

Parasha Thinking



- 1) What do you think Eliezer did, to make Avraham trust him so much?
- 2) Imagine you were Avraham, how would you feel when you saw Eliezer returning in the distance?
- 3) How does the word, gold, link to the Parasha?

Key Parasha Information

Summary

Sarra died at the age of 127. Avraham bought a field from Efron for 400 silver shekels. The land contained a cave, known as the Cave of Machpela, and Sarra was buried inside it. Avraham and Yitzchak returned home and Yitzchak was now old enough to get married. Avraham's trusted servant, Eliezer, was sent with 10 camels and many gifts, to a place called Charan, to find a wife for Yitzchak. The young ladies in the town in which they lived, were not suitable to marry into Avraham's family.

When Eliezer reached Charan, he approached a well and he asked Hashem for a specific sign: when the young ladies come to the well, he will request some water. Whoever says, "Drink, and your camels should drink too," shall be the right, kind wife for Yitzchak. Rivkah appeared at the well and passed the 'test.' Eliezer spoke to her about Yitzchak and she agreed to return home with Eliezer, to become Yitzchak's wife. He gave her gold, presents and riches. She invited Eliezer back to her home, to meet her family, before returning to Cena'an. Eliezer had a meal with Rivkah, Rivkah's dad, Betuel and her brother, Lavan.

Eliezer and Rivkah travelled back to Cena'an and as they reached Yitzchak's home, Yitzchak was praying in the field. Out of respect, Rivkah covered her face. Yitzchak married Rivkah, loved her, and was comforted over the loss of his mother.

Avraham married a new wife, Keturah and even though he had six more sons, Yitzchak was appointed as his only heir. Avraham died at the age of 175 and was buried beside Sarah in the cave of Machpela.

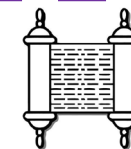
Discovery

Did you know that Efron offered the land to Avraham for free but Avraham said he wanted to pay for it? This is because he didn't want Efron changing his mind in the future and asking for the land back. He bought it fair and square, in front of the townspeople so no one could ever argue that it wasn't the legitimate owner.

Did you know that Eliezer had a secret wish? He hoped that his own daughter could marry Yitzchak and join Avraham's family.

Did you know that Adam and Chava (Eve) were also buried in the Cave of Machpela? (Others too but we'll find out another week).

Did you know that when Rivkah's brother, Lavan, saw that Eliezer had given presents to his sister, he was sickly sweet to Eliezer, in the hope of receiving gifts himself.



Who has done something special for you this week and what did they do? (If they are present, go up to them and say thank you!)

Games

1) Paper cup towers

Divide group into two teams and ask them quiz questions based on the Parasha summary. Each time a team gets a question right, they earn a paper cup. They need to pile up the cups (right way up, wrong way up etc.) and the team that makes the highest tower wins.

Resources: paper cups.

2) Blindfolded route

Link: Rivkah covered her face when she saw Yitzchak.

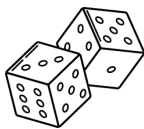
Let one member of the group be blindfolded and place a satsuma somewhere in the room. Another child has to verbally and safely direct them to that satsuma (e.g. two steps right, turn 90 degrees to your right, step over the shoe, reach up etc.) Once a few children have had a turn, share the satsuma with everyone (boreh pri ha'etz).

Resources: Scarf and satsuma.

3) Camel, Camel, Camel

Link: Eliezer was sent with ten camels, to Charan

Everyone stands up in a circle and the first player says camel repeatedly, until they're out by either laughing or they get the word wrong because it becomes a tongue twister. One person needs to count how many times they say it. Next person tries to beat the previous person etc. and whoever says it the most, wins.



Story

(One of the children can read this out loud – encourage them to use expression)

“GRRRRRRRRRRRR!” grunted Barry. “GRRRRRRR BACK! I THOUGHT I COULD TRUST YOU BUT YOU’VE JUST PROVEN THAT YOU’RE THE MOST UNTRUSTWORTHY PERSON I KNOW!”” shouted Connor, “I keeeeeep trying to tell you, it wasn’t me! I didn’t tell on you!”

Barry kept trying to defend himself but Connor just wouldn’t hear it. Connor ignored Barry all day and even got a few people to take his side. Barry was feeling really alone but he stayed strong, knowing that he absolutely hadn’t been the one to tell Connor’s parents that he’d failed his maths test.

At the end of the day, Connor was still in the classroom tidying up his tray and he overheard David and his friends joking around in the corridor, thinking that Connor had already left the building. “I dobed Connor right in it last night, when I passed his house,” laughed Dave, “his mum was outside watering the garden. I told her all about his *‘fabulous’* maths score, and the best thing is, I’ve got away with it, he thinks it was Barry because Barry was sitting next to him when we got the papers back. Ha, ha.” His friends laughed and laughed! David continued, “I had a look at everyone’s results on the teacher’s desk before anyone came in. Ha, ha. He’ll never know and Barry is now the bad guy!” Connor immediately found Barry and apologised to him, making sure that he was ok and promising to make it up to him.

1) What can we learn from this story?

2) Have you ever proven that you are trustworthy?

3) Are there times when you ABSOLUTELY MUST tell on someone?

