



Kids Parsha Packet

פֿאַרשׂה לילדים

Parshat Chayei Sarah

Last week in Parshat Vayera:

Avraham and Sarah receive the news that they will have a son

The first purchase ever, and not in the mall...

What is more fun - to receive something for free or to pay money for it? Of course most of us prefer to get things for free and without having to spend money, but Avraham teaches us something very important. It is not always worthwhile to get things for free. Sometimes it is better to spend money and buy them. What does Avraham buy? His wife Sarah dies and he is looking for a place to bury her. He wants the place where he buries Sarah to belong to him. He wants a place that he pays for with money so that no one can claim that he does not own it. Avraham speaks to Ephron, who owns a field in Chevron where Avraham would like to bury Sarah. Ephron offers the field to Avraham for free and says that he does not need to pay anything for it, but

Avraham refuses! Avraham asks him how much the field is worth and pays him its full value. The place where Sarah is buried, Ma'arat Hamachpela (the cave of Machpela) in Chevron, that Avraham bought, is the first plot of land that is purchased in Eretz Yisrael, and is still there until this very day...

"וַיִּתֵּן לִי אֶת פְּעֶרֶת הַמַּכְפֵּלָה אֲשֶׁר לֹא אֲשֶׁר
בְּקֶצֶה שְׂדֵהוּ בַּכֶּסֶף גֵּלָא יִתְּנָהּ לִי" (כ"ג, ט')

"Let him grant me the Cave of Machpelah which is his, on the edge of his field; let him grant it to me for its full price, in your midst" (23:9)



Have you ever been to Ma'arat Hamachpela or seen pictures of it?

I Swear!

What do you think, is it easy to find someone to marry? Some say it is easy, and some say it is hard. Avraham is worried about Yitzchak his son, he wants him to get married but does not want him to marry just anyone. Avraham's lifestyle and that of his family is different than most of the nations around him. Avraham believes in Hashem and does whatever he says, while most of the other nations worship idols and many other gods. Avraham does not want Yitzchak to marry a girl of this kind. He also does not want Yitzchak to leave Eretz Canaan. Hashem promised Avraham that Eretz Canaan will be the

place where his family will be blessed, and he wants Yitzchak to stay there. So Avraham makes Eliezer, his servant, swear to leave Eretz Canaan and go to Charan, where Avraham's family lives, to look for a bride for Yitzchak who will agree to come live in Eretz Canaan.



"ואשביעך בה' א-להי השמים
וא-להי הארץ אשר לא תקח
אשה לבני פגנות הכנעני"
(כ"ד, ג')

"And I will have you swear
by Hashem, God of heaven
and God of earth that you
not take a wife for my son
from the daughters of the
Canaanites" (24:3)



How do you picture your future bride or groom?

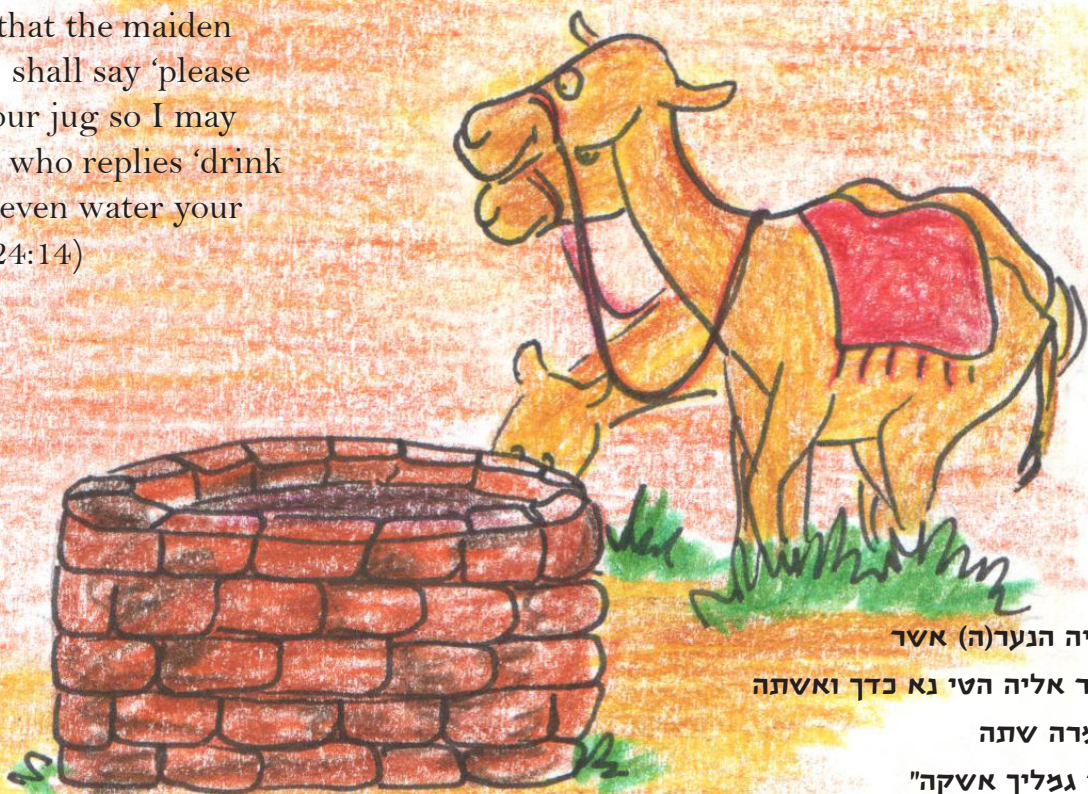
Activity

"Find the bride" – One member of the family hides the "bride" (a doll), and everyone else has to find it.

Who will be the bride?

Have you ever been on an important mission? We read that Avraham made Eliezer swear to find a bride for Yitzchak. Eliezer does not want to disappoint Avraham, so he immediately leaves for Charan to do his job. But how will Eliezer find a bride? How will he know who is right for Yitzchak? Eliezer thinks of a plan that will help him decide who will be the bride. It is a plan that requires Hashem's help. Eliezer takes a long journey with his camels. After a long trip, most people get very thirsty and the camels get thirsty too. Eliezer decides that the woman who offers water for him and his camels will be the right bride for Yitzchak. Why is this Eliezer's plan? Why is a woman who gives water to him and his camels worthy of being the bride? Eliezer thinks that this is a good way to learn about the woman (and about people in general) and to see if she is good-hearted, generous, and caring. These are traits that Eliezer learned from Avraham, and he searches for them in a bride for Yitzchak. What do you think? Does he find someone?

"Let it be that the maiden to whom I shall say 'please tip over your jug so I may drink' and who replies 'drink and I will even water your camels'" (24:14)



"והיה הנער(ה) אסר

אפר אליה הטי גא כדך ואשתה

ואפרה שתה

וגם גגליך אסקה"

(כ"ד, י"ד)



Who do you consider a good person?

Activity

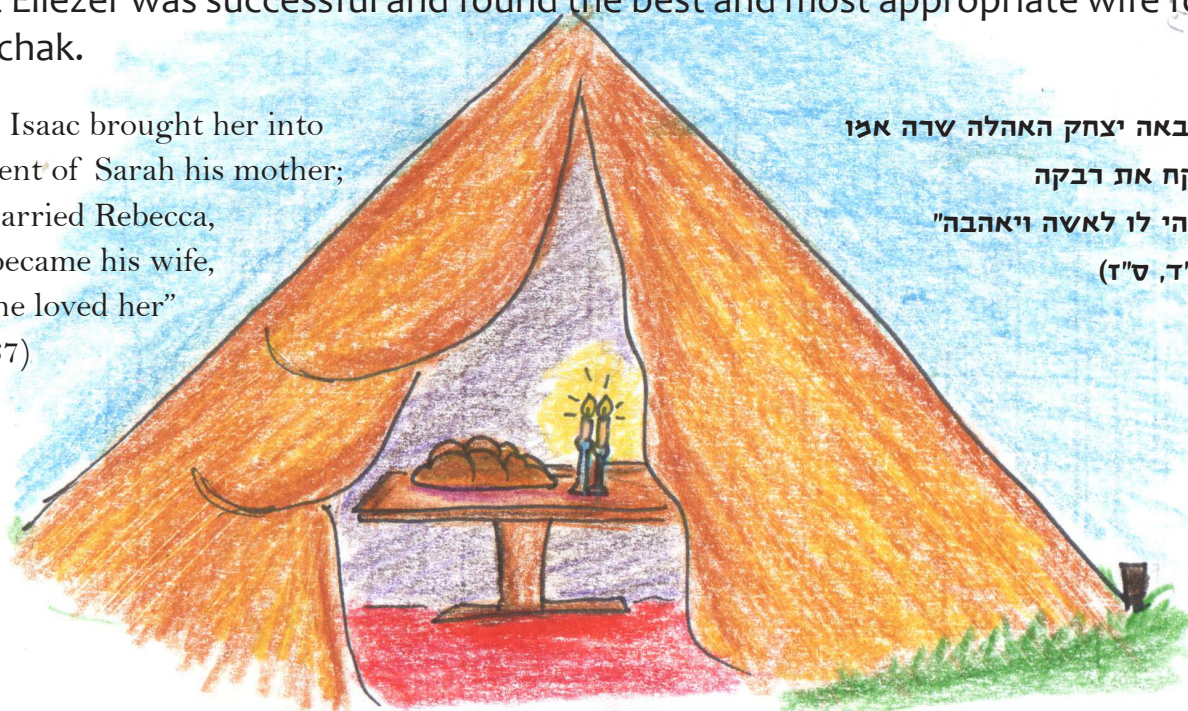
"Watering" – Close your eyes and pour water into each other's mouths (It is best to play this game outside and with clothing that can get wet).

A bride is found!

You won't believe it, but Eliezer's conditions were indeed fulfilled! Eliezer comes to a well in Charan, and Rivka arrives there as well. Rivka sees Eliezer, offers him water to drink, and also offers to draw water for the camels. Eliezer immediately knows that this is the right woman, and tells her family that he came from Eretz Canaan to search for a wife for Yitzchak. Eliezer suggests that Rivka leaves Charan and her parent's house, to come with him to Eretz Canaan, and marry Yitzchak. What do you think? Does Rivka agree? She does! Rivka goes to Eretz Canaan with Eliezer to meet Yitzchak (it says that when Rivka sees Yitzchak for the first time she falls off her camel! But don't worry... She is ok). Yitzchak brings Rivka into his mother Sarah's tent and marries her. (The Midrash tells us that when Rivka enters Sarah's tent, the Shabbat candles that were lit while Sarah was alive burned again, and the challah dough was blessed just like in Sarah's days). How amazing it is that Eliezer was successful and found the best and most appropriate wife for Yitzchak.

"And Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother; he married Rebecca, she became his wife, and he loved her" (24:67)

"ויבאה יצחק האהלה שרה אמו
ויקח את רבקה
ותהי לו לאשה ויאהבה"
(כ"ד, ס"ז)



Activity

"Don't fall down" – Some family members crawl around the house like animals, and the others sit on their backs. The "animals" get wild, and see who manages to stay on their backs (It is recommended to play this game on a carpet).

Next Week in Parshat Toldot...

We will meet the twins born to Yitzchak and Rivka.

Author: Dina Gavrieli
Illustrator: Anat Weiss
Graphics: Sharon Yungreis
Translator: Sara Friedman
Language editing: Rena Bar David

Shabbat Shalom!

www.pashut4kids.com
pashutps@gmail.com

 Pashut for kids



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