:	Mon and Wed after Maariv
Melachim Aleph Shiur:	Monday at 8pm
Halacha Shiur:	Tuesday at 8:30pm.
Nefesh HaChaim:	Thursday at 10:10pm

Check with Dr Daniel Eisenberg to confirm.

Women's Learning Experience - Fall Session

Mon at 9:00am: Tehillim for Cholim.

Mon at 9:30am: Steven Goldman teaches Parsha HaShavua.

Tues at 9:30am: Rabbi Shmidman teaches Tehillim at LMS.

Wed at 9:00am: Rachael Biberfeld teaches Michtav M'Eliyahu.

Thurs at 9:30am: Rabbi Steinberg teaches The Chazon Ish - Faith and Trust.

All classes at 8 Concord Circle, unless otherwise noted. Free babysitting provided if you call in advance.

For information, call Janis Fine 610-888-0477 or 610-617-0913

The Chevra Mishnayos is learning Seder Zeraim. See shul bulletin board to sign up or email eisenber@pol.net with your name and the masechta (and chapters) you intend to learn.

To subscribe to the YIML email list, visit
<http://mail.chaseplanet.us/mailman/listinfo/yiml>

Baruch Haba Rabbi Jeremy Kagan, our Scholar in Residence!

Young Israel of the Main Line is proud to present A Dream Shabbos: Understanding Yaakov and His Ladder. Through various midrashim on Yaakov's dream we will try to understand our purpose in creation and how our failures over history to fully achieve that purpose create the circumstances which allow its ultimate completion.

See the brochure for detailed schedule and list of sponsors. Thank you to the Education Committee, Rabbi Steinberg, Ari Weintraub, and Josh Weinberger. Special thanks to Reuven Kovacs for taking the lead and coordinating all details with Rabbi Kagan! Sharon and Jim Strong are sponsors of our Scholar in Residence Shabbos to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Jim's father, Nachum ben Moshe.

Bnos of Bala Cynwyd from 2:45 to 3:45pm at LMS. Please note the time change! Contact Meira Friedman (610-617-9529) for more information.

Pirchei of Bala Cynwyd will not meet this Shabbos.

We regret to inform you of the passing of Rebbetzin Sophie Ebert z"l, beloved mother of our member, Risa Goldman.

Risa will be sitting shiva with her family at Rebbetzin Ebert's home, 2703 Ave.Y, Brooklyn, NY.

May the family be comforted among the aveileu Tzion VeYerushalayim.

The Womens' Learning Experience is happy to announce our first evening class!!

Mrs. Stacey Goldman will be teaching a class on the Imahot. Tuesdays, starting Nov. 9th at 8:30pm at the home of Marguerite Werrin, 161 Highland Circle, Bala.

Class is free of charge!