



# Kids Parsha Packet

פָּרָשַׁת לֵלֶךְ לְךָ

## Parshat Lech Lecha

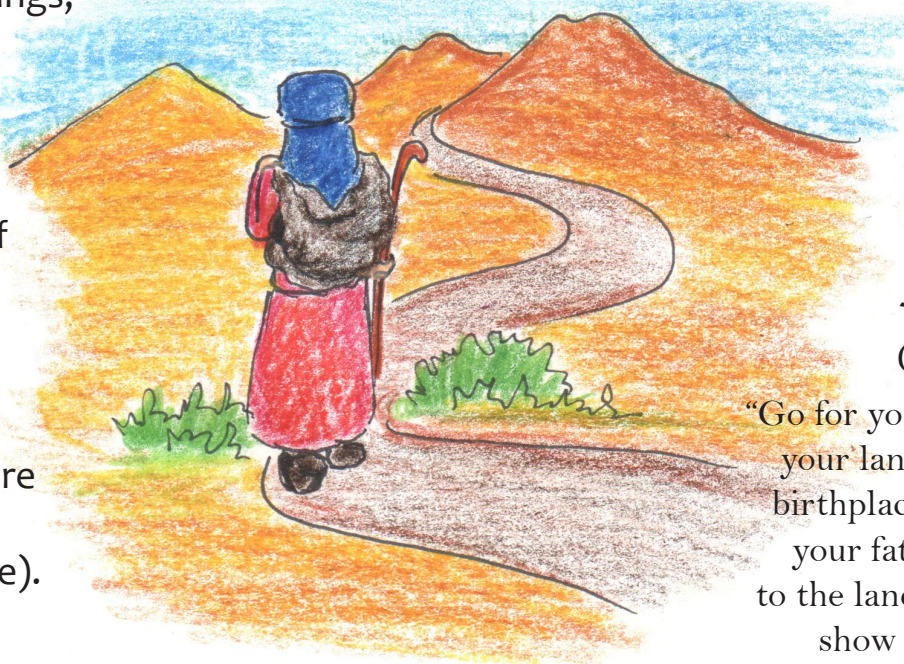
Last Week in Parshat Noach

A great flood destroyed the whole world, and Noah and his family rebuilt it.

### Leave everything behind and start anew

How would you feel if you were told to leave your house? Or to leave your school? And your country? Changes of this kind are not easy at all! Hashem commands Avraham (at this time he is still named Avram) to leave his home and everything that is familiar to him and to go to a new land, a land that Hashem will show him later on. Hashem also tells Avraham not to worry because Hashem will take care of all of his needs. Hashem promises Avraham that he will be blessed in everything that he does. What do you think- did Avraham do as Hashem said? This is a very difficult request! Long ago there were no airplanes, computers or telephones, and it was not easy to stay in touch or to come visit. Once a person left a place, he usually never came back. There was no way of keeping in touch with the place or the people left behind. But despite the difficulty, Avraham obeys Hashem. He takes his wife Sarah with him (at this time she is still called Sari), his nephew Lot, and all of their belongings,

and they go to Eretz Canaan, the land where the nation of Canaan lives (the Land of Israel was called Eretz Canaan before it gets its current name).



"לך לך מארצך  
וגמולדתך  
וגבית אביך  
אל הארץ אשר  
אראך" (י"ב, א')

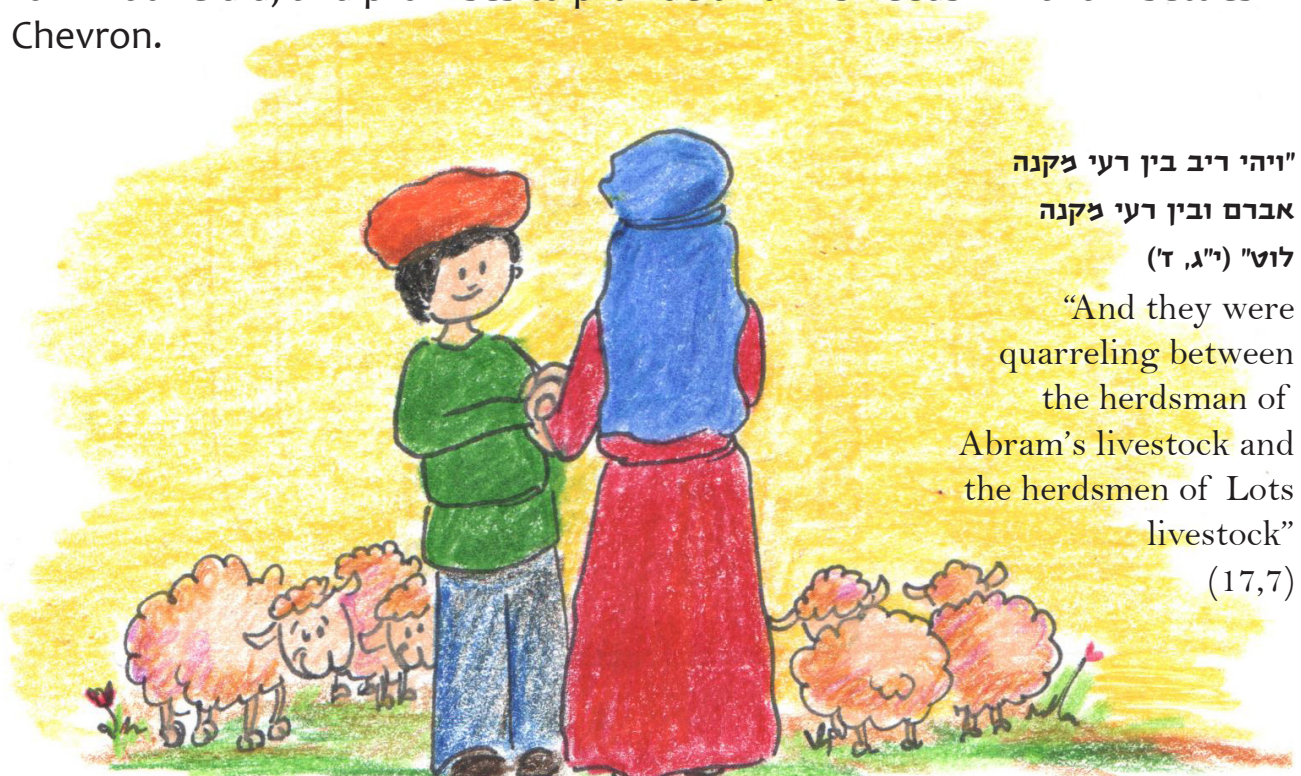
"Go for yourself from your land, from your birthplace, and from your father's house to the land that I will show you." (12,1)



If you needed to leave your house – where would you want to go?

## Sometimes it's better to split up...

Have you ever argued with someone? Most of us have argued with people many times in our lives for all different reasons. Unfortunately, we are not always able to resolve problems with kind words, so we argue. The Torah tells us about an argument between the shepherds of Avraham and the shepherds of Lot, Avraham's nephew. Avraham has a lot of possessions and a lot of cattle (animals that need to eat and graze in the field), and Lot also has a lot of cattle. Each of them has shepherds (people responsible for watching the cattle) that take the cattle to graze in the fields. Since they both have lots of cattle, the shepherds fight over the grazing areas. Avraham does not want them or their shepherds to fight so he suggests that Lot will choose where he would like to live. Eretz Canaan is very big place, Avraham says, and they decide that Lot will choose a place to live, and Avraham will respect his choice and go live somewhere else. Avraham wants to resolve the argument in a peaceful way. Lot looks around him, and sees an area that is filled with water and good things. This is the eastern region of Eretz Canaan, a region called Sodom. This is the place that Lot chooses to live. Hashem blesses Avraham for what he did, and promises to provide all of his needs. Avraham settles in Chevron.



וַיְהִי רִיב בֵּין רְעֵי אַבְרָם

אֲבִרָם וּבֵין רְעֵי לוֹט

(י"ג, ז')

"And they were quarreling between the herdsman of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock"

(17,7)



Is it harder or easier to be the one who gives in?

Activity

"Enough fighting" – Think of reasons to fight, present them to everyone else, and then come up with solutions to the problems.



## What happens when lots of kings get together?

Do you know any stories about kings that battle against other kings? The Torah tells us a story like that. Four kings that rule over many parts of the world, also rule over five kings from the Sodom region. How does one king rule over another king? The five kings rule in their own areas, but there are really four kings that rule over them and tell them what to do, and collect taxes from them. After twelve years under their rule, the five kings decide they do not want to continue to live this way anymore. They want to rule alone without others ruling over them. They decide to rebel against the four kings and start a war against them. Were they successful? Not exactly. The four kings win and all of the people and possessions of the five kings are taken captive. But what does this have to do with us and why is it written in the Torah? Because Lot, Avraham's nephew, lives in Sodom, and he is one of the people that are taken captive...

"And it was in the days  
of Amraphel, king of Shina;  
Arioch, king of Ellasar;  
Chedorlaomer, king of Elam, and  
Tidal, king of Goiim." (14,1)

"ויהי בימי אמרפל מלך שניער  
אריוך מלך אלסר כדורלעמר  
מלך עילם ותדעל  
מלך גוים" (י"ד, א')



Would you rather be a king that rules or a king that rebels?

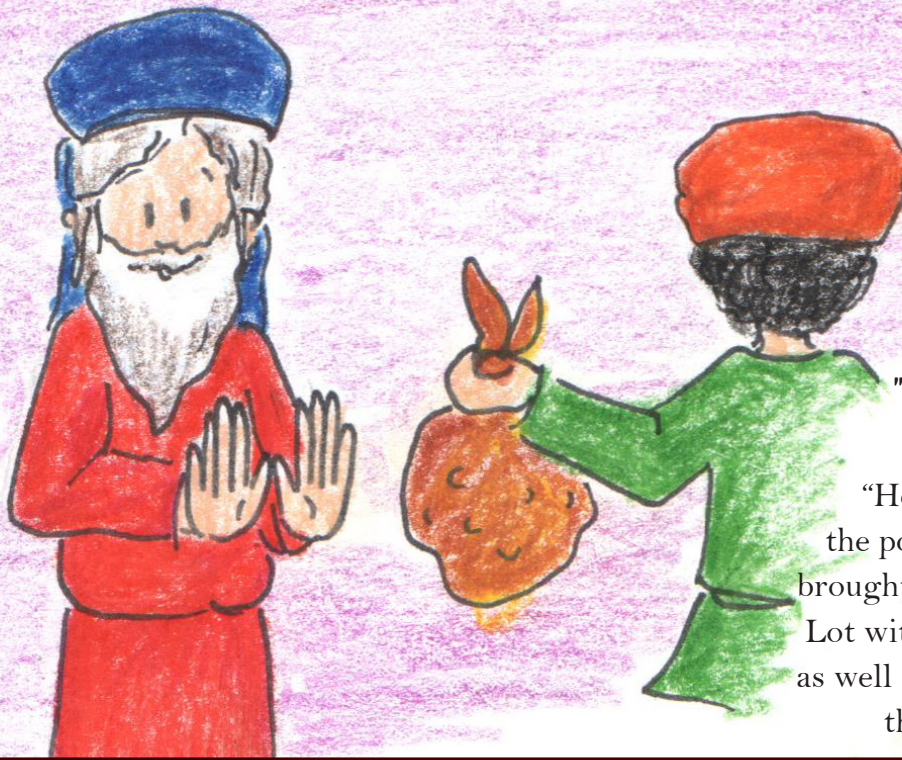
**Activity**

"Control" – One member of the family is king (or queen) and tells everyone else what to do. Everyone does what they are told until they decide to rebel. How do you force the king out? By tickling him until he surrenders.



## The great rescue

What would you do to help a friend or a family member in need? You would probably try to help out as much as you could, but if it was too hard you might not even try, right? Avraham hears that Lot, his nephew, is taken captive, and he decides to save him. Five great kings lost a war against four even greater kings. How can Avraham, one person, be able to beat them??? Isn't this war too difficult? Avraham takes other warriors with him, and they set out to rescue Lot. Was he successful? You will not believe it, but Avraham manages to fight off the enemies, free Lot and all the other captives, and return all of the possessions that were taken. The five kings thank Avraham for saving their nations. They bless him and give him presents. Avraham refuses to take any presents. He did not save them for their money, he just wanted to save Lot. So, Avraham does not get anything in return.



"וַיָּשֶׁב אֶת כָּל הָרֶכֶשׁ  
וְגַם אֶת לוֹט אָחִיו  
וְרִכְשׁוֹ הַשִּׁיב וְאֶת  
הַנָּשִׁים וְאֶת הָעָם"  
(י"ד, ט"ז)

"He brought back all the possessions; he also brought back his brother, Lot with his possessions, as well as the women and the people." (14,16)

### Activity

"Save me tag" - One person is "it". Anyone that is tagged must lay down on the floor and say "save me!". Everyone else needs to save the people on the floor by tapping them on the head to set them free.

## Next Week In Parshat Vayeira...

Avraham hears some news that will change his life...

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# Shabbat Shalom!

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# Parashat Lech Lecha