

The Pardes Center for Jewish Educators presents

An Interactive PARSHA EXPERIENCE



Parsha: Bechukotai

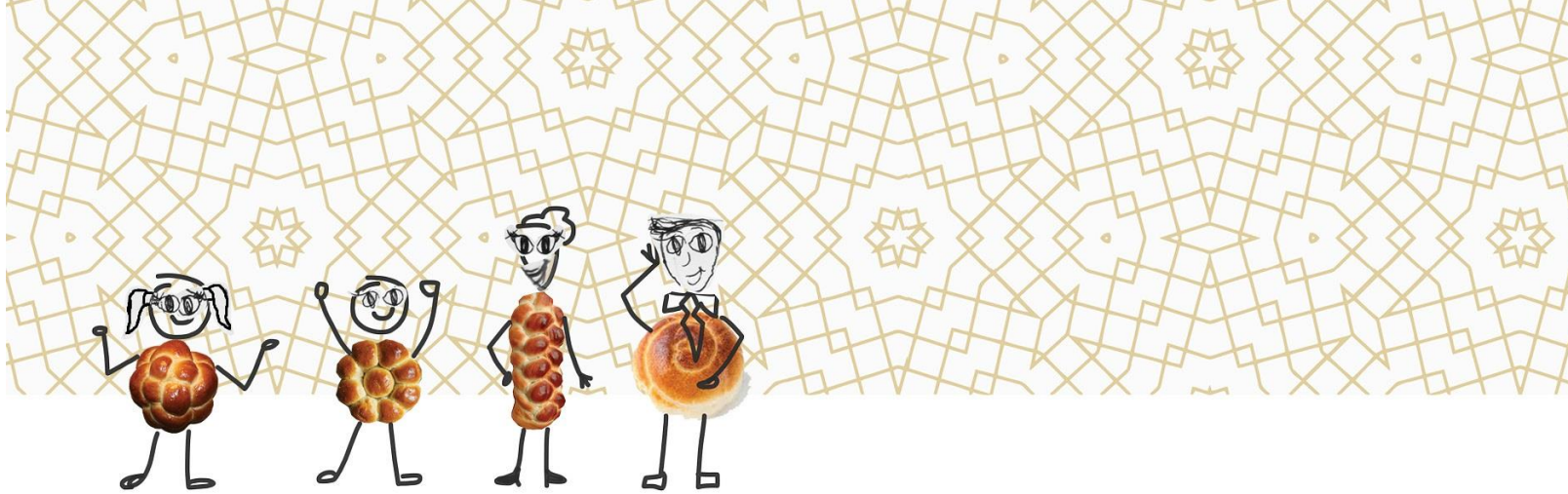
Title: Every Day Has Its Own Reward

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The Parsha at First Glance

Spotlight on the Parsha:

In this week's *parsha*, God promises *Bnei Yisrael* different types of rewards if they keep God's *mitzvot*, commandments. God also warns *Bnei Yisrael* of the curses that will happen to them if they do not keep their promise to God, and follow the laws given to them.



Zooming In:

In reality, there are rewards and consequences for our actions all of the time!

Questions for Consideration:

- Are there rewards you receive that you are not aware of?
- Are there consequences you get if you do not follow the laws of life seen every day?
- Does one reward lead to more blessings?

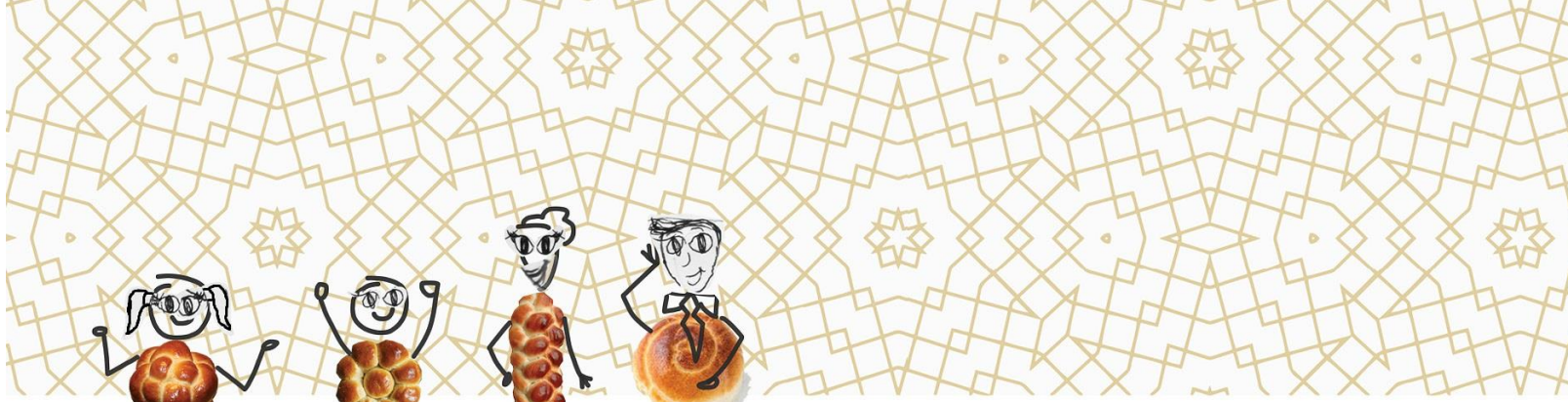
The Parsha Through Another Lens

Game On:

Note: This game requires cutting before Shabbat.

Test your parsha knowledge! What rewards do Bnei Yisrael receive if they keep God's *brit*, promise? What consequences do they have if they do not keep the *brit* with God?

Directions: Place 3 rewards mentioned in the Torah under the "Rewards" column and place 3 consequences from the Torah under the "Consequences" column. Here's the hard part: there are rewards and consequences in this game that are NOT from this week's parsha - YOU will have to decide which ones belong in the chart!



Rewards	Consequences

Cut along the lines below to have your choices for the Rewards/Consequences Game:

There will be peace in the land	The sun will shine very brightly
Bnei Yisrael will be God's people	There will be diseases
Bnei Yisrael will all have large houses	There will be rain, and fruit from the land



The land will not make fruit	There will not be peace
The flowers on the trees will bloom	Bnei Yisrael's animals will run away

The Parsha in Practice:

There are additional chances to receive rewards for small actions we take every day. The list below includes examples of the “Everyday Opportunities Brit” or “The Menschlichkeit Brit,” actions we do every day that lead to rewards and blessings for ourselves and others.

Some of the actions listed below fall under categories of mitzvot drawn from the Torah, and others are smaller events that we might not realize lead to blessings. Discuss which rewards and blessings can come from the items below:

1. Treating my friends and family with respect
2. Listening when my friends are speaking
3. Inviting a new friend for a Shabbat or holiday meal
4. Holding the door for the person behind me
5. Cleaning my hands before I eat
6. Showing kindness and patience with others, even when they are not my closest friends

Challenge: Think of 3 more “everyday opportunities” with rewards that help make the world a better place to live in!





Mishnah Matters:

The *Mishnah* in Pirkei Avot chapter 4, mishnah 2, says:

A commandment leads to another commandment...
the reward for a commandment is another
commandment....

שְׂמִצְוָה גּוֹרֶרֶת מִצְוָה...
שְׂשִׁכָר מִצְוָה, מִצְוָה...

Questions to Consider:

- How can doing a mitzvah, or commandment, lead to another mitzvah?
- How can receiving a blessing lead to another blessing?
- Are our motivations to continue to do good things only strengthened when we receive rewards?
- How are our motivations strengthened when we make a promise that we want to keep?

Shabbat Shalom!

