



Parshat Yitro, January 21, 2022

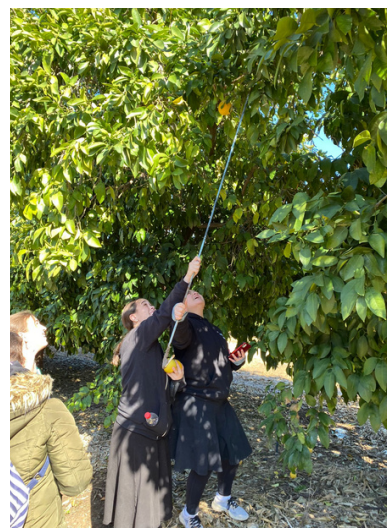
The Week in Review

by Gwen Caplan
Teaneck, NJ
Frisch

After a restful Shabbos to catch up on some well-needed sleep from the intense all-night learning last Thursday, Midreshet Lindenbaum students were readier than ever to head into the final days of first semester! We started off the week strong, wrapping up first semester shiurim and chavrutot by completing all of the chazarah we've been working on for the past few weeks. Getting into the Tu B'shvat spirit, we took a break on Monday morning from our hard work to participate in a creative scavenger hunt the madrichot prepared for us, which included walking around the beautiful neighborhood of Talpiot-Arnona and photographing things in nature that resemble the letters of the Hebrew alphabet. We convened the scavenger hunt at a local park, tallying who found the most letters around the neighborhood and enjoying a small seudah which included all of the Shivat Haminim. After having our Eilat trip unfortunately postponed, we learned what it really meant to "lizrom" by going on a spontaneous tiyul on Tuesday. We explored Beit Shemesh with Rav Yoni, picked

oranges and grapefruits and drank kedushat shvi'it tea at a shemitah farm with Rav Brofsky, and topped off the day with a thrilling game of outdoor laser tag! Following the exciting, but also exhausting tiyul, we were gifted with a day off to rejuvenate for our second semester shiurim. On Thursday we started our new shiurim (yay!!) and were privileged to hear from our very own Rabbanit Yael at mishmar! As always, it has once again been an incredible week here at Midreshet Lindenbaum!















Tu B'Shvat Scavenger Hunt

Celebrate Tu B'Shvat by creating an alphabet in nature! In small groups, you can walk around the neighborhood and photograph things in nature that look like letters of the alphabet!

Bonus points if:

- You make a Hebrew alphabet
- You find the Shvat Haminim



Midreshet Lindenbaum Spring 5782
2021-2022 / תשפ"ב

SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS!



**CHAZARA IN
RABBANIT RACHEL'S
CLASS**

MISHMAR WITH RABBANIT Yael

MISHMAR WITH RABBANIT Yael
G-D TALK
THURS 10PM
ROOM 2
SNACKS PROVIDED



D'var Torah from our Students



Esther Levin

Sharon, MA

Maimonides

Bnei Yisrael arrive at Har Sinai after their long journey through the desert and set up camp opposite Har Sinai to prepare for receiving the Torah. Hashem speaks to Moshe in order to relay a message to Bnei Yisrael. Hashem says if Bnei Yisrael observe His commandments they will be His nation. As an introduction to this message, Hashem talks about how Bnei Yisrael started off the journey. Saying, **אַתֶּם רְאִיתֶם אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתִי לְמִצְרַיִם וְאֲשָׂא אֶתְכֶם עַל-כְּנָפֵי נְשָׁרִים וָאֶבֵּאתְכֶם אֵלַי**. “You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Me.” This is not only a powerful way to start the proposition of becoming Hashem’s nation, but also interesting symbolism.

What is the purpose of using the imagery of an eagle in this pasuk? The Rashbam, Sforno, and Malbim all give insightful answers to this question. The Rashbam interprets “eagles’ wings” as relating to when Hashem split the sea. Similar to how an eagle flies its young over the sea on its wings, Hashem split the sea for His children so they could walk on dry land. However, the Sforno relates this phrase to the receiving of the Torah and the process of becoming a new nation. When an eagle flies it goes high above where any other birds are. Likewise, Hashem distinguished Bnei Yisrael from all the other nations in a unique process. On the other hand, the Malbim interprets “eagles’ wings” to symbolize the process of leaving Egypt and receiving the Torah. He says that similar to how an eagle flies high above the earth to protect its children, Hashem brought Bnei Yisrael from a spiritual abyss to the religious high of the revelation at Har Sinai.

These mefarshim have different interpretations of what the symbolism of eagles’ wings means in this pasuk. However, each interpretation highlights a part of

Hashem's parental role in His relationship with Bnei Yisrael. Hashem guides us, distinguishes us, and connects with us just as a parent does with their child. Not only does this symbolism teach us more about our relationship with Hashem but it also provides a nice introduction to the Ten Commandments. It shows that the commandments aren't just rules but Hashem's way of continuing to nurture Bnei Yisrael as they grow into a nation.

SHABBAT SHALOM!

