



The Orthodox Union's

Shavuot

Self-Guided

Torah Study

Experience

Created by Community Rabbis from across the country

Compiled by Rabbi Yechiel Shaffer

& The Synagogue Services Department of the Orthodox Union

Editor's Note:

Contained within this packet are 10 self-guided studies for an enjoyable and engaging Torah study experience. Each topic will offer a unique Torah study experience, with some of our authors offering more specific guidance, and other's leaving the subject-matter more open to your reflection and interpretation. The essential style, structure submitted by each Rabbi has been maintained to offer a differentiated learning experience, and to celebrate the diversity of *Limmud Torah* styles in *Batei Kanessiyot* across the country.

Should you wish to submit any reflections, or ideas following the conclusion of Shavuot, please contact Rabbi Yechiel Shaffer (shaffery@ou.org), the editor/compiler of this issue.

Index of Articles with categorizations of different style learning experiences:

Out of This World: The Value of Higher Goals in Judaism

By Rabbi Moshe Hauer, Incoming Executive Vice President, Orthodox Union_An

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Analysis of the Role of the Oral Torah

by Rabbi Elisha Friedman, Keshet Israel Congregation of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

- This is a study-guide written in an essay form, analyzing the reasons behind the structure of Torah requiring an Oral law.

To Rebuke or Not to Rebuke: That is the Question

by Rabbi Jonathan Muskat, Young Israel of Oceanside, New York

- An examination of when to give rebuke and when not to, this article is a combination of self-guided study through the sources, with an in depth conclusion.

What Happened at Sinai?

by Rabbi Hershel Becker, Young Israel of Kendall, Florida

- Written in essay form, this study guide offers a number of different approaches to the events at Mt. Sinai.

A Brief discussion of Tikkun Leil Chatzot

by Rabbi Dovid Asher, Knesseth Beth Israel, Richmond, VA

- This study guide presents the sources, and some major questions to consider further in light of the sources comments.

Why do we read Megillat Ruth on Shavuot?

by Rabbi Dovid Kaplan, Congregation Ohav Zedek, Wilkes-Barre, PA

- Written in Essay form, this guide offers a fresh approach on this ancient story.

Measuring Success Jewishly

by Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Schiffman, Kingsway Jewish Center, New York

- In analyzing ideas, this study guide offers varying perspectives on Jewish knowledge

Re-examining Chavruta Learning in the Era of Social Distancing

by Rabbi Dovid Zirkind, Riverdale Jewish Center, New York

- This study guide offers a fascinating approach on a number of ideas about Torah study

Angels and Demons

by Rabbi Avi Heller, Orthodox Union, New Jersey

- This study guide offers a unique understanding of humanity, through sources and guiding questions

Why do we wave at the Shabbat Candles?

by Rabbi Yechiel Shaffer, Orthodox Union and Pikesville Jewish Congregation, Maryland

- This study guide offers an array of Halachik sources to help shape an understanding to Shabbat candles.