



Dear Ellie,

Wednesday, we celebrated the holiday of Tu B'Shevat - The **New Year for the Trees**. As kids, many of us saved our pennies and bought trees to be planted in Israel in honor of Tu B'Shevat.

We knew that it was the "New Year for Trees," whatever that meant, and that was about it. But why the big emphasis on trees - so much so that there is a special mitzva in the Torah not to destroy fruit-bearing trees when conquering enemy lands?!

The Torah itself tells us that a **person is similar to a tree**. This likeness is particularly noticeable in a spiritual sense.

A tree has roots, a trunk and branches, and fruit or seed.

The **root** is the means of obtaining the nourishing substances from the earth necessary to the tree's life. It also provides a firm entrenchment for the plant against the wind. It is by far the most important life-giving agent of the plant, though the leaves also contribute toward the nourishment of the tree.

The **trunk and branches** provide the main body of the tree, and clearly mark the growth and development of the tree.

But the tree reaches perfection only upon producing a nut, or seed, or seed-bearing fruit, for in it lies the potential for the procreation of its kind, generation after generation.

*How are these three components similar to a person's spiritual life?*

The **root is his faith** which links the Jew with his origin, and which constantly obtains for him his spiritual nourishment.

The trunk and branches are the **Torah and mitzvot**. These must grow even as the age of a tree increases its stem and branches.

But the fruit, which more than anything else justifies the existence of the tree, is the **good deeds of man**, those mitzvot which benefit others as well as self, and which have within them the seed that produces similar good deeds.

The roots of the Jew and his very link with the origin of this life lie in his true faith in G-d and in all the fundamental principles of our religion. Unless the roots are firm, and firmly embodied in the soil, the tree, despite its trunk and branches and leaves, will not withstand the strong wind. The development and advancement—and, in fact, the entire stature—of the Jew can be seen through his good deeds, in the practice of the Torah and the performance of mitzvot. Finally, his perfection comes through the fruit, by benefiting others, and helping to perpetuate our great heritage.

Only good news,

Areyah

**זמני הדלקת הנרות**

Candle Lighting Times for New Albany, OH (Based on Zip Code 43054):

Shabbat Candle Lighting:  
Friday, Feb 6 5:38 pm  
Shabbat Ends: 6:39 pm  
Shabbat, Feb 7

Torah Portion: **Yitro**



**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.

**18 Shevat 5775**  
**Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015**

**Morning Services: 9:30 a.m.**  
**CKids - ages 5-12: 10:45 a.m.**

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

**Tot Shabbat for 4 and under: 11:00 a.m.**

**KIDDUSH – 12:00 pm**

**Kiddush sponsored by Moshe and Judy Mizrahi in honor of his father's yartzeit.**

**19 Shevat, 5775**  
**Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015**

**Shachrit: 9:45 a.m.**

Subscribe to this newsletter



**לחמדות**

**Upcoming Events**  
**Hebrew School - regular class**  
Feb. 8, 2015 - 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

[More Info >](#)

**JLI Teens discovery program**  
Feb. 8, 2015 - 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

[More Info >](#)

**JLI-Art of Parenting**  
Feb. 10, 2015 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

[More Info >](#)

**JLI-Art of Parenting**  
Feb. 11, 2015 - 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

[More Info >](#)

**Hebrew School Snow Tubing**  
Feb. 15, 2015

[More Info >](#)

**JLI Teens discovery program**  
Feb. 15, 2015 - 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

[More Info >](#)

**JLI-Art of Parenting**  
Feb. 17, 2015 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

[More Info >](#)

**JLI-Art of Parenting**  
Feb. 18, 2015 - 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

[More Info >](#)

**Rosh Chodesh - Soulmates**  
Feb. 19, 2015 - 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

[More Info >](#)

[\\* View all upcoming events](#)

**פרשת השבוע**

**Parshat Yitro**

Moses' father-in-law, **Jethro**, hears of the great **miracles** which G-d performed for the people of Israel, and comes from Midian to the Israelite camp, bringing with him Moses' wife and two sons. Jethro advises Moses to appoint a hierarchy of **magistrates and judges** to assist him in the task of governing and administering justice to the people.

The children of Israel camp opposite **Mount Sinai**, where they are told that G-d has **chosen** them to be His "kingdom of priests" and "holy nation." The people respond by proclaiming, "All that G-d has spoken, we shall **do**."

On the sixth day of the third month (Sivan), seven weeks after the **Exodus**, the entire nation of Israel assembles at the foot of Mount Sinai. G-d **descends** on the mountain amidst thunder, lightning, billows of smoke and the blast of the **shofar**, and summons Moses to **ascend**.

G-d proclaims the **Ten Commandments**, commanding the people of Israel to believe in **G-d**, not to worship **idols** or take G-d's **name** in vain, to keep the **Shabbat**, honor their **parents**, not to **murder**, not to commit **adultery**, not to **steal**, and not to bear false **witness** or **covet** another's property. The people cry out to Moses that the revelation is too intense for them to bear, begging him to receive the **Torah** from G-d and convey it to them.

**Chabad Hebrew School**  
For more information:  
[www.chabadhs.org](http://www.chabadhs.org)  
Call 614-939-0765 or 614-578-9318 or email [hebrewschool@chabadhs.org](mailto:hebrewschool@chabadhs.org)

**מגזין שבועי**

This Week @ [www.ChabadColumbus.com](http://www.ChabadColumbus.com)

**parshah**  
**Moses the Real Estate Agent**  
A dialogue between Moses and the angels, in which the angels challenged Israel's right to receive the Torah, yields fascinating insights into the nature of spirituality and physicality, the purpose of creation, and the role of the Torah

**15 shevat**  
**Why Fruit Are Important**  
I have a friend who will not buy avocados on principle. "Fifty percent of the weight is the seed," he explains. He loves purchasing apples, grapes and mangos, but avocados and mangos are out. Peaches and dates are borderline ...

**video**  
**A Conversation with the Chief Rabbi of Israel**  
A dynamic discussion with Chief Rabbi David Lau in conversation with Rabbi David Eliezrie in Yorba Linda, California.

**women**  
**Yes, I'm the Lady Who Stops Strangers Outside the Supermarket**  
I was definitely looking for G-d in college, but I was also very sure that the answer was not in Torah Judaism. A lot has changed in 40 years.

**IT'S THE WORLD'S MOST DIFFICULT JOB.**  
Are you qualified?

**the art of parenting**  
A NEW SIX-SESSION COURSE FROM THE ROHR JEWISH LEARNING INSTITUTE

**JOIN NOW**

**The Art of Parenting**

As parents, we worry about the well-being of our kids; about their future, and about our role in shaping it. In *The Art of Parenting*, we scale the challenges that face us as parents and explore timeless insights from Jewish wisdom to instill values, foster independence, and ensure the long-term success and emotional well-being of our children.

The Lori Schottenstein Chabad Center,  
6220 East Dublin-Granville Rd., New Albany, OH 43054  
614-939-0765  
[chabadcolumbus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chabadcolumbus@sbcglobal.net)

**JOIN NOW** 6 Tuesdays beginning Jan 20th - Feb 24th  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
\$110.00  
Lunch Provided - Child Care Available for \$7 per session

**JOIN NOW** 6 Wednesdays beginning Jan 21st - Feb 25th  
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM  
\$110.00  
Refreshments Provided

**JLI TEENS DISCOVERY PROGRAM**  
**HOLLYWOOD IDOL**  
Starts Feb. 8  
**REGISTER**

Hollywood Idol analyzes how the culture of Hollywood subliminally influences our society. From dystopian societies in which evil governments force inhabitants into districts, to heroic romances between defiant teen heroes fighting for their freedom, students will discover how every movie-every story-is inherently a message and commentary on life. They will be challenged to consider and think deeply about these messages, whether they really agree with them, and how these values compare with those of our tradition.

Sundays 3:00-4:30  
Questions? Email [Esther Kaltmann](mailto:Esther.Kaltmann)

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

**SOULMATES**

**Upcoming classes:**

Thursday, March 19 - "Happily Ever After?"  
Monday, April 20 - "Sacred Space"  
Tuesday, May 19 - "Becoming a Better Half"

Classes are from 12:00 - 1:00 pm. Gourmet lunch will be served.

Cost: \$105 registration for entire year includes textbook; or \$20 per individual class.

Chabad of Columbus  
6220 East Dublin Granville Rd.  
New Albany, OH 43054-9381

For info or to register:  
[esther@friendscolumbus.com](mailto:esther@friendscolumbus.com)  
614.563.2261

**ROSH CHODESH**  
**Soulmates – Jewish Secrets to Meaningful Relationships**

**Next Lesson - Thursday, Feb. 19**

"Respecting Your Other Half"

Romantics of all ages have waxed poetic on the notion of "soulmates," seeking to grasp what makes love and passion so potent, what drives the inexplicable magnetism between two people, and what makes true love last. Yet millennia of Jewish text and tradition are rich with insights on this very topic, from the mystical and spiritual to the no-nonsense and practical.

Course synopsis by chapters [here](#).

**2015 5775**  
**INTERNATIONAL SHABBATON**  
FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 1  
ADAR 8-10  
CHABAD.COM

**About The Shabbaton**

CTeen is a social club where teens learn about themselves and their heritage through giving to others and participating in interactive, hands-on activities. With over 125 chapters, in 14 countries, CTeen is the fastest growing network for Jewish teens.

The International CTeen Shabbaton is an annual reunion of Jewish teens from across the continent. For the past six years, hundreds of teens have forged new friendships while experiencing a meaningful Shabbat and enjoying the thrills of the Big Apple.

This year's Shabbaton will G-d willing take place in New York on February 27th- March 1st.

Manhattan shopping, visiting tourists' hot spots and Brooklyn's Jewish attractions are some of this year's Shabbaton features.

Building on the incredible success of the past Shabbatons, this year's fresh program and revised itinerary promise to be unmatched.

Dare to be surprised. Prepare for the unimaginable.

The CTeen International Shabbaton is open to all Jewish teens in the community regardless of affiliation.

**REGISTER**

[esther@friendscolumbus.com](mailto:esther@friendscolumbus.com) 614.563.2261

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](http://SignUp.Genius) or email volunteer coordinator [Nancy Eisenman](mailto:Nancy Eisenman) 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.