Perth Hebrew CONGREGATION

Power Jewish Youth for Life

# The Youth Weekly

בס״ד

**Shabbat Times**
6 Cheshvan 5787 | 17 Oct
Candle lighting: 6.10pm
Mincha 6:00pm
Shacharit 9:00am
Mincha 6:05pm
Maariv+
end of Shabbat 7:07pm


THIS WEEK'S PAGES
Parashah
Artscroll 37
Living Torah 26
Haftorah
Artscroll 1131
Living Torah 1054


EMPOWER THRU TORAH

## Parashat Noach

**parashah summary**

As violence and corruption spread across the world, Hashem tells Noach to build an ark. Noach, his family and the animals survive the great Flood. When the waters finally recede, Noach leaves the ark and offers sacrifices to Hashem. Hashem promises never again to destroy all life through a flood, with the rainbow as a sign of this promise. Later, people build the Tower of Bavel, hoping to make a name for themselves. Hashem confuses their languages and scatters them across the earth.



## Why Did Noach Wait?

A thought from Rabbi Dr Norman Lamm

Noach spent years building the ark. Hashem had warned him about the Flood, and Noach followed His instructions.

Yet when the time came to enter the ark, the Torah says:

**וַיָּבֹא נֹחַ... אֶל הַתֵּבָה מִפְּנֵי מֵי הַמַּבּוּל**

**"Noach entered the ark because of the waters of the Flood."** (Bereshit 7:7)

Rashi notices something strange. Noach had already been told what was coming. Why did he wait until the water forced him inside?

Rashi describes Noach as:

מַאֲמִין וְאֵינוֹ מַאֲמִין

Believing and not believing.

How could someone who had spent so many years following Hashem's instructions still hesitate?

Rabbi Norman Lamm z"l, President of Yeshiva University in NY, offers a surprising explanation. Perhaps Noach struggled with two opposite feelings about himself.

On one hand, he may have been too confident: "I've managed all this time. I'll be fine."

On the other hand, he may have felt helpless: "What chance do I have? Perhaps I don't deserve to be saved."

Either thought could stop him from taking the step he needed to take.

We sometimes face something similar. A difficult problem at school, a friendship that's going wrong, or a worry we haven't shared.

We might think we should manage it ourselves. Sometimes we feel that asking won't make any difference.

**Rabbi Lamm reminds us that everyone needs help sometimes. Asking at the right time takes courage, and there are people we can turn to.**

Noach had already built the ark. He still had to take that final step inside.

**Why can asking for help sometimes feel harder than offering it to someone else?**

Sources: Bereshit 7:7; Rashi on Bereshit 7:7; Rabbi Norman Lamm, "If You Need Help, Call!" (1974).



## When You See a Rainbow...

ברכות הראייה | Blessings for what we see

Did you know that we have special blessings for things we see in the world, including lightning, the sea and rainbows?

**These are called Berachot HaRe'iyah.**

After the Flood, Hashem placed the rainbow in the clouds as a sign of His promise to Noach and every living creature: never again would a flood destroy all living things.

When we see a rainbow, we say:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, זוֹכֵר הַבְּרִית וְנֶאֱמָן בִּבְרִיתוֹ וְקַיָּם בְּמַאֲמָרוֹ.

Blessed are You, Hashem, our God, King of the universe, who remembers the covenant, is faithful to His covenant and keeps His word.

For your Shabbat table: **If Hashem never forgets, why does the blessing say זוכר הברית, "who remembers the covenant"?**

Sources: Bereshit 9:12–17; Berachot 59a; Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chayim 229:1.

# The Stone the Builders Rejected

Inspired by Pirkei DeRabbi Eliezer 24, Bereshit 11:3–9, and Rashi on Bereshit 11:7




The people of Bavel were building a giant tower.



Avram ben Terach passed by and saw what they were building.




The builders rejected Avram's words.




Hashem confused their languages.






## Why a rejected stone?

אֶבֶן מָאֲסוּ הַבּוֹנִים הָיְתָה לְרֹאשׁ פִּנָּה

*"The stone the builders rejected became the cornerstone." (Tehillim 118:22)*

The Midrash says the builders threw away Avram's words the way builders throw away a stone they think is useless. But sometimes the stone people ignore turns out to be the one they most need. Avram warned the builders, but they were too busy with their big project to listen.



**?** Why is it hard to listen when one person challenges the whole crowd?

## Eli's Hall of Famers

This week's hall of fame entry is homegrown hero cricketer Michael Klinger!



**MICHAEL KLINGER**

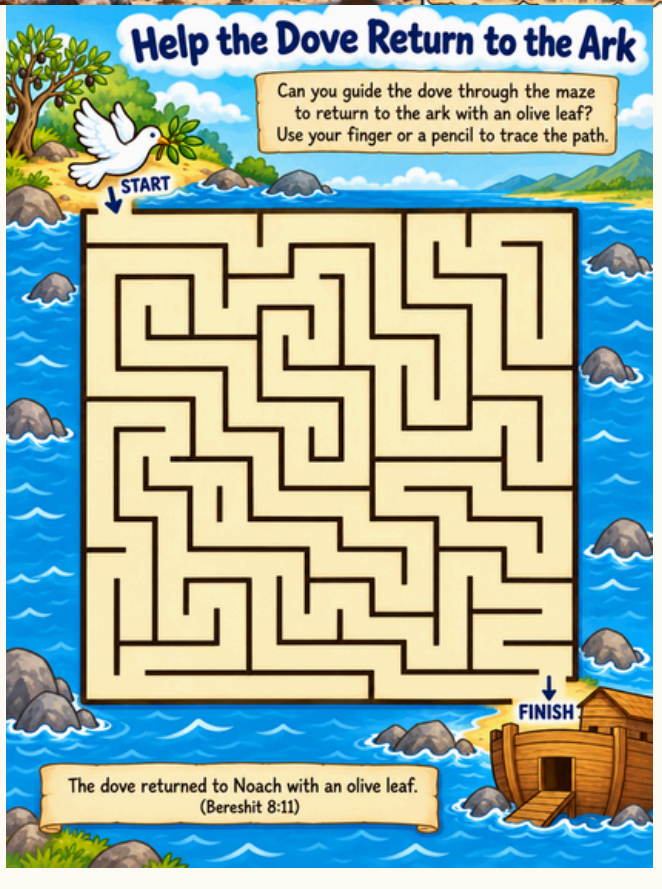
- **Country:** Australia
- **Sport:** Cricket
- **Position:** right-handed opening batsman
- **Clubs:** West Australian Warriors, Perth Scorchers, Gloucestershire, Kochi Tuskers Kerala (IPL)
- **National caps:** 3 T20I appearances
- **Awards:** 2x Australian player of the year, International Jewish Sports hall of fame inductee, 2x BBL Champion

Michael Klinger was an incredible opening batsman who dominated the Australian and English domestic wickets for two decades. Despite his heavy run-scoring, he had to wait until the age of 36 to finally achieve and dream and receive a well-deserved international call-up for Australia!

**Fun fact:** Klinger was nicknamed 'The Jewish Bradman' by media and fans, and his kids even attended Carmel School!

## Help the Dove Return to the Ark

Can you guide the dove through the maze to return to the ark with an olive leaf? Use your finger or a pencil to trace the path.




The dove returned to Noach with an olive leaf. (Bereshit 8:11)

# This Week at RLH Early Learning

**What Noach Learned from an Olive Leaf?**
**When the dove returned to Noach's ark with an olive leaf, Noach knew that the floodwaters were receding (Bereshit 8:11). One small discovery in nature told him something important.**

At RLH, children are learning to observe, explore and discover the natural world through Bush Kindy.
Congratulations to Dani, who has completed her Bush Kinder Certification with Early Life Foundations and is now a Certified Bush Kinder Practitioner!

Her training covered planning quality outdoor learning, practical teaching strategies, and observing and documenting children's discoveries in nature.

Over the past year, RLH has continued developing Bush Kindy as a meaningful part of its curriculum, helping children explore, take appropriate risks and build their confidence outdoors.

**Looking for early learning for your child?**
Jewish learning and excellent early education, together at RLH.
Come and see RLH for yourself.

Book a visit or get in touch:
28 Freedman Road, Menora
(08) 9271 4757
director@ruthlandauharp.com
ruthlandauharp.com

Early Life Foundations

Early Life Foundations

Certified Bush Kinder Practitioner

Certified Little Scientists House · 2026 WA State Winner for Excellence in Early STEM Education

# WHAT'S NEXT AT PHC?

**MONDAY & TUESDAY**

## EmPower Thru Learning
Kindy – High School

**Monday**
4:00 PM Kindy – Year 2
5:15 PM Year 3 – Year 4

**Tuesday**
4:00 PM Year 4 – Year 6
5:15 PM High School



**WEDNESDAY**

## Tanach Shiur
with Rabbi Dan
Group Learning with Rav Aviel



**THURSDAY**

## Pizza Parasha
High School
6:30 PM – 7:45 PM
Learning, food and great company.



**SHABBAT MORNING**

## Children's Services
During Shacharit (Shabbat Morning)
A warm, engaging space for kids to connect with tefillah and friends.






Sign up to read on your Bar Mitzvah Parasha, or part of it!

PHC tefilah app

# Coffee & Conversation
## With Rav Aviel



**Have a question, an idea, or just feel like a chat?**

I'd love to hear what's on your mind and get to know you better.

**Tuesday & Thursday mornings, 8:45 AM**
**Grounds Brew House**

*Can't find a suitable time? Just get in touch!*

thephcyouth

Have an idea? *Share it with Rav Aviel*
*0480 440 883*
*empower@thephc.com.au*




On the first day of creation, the Torah tells us:
וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי אוֹר וַיְהִי אוֹר
Hashem said, "Let there be light," and there was light.
But something seems strange. The sun, moon and stars don't appear in the Torah's account until the fourth day!

So where did the first light come from?
The Ramban notices that the Torah uses two different words: אוֹר (or, light) on the first day, and מְאֹרֹת (me'orot, lights or luminaries) on the fourth.
**He explains that on the first day, Hashem brought forth something luminous from the original substance of the heavens:**
**דָּבָר מַזְהִיר, קָרָאוֹ אוֹר**
**Something shining, which He called light.**

On the fourth day, according to the Ramban, Hashem gave that original light a new form through the sun and the moon, allowing them to illuminate the earth.

This distinction becomes especially interesting when we consider what Larry explained about modern cosmology.

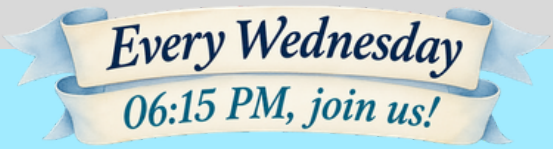
Scientists have discovered that light existed long before the first stars. The early universe was filled with radiation, even before it had cooled enough for that light to travel freely across space.

In 1964, scientists detected traces of this ancient radiation, now called the Cosmic Microwave Background. It is the oldest light we can observe.

**When you hear "Yehi Or, Let there be light" what do you imagine?**

Sources: Bereshit 1:3, 1:14–19; Ramban on Bereshit 1:3 and 1:14.




Yerushalayim had fallen. The Beit HaMikdash was destroyed, and many Jews had been taken into exile.
Yet some remained in Yehudah. Gedaliah ben Achikam was appointed to govern them, and families who had fled began returning. There was a chance to rebuild.

Then, in chapter 41, **Yishmael ben Netanyah came to share a meal with Gedaliah. During the meal, he murdered him. Others were killed, and more people were taken captive.**

The surviving community faced another disaster.
Yochanan ben Kareach heard what had happened and went after Yishmael. When the captives saw Yochanan approaching, they escaped and joined him.

Yochanan could not bring Gedaliah back. He could still protect those who remained.
Rabbi Dan pointed out that **we cannot always undo something terrible. We can act to prevent further harm and help the people who need us now.**

Earlier in the shiur, he connected this idea to Pirkei Avot:
לֹא עָלֶיךָ הַמְּלָאכָה לִגְמֹר, וְלֹא אַתָּה בֶן חוֹרִין לִבָּטֵל מִמֶּנָּה
"It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you free to neglect it." (Pirkei Avot 2:16)

**When you cannot fix an entire problem, what is one thing you can still do to help?**