



# THE TRIBE SCRIBE

TU BISHVAT: FAITH IN THE FUTURE!

Writer: Shira Chalk Cartoonist: Paul Solomons

THIS WEEK IS **TU BISHVAT** - THE NEW YEAR FOR THE TREES. WE CELEBRATE BY EATING LOTS OF FRUIT!

BUT LOOK OUT THE WINDOW - IT'S STILL WINTER AND THE TREES ARE BARE. WHY DON'T WE CELEBRATE **TU BISHVAT** IN THE SUMMER WHEN THERE IS FRUIT ON THE TREES?

LOOK CLOSER, THERE IS NO FRUIT OR LEAVES ON THE TREES BUT THERE ARE TINY BUDS! IN TIME, THOSE BUDS WILL TURN INTO FRUIT. ON **TU BISHVAT** WE ARE CELEBRATING POTENTIAL. THE FRUIT ISN'T THERE YET BUT WE KNOW THAT THOSE BUDS CAN GROW INTO DELICIOUS FRUIT.

THE TORAH COMPARES PEOPLE TO TREES, SO WE ARE ALSO LIKE THOSE BUDS. NOW WE ARE CHILDREN BUT WE HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO GROW INTO ADULTS. WITH GOD'S BLESSING AND OUR OWN EFFORTS, WE WILL EACH DEVELOP IN THE FUTURE IN OUR OWN UNIQUE WAY.

SO MANY CHOICES, SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES:  
WHO WOULD **YOU** LIKE TO BE?

## TREE TU BISHVAT TIDBITS:

1. The bracha (blessing) for fruit of the tree is **HA'ETZ**.
2. On **Tu Bishvat** it is a custom to eat a new fruit and make the bracha of **SHEHECHEYANU**.
3. For anything that grows on the ground or a bush that dies in the winter (e.g. strawberries, melon, pineapple, bananas, blackberries) we say the bracha **HA'ADAMA**.

They can be found on page 247 of the Tribe Shevet Asher Siddur.

Page Editor: Sharon Readley



**tribe**  
www.tribeuk.com

Tribe is the Young People's Department of the United Synagogue: Creating a future for our community through engaging, educating and inspiring the next generation.