



Kids Parsha Packet

פֿאַרשע לילדים

Parshat Vayeitzei

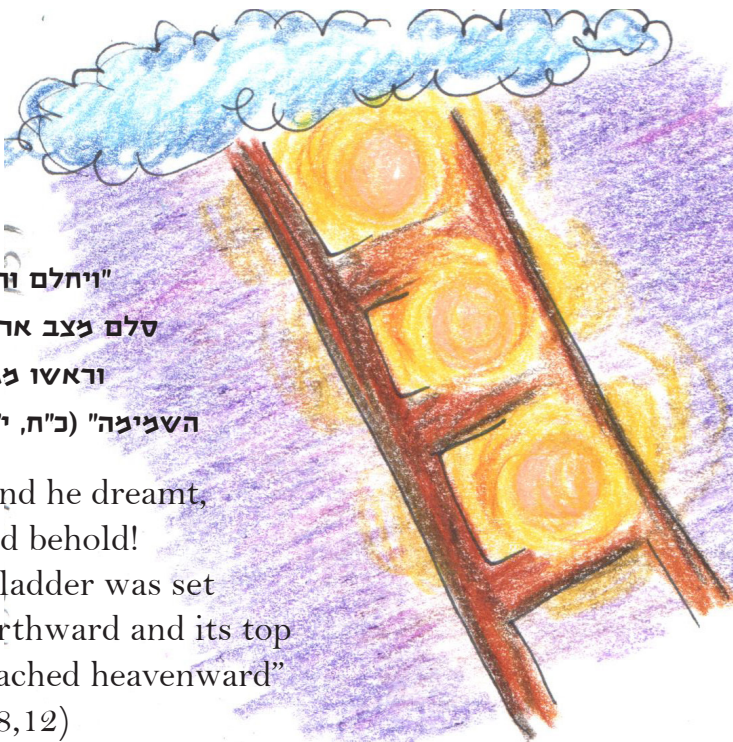
Last Week in Parshat Toldot:

Yaakov steals Esav's bracha from their father Yitzchak...

A Ladder in a Dream

Have you ever gone far away from your house alone? Yaakov sets out on a new journey. He is alone. His parents sent him to Charan to find a wife, and also to keep him away from Esav so that he does not hurt him after Yaakov stole his blessing. It is a little scary to travel alone, not knowing what will happen on the way and what it will be like when you get to the new place. Yaakov stops on his way to rest and falls asleep. He has a dream. He sees a ladder standing on the ground and the top of the ladder reaches heaven. He sees Hashem's angels going up and down the ladder. And then Hashem speaks to him in the dream. Hashem promises him that he will be with him on this journey and that he will protect him, and that in the future he will return to Eretz Canaan. Hashem blesses him that he should be like his father Yitzchak

and his grandfather Avraham; that he will inherit the land; and will have many descendants. Hashem reminds him that he must always obey him and follow his guidance so that the blessings will be fulfilled. Yaakov wakes up from the dream and understands that Hashem has revealed himself. He sets out on his journey with renewed strength.



"ויחלם והנה"

שלם מצב ארצה

וראשו מגיע

השמיים (כ"ח, י"ב)

"And he dreamt,
and behold!

A ladder was set
earthward and its top
reached heavenward"

(28,12)

Activity

"Dreams" - bring a pillow into the living room, go to sleep, and in the morning tell everyone about your dreams.

Love at First Sight

Yaakov arrives at a field with a well. He sees herds of sheep around the well that are not drinking. Why? Because the shepherds put a large stone on the opening of the well. This way, all of the shepherds have to remove the stone together so that all of the sheep could drink. Why did they do this? People here do not trust one another, so they make things difficult in all different ways for everyone. Since all of the shepherds have to be there, no one can trick the others and take extra water. Yaakov asks the shepherds where they are from, and they answer that they are from Charan. Yaakov asks if they know Lavan (the brother of Rivkah, his mother) and they answer that they do. They also tell him that right now his daughter, Rachel, is arriving at the well with Lavan's herd. Yaakov sees Rachel and is so excited to see her that he has enough strength to move the stone off of the top of the well and help Rachel give water to her herd of sheep! How did he have strength like this? Yaakov sees Rachel and he falls in love. What does that mean? Yaakov saw Rachel and understood that he wants to live his life with her and marry her. Sometimes strong love can cause people to do great things.



"ויהי כאשר ראה יעקב
את רחל בת לבן אחי אמו
ואת צאן לבן אחי אמו
ויגש יעקב ויגל את האבן
בעל פי הבאר"
(כ"ט, י')

"And it was when Jacob saw
Rachel, daughter of Laban
his mother's brother, and the
flock of Laban his mother's
brother, Jacob came forward
and rolled the stone off the
mouth of the well."
(29,10)



Who do you love?

Activity

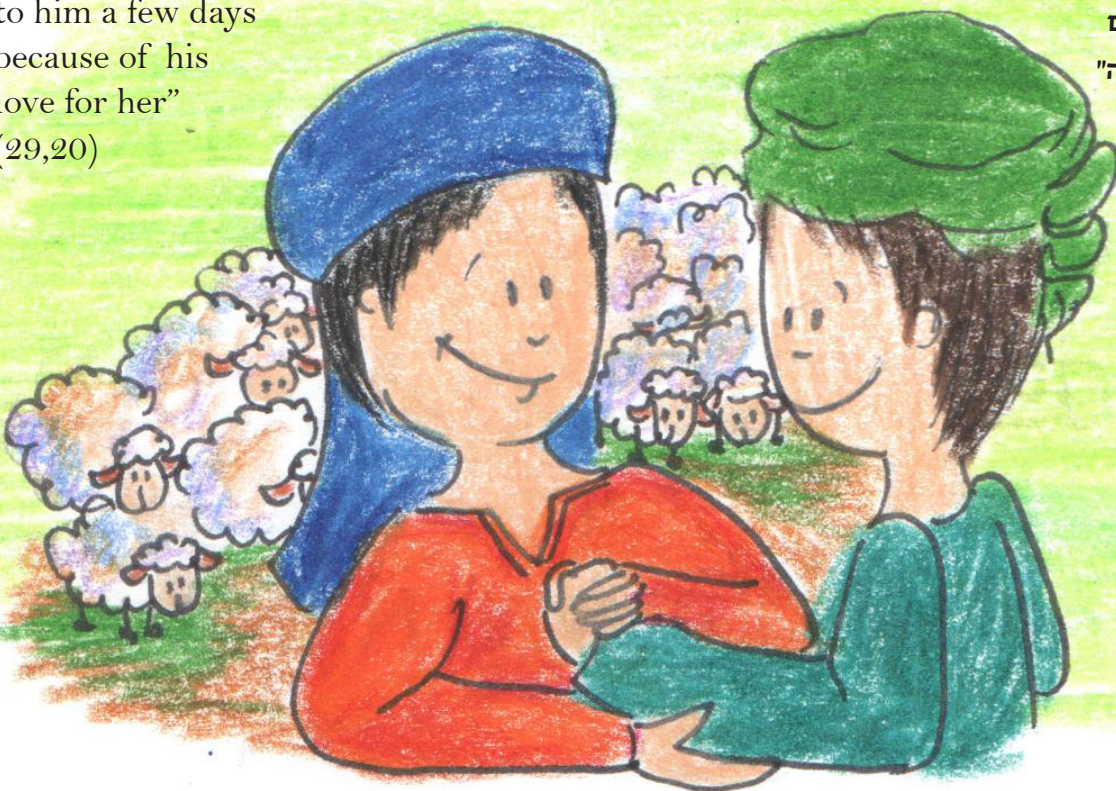
"Let's lift it" – one member of the family lies on the floor, and the challenge is to see how many people are needed to lift him up.

Love conquers all!

Have you ever worked hard for something that you wanted? Yaakov tells Rachel that he is her cousin, and Rachel tells this to Lavan, her father. Lavan comes out especially to meet Yaakov, and he invites Yaakov to come and live with him. Yaakov lives with Lavan's family and works for him. Lavan wants to pay Yaakov for his work. Yaakov says to Lavan that he would like to work for him in exchange for marrying his daughter Rachel, the youngest daughter who he loves so much. Lavan agrees, and for seven years Yaakov works for Lavan in exchange for marrying Rachel. Seven years!!! Would you be able to wait such a long time? The Torah tells us that because Yaakov loved Rachel so much, the seven years that he worked in order to marry Rachel seemed to him like only a few days... How can you see seven years as only a few days? We see how powerful love or things that are important to us make us to look at time differently.

"So Jacob worked seven years for Rachel and they seemed to him a few days because of his love for her"
(29,20)

"ויעבד יעקב ברחל שבע
שנים ויהיו בעיניו
כמים אחדים
באהבתו אתה"
(כ"ט, כ')



Have there been moments in your lives that were long, but they felt like they went by very quickly?

Activity

"Time's almost up" – See how many things you can accomplish in two minutes.

The sisters switch places...

The day of the wedding arrives. Everyone is very excited. They waited for so many years, and that evening they will finally get married. But something goes wrong. Rachel has an older sister named Leah. Lavan does not want Rachel to get married before her older sister, and decides that Leah will marry Yaakov. But why would Yaakov agree to this? He wants to marry Rachel! Yaakov does not know about this. Lavan switches Leah and Rachel secretly, and only after the wedding does Yaakov discover that he married Leah and not Rachel. After the wedding, Yaakov is very angry with Lavan for tricking him! Lavan explains

"וַיְהִי בַבֹּקֶר

וְהִנֵּה הוּא

(הִיא) לֵאָה

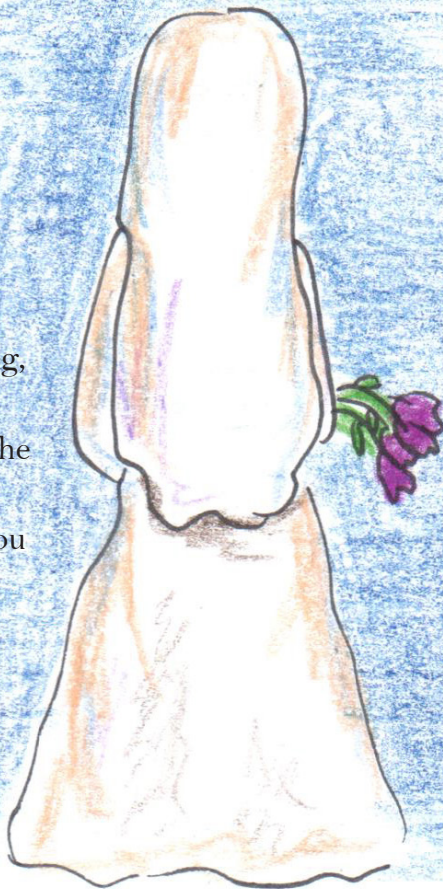
וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל לָבָן

זֶה זֹאת

עָשִׂיתָ לִּי

(כ"ט, כ"ה)

"And it was,
in the morning,
that behold it
was Leah! So he
said to Laban
'What have you
done to me?'"
(29,25)



to Yaakov that it was not possible for his younger daughter to get married before his older daughter. He says to Yaakov that if he wants to marry Rachel, he needs to work for seven years after their wedding. Another seven years! Does Yaakov agree to this? Yes. Yaakov marries Rachel a week after he marries Leah, and after his wedding to Rachel he works for another seven years. Now Yaakov is married to Leah and Rachel, two sisters. They will have a family of twelve sons (and one daughter), who will be the next generation of Am Yisrael.



How would you feel if you found out that someone tricked you?

Next Week In Parshat Vayishlach...

Yaakov returns to Eretz Canaan and meets his brother Esav.

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

Shabbat Shalom!

www.pashut4kids.com
pashutps@gmail.com

 Pashut for kids



Parashat Vayeitzei