



Dear Ellie

This week we read two Torah portions, Behar and Bechukotai. The name Behar means literally "on the mountain." The Midrash relates that when G-d wanted to reveal His holy Torah to the Jewish people, all the mountains in the world vied for the privilege. Each mountain in turn came before G-d and boasted of its superiority and beauty, yet it was precisely **Mount Sinai - a small and unassuming mountain** that refused to boast - upon which G-d chose to give the Torah.

Neither the mountains' impressive height, prime location or other physical characteristics were taken into consideration. Not only did these features not convince G-d, as it were, to choose them, but their boasting had the opposite effect. For the Torah could only be given in a place where side issues were irrelevant; **the Torah was revealed purely for its own sake.**

The giving of the Torah on humble Mount Sinai contains a lesson for all of us in how a Jew is supposed to observe G-d's commandments. Personal considerations and motivations, no matter how valid or convincing, are not the real reason we perform mitzvot. Rather, a Jew fulfills the Torah's commandments solely because such is the will of G-d.

Nor do we perform mitzvot because of their reward, despite the fact that the Torah promises ample dividends for our compliance. True, we will be more than compensated, but the true reason a Jew obeys G-d's will is only because He wants us to.

Some Jews may wish to observe the commandments in order to merit the Garden of Eden, but this too, is only a secondary issue. Observing mitzvot (commandments) brings delight to the spirit, refines our character attributes and purifies the soul, but the desire to obtain these personal benefits is not the Jew's genuine motivation.

As Jews we are obligated to emulate the example of Mount Sinai, the only proper "vessel" for containing the Torah. Our motivation and intent in heeding G-d's word must be unadulterated by thoughts of personal gain or advantage. For the true reason we **serve G-d and obey His mitzvot is solely for the sake of serving Him.**

In fact, had G-d commanded us to perform actions which would not be rewarded, we would carry out His will with the same joy, enthusiasm and vitality with which we observe the Torah commandments, solely because He wants us to!

Shabbat Shalom,


Areyah

זמני הדלקת הנרות

Candle Lighting Times for
New Albany, OH [Based on Zip Code
43054]:

Shabbat Candle Lighting:	8:22 pm
Friday, May 15	
Shabbat Ends:	9:27 pm
Shabbat, May 16	

Torah Portion: **Behar-Bechukotai**



Schedule of Services

The Lori Schottenstein Chabad Center offers a full schedule of Shabbat services.

Come and be inspired for the rest of the week! For more information, please call us at 614-939-0765.

**20 Iyar 5775
Saturday, May 16, 2015**

Morning Services: 9:30 a.m.
Yizkor: 11:00
Moshiach Seuda: 6:00

Torah and Tea*: 10:00 a.m.
*this class is now Dedicated in Memory of Rashi Minkowitz, ob"m, a community leader, mother and Shilucha.

Tot Shabbot for 4 and under: 11:00 a.m.

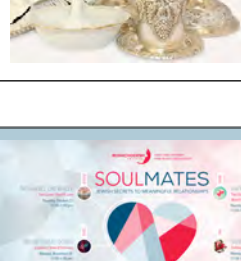
KIDDUSH - 12:00 pm

**21 Iyar, 5775
Sunday, May 17, 2015**

Shachrit: 9:45 a.m.

**JOIN US FOR A
Special Shabbos
at Chabad!**

Join us on Friday May 15 for
6:45 Shabbat services.



Subscribe to this newsletter

Chabad

לחמדות

Upcoming Events

Hebrew School - regular class
May 17, 2015 - 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

More Info »

JLI-Art of Parenting
May 17, 2015 - 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

More Info »

Rosh Chodesh - Soulmates
May 19, 2015 - 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

More Info »

Thurs night Parsha class
May 21, 2015 - 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

More Info »

Thurs night Parsha class
May 28, 2015 - 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

More Info »

View all upcoming events

ROSH CHODESH Soulmates – Jewish Secrets to Meaningful Relationships

**Next Lesson - Tuesday, May 19
Happily Ever After? The Challenge of Divorce, and What it Teaches About Marriage**

Sadly, "happily ever after" is not the case for many marriages today. Yet, while Jewish law allows room for divorce, it also likens it to the tragedy of an amputation. What constitutes grounds for divorce according to Jewish law? How far must one go, and how much must one tolerate, to make a marriage work? When and how is it appropriate to meddle in another's marital conflict? This lesson gives us insight into the sensitive issue of divorce, and what it teaches us about the unparalleled value that Judaism places on shalom bayit, peace in the home.

12:00 - 1:00 pm. Light brunch will be served.
Cost: \$20
Chabad of Columbus
6220 East Dublin-Granville Rd.
New Albany, OH 43054-9381
For info or to register:
esther@friendscolumbus.com
614.563.2261

פרשת השבוע

Parshat Behar-Bechukotai

On the mountain of Sinai, G-d communicates to Moses the laws of the Sabbatical year: every seventh year, all work on the land should cease, and its produce becomes free for the taking for all, man and beast.

Seven Sabbatical cycles are followed by a fiftieth year—the Jubilee year, on which work on the land ceases, all indentured servants are set free, and all ancestral estates, in the Holy Land that have been sold revert to their original owners. Additional laws governing the sale of lands, and the prohibitions against fraud and usury, are also given.

G-d promises that if the people of Israel will keep His commandments, they will enjoy material prosperity and dwell secure in their homeland. But He also delivers a harsh "rebuke," warning of the exile, persecution and other evils that will befall them if they abandon their covenant with Him. Nevertheless, "Even when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away; nor will I ever abhor them, to destroy them and to break My covenant with them; for I am the L-rd their G-d."

The Parshah concludes with the rules on how to calculate the values of different types of pledges made to G-d.

LIFETOWN LEGENDS 2015


The 2015 LifeTown Legends luncheon was an amazing experience!

During the 1½ hours of the event, \$96,163 out of our 5 donors' special \$125,000 Big Give matching funds challenge was raised from the 460 people in attendance.

To all who attended, volunteered, and donated, thank you so much for responding to the needs of our 2500 youth.

We thank you for your generosity and engagement to LifeTown and hope to see you at next year's event!

Watch the video! <https://youtu.be/Y6-qbA3p170>.



LifeTown.
Life Skills for a Life Time.

See more photos here on LifeTown's Facebook page.

Chabad Hebrew School

For more information:
www.chabadhs.org
Call 614-939-0765 or 614-578-9318 or email hebrewschool@chabadhs.org



מגזין שבועי

This Week @ www.ChabadColumbus.com

editor's picks
The World Is a Coconut Grove
Coconuts are delicious. But if you don't know how to crack them, you could be real hungry in a coconut grove.

your questions
Do Jews Cross Fingers?
Is it wrong for a Jew to say "I'm keeping my fingers crossed" for good luck? And if so, is there a Jewish equivalent to crossing fingers?

parshah
Is Obedience Obsolete?
Demanding obedience is a card parents often pull as leverage in a power struggle. But have the children learned anything meaningful?

what's new at chabad.org
Join Jewish.tv's Newest Series: Practical Halachah
The first course in this series will focus on the laws of Shabbat. What are the requirements for Kiddush? How is food prepared before and during Shabbat? What can a person do, for example, in case of a medical emergency on Shabbat?

You're invited to join us for a **SHAVUOT ICE CREAM PARTY**
Sunday, May 24, 11:00 - 12:30

Dairy Lunch Buffet
Food Crafts
Experience the reading of the Ten Commandments
For the entire family

You're invited to a Shavuot Ice Cream Party!
Sunday, May 24, 2015
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

- Experience the reading of the Ten Commandments
- Ice cream party
- Food crafts
- Dairy lunch buffet
- For the entire family

\$5 per person

For more information email chabadcolumbus@sbcolocal.net or call 614-939-0765

RSVP HERE

The Lori Schottenstein Chabad Center
6220 East Dublin-Granville Rd.
New Albany, OH 43054

Mitzvah Soup... Good for the Body and Soul

Fathers' (Gene & Aaron) Chicken Spaetzle Soup

Available at the Chabad Center now until we run out!

Just \$10!

All fresh and all delicious, with 100% of the proceeds benefiting the Columbus LifeTown program. Please contact Rozanne Stern at rozannestern@gmail.com to order.


Limited quantities.

The 10th Annual NATIONAL JEWISH RETREAT

Est. 2006

August 11-16, 2015 26 Av-I Elul 5775
OMNI SHOREHAM HOTEL
Washington, DC

REGISTER NOW for the National Jewish Retreat August 11-16



CAMP GAN ISRAEL 2015

A uniquely exciting experience for your child in a warm, caring, and Jewish environment

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FIELD TRIPS INCLUDE:

- Nature wetlands
- Kings island
- Zoombezi Zoo
- Columbus Bay
- Chiller
- Bowling
- Hocking Hills

SPECIALTY PROGRAMMING INCLUDES:

- Sports
- Swimming
- Woodworking
- Yoga
- Science
- Crafts

NEW - Four Weeks of Camp Gan Izzy, with Extended Wednesdays

- June 22- 26
- June 29- July 2
- July 6-10
- July 13- 17

Monday through Friday
9:30 am - 4:00 pm

- Transportation available from specific areas
- Pre-care/after-care offered

LOCATION:
New Albany Middle School Facility
6600 E. Dublin-Granville Rd.
New Albany, OH 43054

PHONE:
(614) 235-9395 / (614) 939-0765

EMAIL:
camp@cgicolumbus.com

WEBSITE:
www.cgicolumbus.com

CAMP RATES:
\$195 - Weekly
\$705 - Full 4 Weeks
Limited scholarships available.

"Gan Izzy is a warm, fun and exciting summer program that made a tremendous impact on my son...While I knew that my son greatly enjoyed camp, I didn't realize just how connected he felt to the camp until after the program completed. He felt so close to his counselor... Throughout the year, he tells me how much he's looking forward to returning next summer."
- Elana Katz

camp@cgicolumbus.com
www.cgicolumbus.com

IT'S THE WORLD'S MOST DIFFICULT JOB.

Are you qualified?

THE ART OF PARENTING RETURNS - a special session for Hebrew school parents

11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Six Sundays beginning April 19 (no class May 10)
Fee: \$35

Questions or to register, email [Esther.Kaltmann](mailto:Esther.Kaltmann@chabad.org) or call office at 614-939-0765

The Lori Schottenstein Chabad Center
6220 East Dublin-Granville Rd., New Albany, OH 43054

JLI TEENS DISCOVERY PROGRAM

COMPLICATED ME

Begins April 12

Face your demons ahead as you get a true-to-life snapshot of what's lurking beneath your mask. You won't get all the answers. But you will get to discuss fascinating theories and case studies in psychology along with powerful Jewish insights to help figure yourself out, for yourself. Explore who you are, who you're not, and who you can become in a new six-session series for teens from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute.

IT'S THE BEST #SELFIE YOU'LL EVER TAKE.

Sundays 3:00-4:00

Questions? Email [Esther.Kaltmann](mailto:Esther.Kaltmann@chabad.org)

The Lori Schottenstein Chabad Center
6220 East Dublin-Granville Rd., New Albany, OH 43054
Office: 614-939-0765

LifeTown provides life skills training for children with disabilities. We rely on volunteers to make our unique program work. To volunteer, sign up at SignUp.Genius.com or email volunteer coordinator [Nancy Eisenman](mailto:Nancy.Eisenman@chabad.org) for more information.

Weekly Torah study
Please join us for "A Journey into the Soul of Torah", a weekly Torah study. The class will continue on Thursdays at 7:30 pm at The Lori Schottenstein Chabad Center. Open to all and free of charge.

Kiddush Sponsorship Opportunities Available
Looking for a meaningful way to recognize a special day? Consider sponsoring a Kiddush. For more information, please contact the Chabad office at 614-939-0765.