



# Kids Parsha Packet

פָּרָשַׁת לִילְדִים

## Parashat Tazria

### Parshat Shemini Review:

We celebrated as the Kohanim started working in the Mishkan, and we learned about which animals can be eaten and which are forbidden.

### What is purity and impurity?

Is it important to your parents that you keep the house neat and clean? Do you remember that the Mishkan is the home of Hashem? It is very important to maintain the laws of purity and impurity in the Mishkan. Hashem teaches Bnei Yisrael about what makes people impure, in which case they are forbidden to go to the Mishkan. This maintains the purity of the Mishkan. What is impurity? A person may touch things that Hashem does not want to come close to the Mishkan, for example. Blood, lesions of tzara'at, animals that die without being properly slaughtered, etc. can make a person impure. When a person is impure he may not enter the Mishkan, but in order to become pure he must

"בכל קדש לא תגע

ואל המקדש לא

תבא עד גילאת

ימי טהרה"

(וי"ב, ד')

"She may not touch anything sacred and she may not enter the Sanctuary, until the completion of her days of purity" (12,4)



come to the Mishkan and bring a sacrifice. In the upcoming Parshot we will learn what a person who has become impure must do in order to become pure again. For example, a woman who gives birth becomes impure. In order to become pure again, she must come to the Mishkan at a specific time after birth to bring a sacrifice.



When are you not allowed to enter your home? (For example: when your shoes are covered with mud.)



## Do you get wounds on your body?

Have you ever had a lesion (rash) on your body? Why does this happen? The doctor usually explains that the rash is caused by an allergy, sensitivity to specific foods, or something bad in our body. In all these cases the body creates the rash. The Torah describes different kinds of lesions that can appear on the body, called tzara'at. Do you think that the Torah is a medical book? Of course not. The Torah is teaching us how to follow Hashem's ways. Hashem tells Bnei Yisrael that there are certain lesions on the body that are a sign that a person must improve his actions and behavior. This has nothing to do with doctors or diseases. The Torah does not specify what exactly causes tzara'at. Our sages explain that tzara'at lesions appear if a person speaks

lashon hara (gossip), meaning when we speak badly about another person behind his back. Today we do not have a Beit Hamikdash and Hashem does not punish people with tzara'at.



"אדם כי יהיה בעור  
בשרו שאת או ספחת  
או בהרת והיה בעור  
בשרו לנגע צרעת"  
(וי"ג, ב')

"If a person will have on the skin of his flesh a s'eis, or a spachas, or a baheres, and it will become a tzara'as affliction on the skin of his flesh" (13,2)



Would you want to get tzara'at to tell you when you accidentally speak lashon hara?



## Go to the Doctor or the Kohen?

We are used to going to the doctor when we have a lesion (rash) on our body. But in our case we go to the Kohen, not the doctor. Why? Is the Kohen a doctor? Does he know about lesions? He knows how to bring sacrifices! We saw that the lesions are not caused by a disease. They appear because Hashem wants to make a person think about the Lashon Hara that he says and to repent. The Kohanim are responsible for teaching Torah to Bnei Yisrael. In the case of tzara'at, a person must come to the Kohen to find out if these lesions are connected to speaking badly about someone, and what needs to be done to become pure again. The Kohen is the spiritual figure that connects Bnei Yisrael to Hashem, and he helps Bnei Yisrael behave correctly and repent if needed.

"If tzara'as affliction will be in a person, he shall be brought to the Kohen"  
(13,9)

"נגע צרעת כי תהיה  
באדם והובא אל הכהן"  
(וי"ג, ט')



### Activity

"To whom do you go" – choose all different jobs (shoemaker, teacher, butcher, president, singer, etc.). Act out what happens if you go to one of them with problems that are really meant for a different professional. For example, a singer who tries to fix shoes, a math teacher who plans a military operation, a president who tries to cook a meal in a restaurant, etc.



## Even Clothes Can Get Tzara'at?

Rashes usually appear on the body, right? It turns out that tzara'at can appear in all different places that we might not have expected. One place is on our clothing. Why can clothes get tzara'at? What did they do? They are just clothes! Hashem gives Bnei Yisrael signs to show them when they are doing something wrong. Before the body gets tzara'at, Hashem sends a signal to the person by bringing tzara'at on their clothes. This warns the person that he if he does not repent, the next step will be tzara'at on the body. What do you do with the afflicted clothes? The clothes must be put aside for seven

days to see if the lesion spreads on the clothes or not. If it spreads, the clothes are burnt. If it does not spread, the clothes are washed and the lesion is checked to see if it changed or looks better. If it does not get better, the clothes are burned. If it looks better, the tzara'at is cut out and the clothes are declared pure.

"והבגד כי יהיה בו

נגע צרעת

(וי"ג, כ"ד)



"If there shall be a tzara'as affliction in a garment" (13, 47)



How would you feel if your favorite clothes were burnt?

Activity

"Mixed-up clothing" Everybody brings two or more articles of clothing and piles them in the middle of the room. Each person closes his eyes and chooses two articles of clothing. He then puts them on and has to act out the character that he received.

## Next Week in Parshat Metzora...

We will see where the impure people go and how they become pure again.

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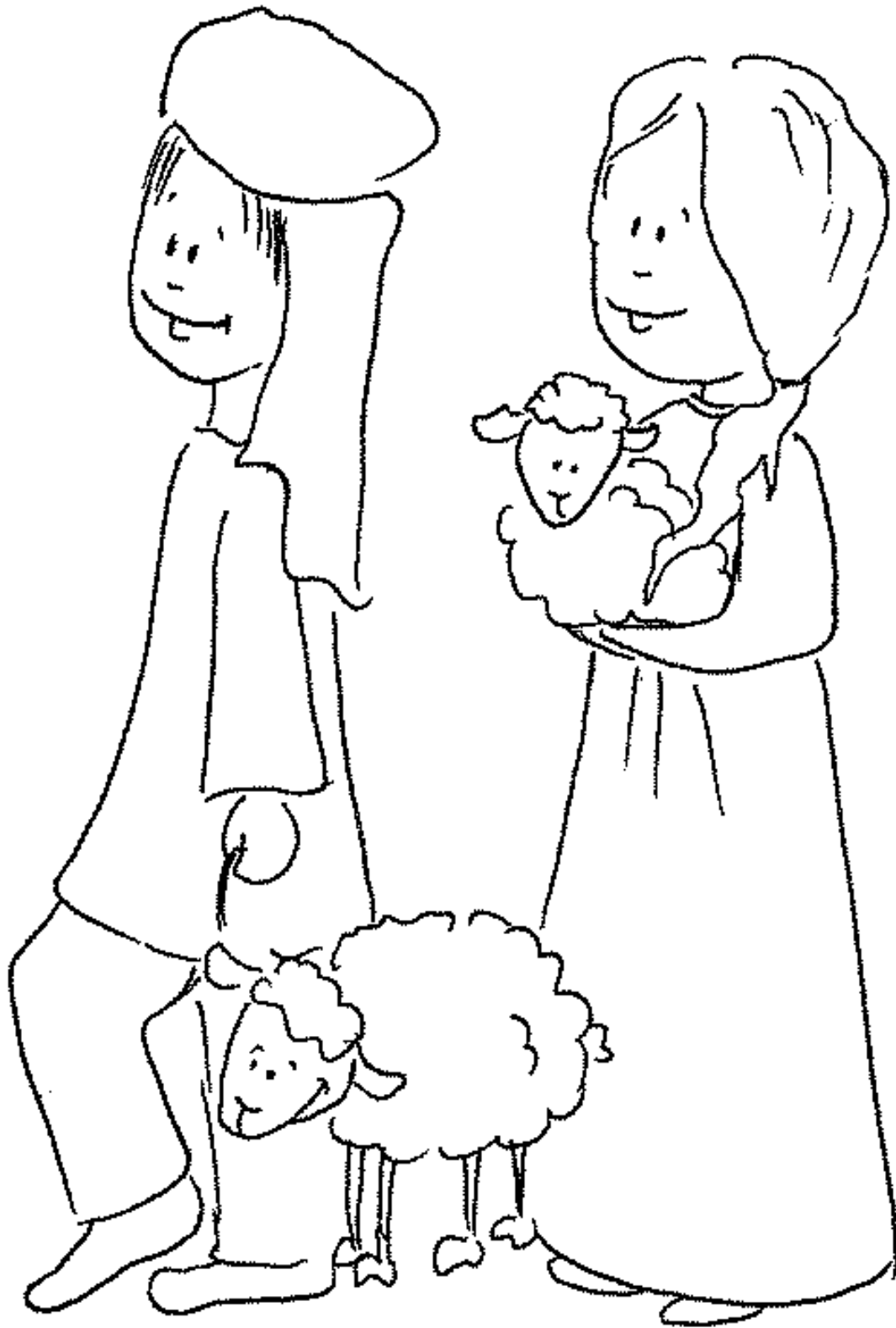
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# Shabbat Shalom!

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 Pashut for kids



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