

בְּרַכּוֹ.

# BAREKHU

BECOMING A COMMUNITY

ShalomLearning



# LESSON OVERVIEW

## Welcome and Introductions



Background of the בְּרָכוּ



The בְּרָכוּ Prayer



Activities



**SIDDUR**

See if you can find the

**בְּרָכוּ**

in your siddur.

In which part of the  
service is it found?



# INVITATIONS

- For which kind of events have you sent or received invitations?
- How were the invitations sent? Did the invitation require a reply?
- Did you ever receive a really great invitation? What made the invitation great?



# INTRODUCTION VIDEO





# בְּרָכוּ

Let's learn to read and chant the בְּרָכוּ.

בְּרָכוּ אֶת יְהוָה הַמְבַרֵךְ!

1

בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה הַמְבַרֵךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעַד

2

# ROOT ANALYSIS

Can you see the three-letter root בִּרְךְ in these words?  
It is found in every בְּרָכָה.

הַמְּבֹרָךְ      בְּרָכוּ      בְּרוּךְ

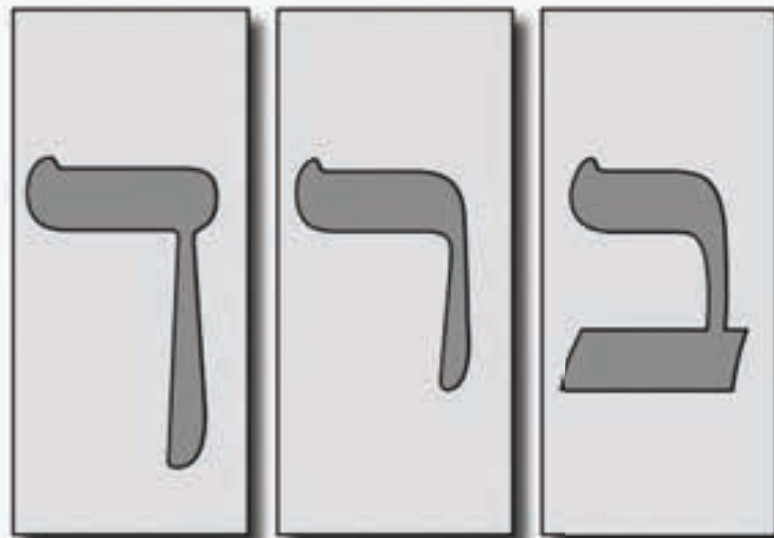
blessed = בְּרוּךְ

bless (plural) = בְּרָכוּ

the One Who is blessed = הַמְּבֹרָךְ



## ROOT ANALYSIS



CLUE: כ = ר = ד



# ROOT ANALYSIS

Practice these words and circle all the words that contain the root בָּרַךְ.

1 בָּרוּךְ מְלָכוֹתוֹ כְּבוֹד בָּרְכוּ מְלָךְ מְלָכִי

2 הַמְּלָכִים וְעַד שָׁמַע הַמְּבָרָךְ מְלַכְנוּ בָּרַךְ

3 כְּבוֹד מְבָרָךְ אֵין בְּרוּכִים בָּרָא לְבָרְכָה

4 בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה בְּרַכַּת מְלָךְ הָעוֹלָם בְּרַכוּנִי

5 כְּמַלְכְנוּ אֵין בְּרַכוֹת בְּרַכְנוּ בְּמִצּוֹתָיו

# ROOT ANALYSIS

Practice these words and circle all the words that contain the root בָּרַךְ.

1. בָּרוּךְ מְלָכוֹתוֹ כְּבוֹד בָּרָכוּ מְלָךְ מְלִכֵי

2. הַמְּלָכִים וְעַד שָׁמַע הַמְּבָרָךְ מְלַכְנוּ בָּרַךְ

3. כְּבוֹד מְבָרָךְ אֵין בְּרוּכִים בָּרָא לְבָרָכָה

4. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה בְּרַכַּת מְלָךְ הָעוֹלָם בְּרַכוּנִי

5. כְּמִלְכְנוּ אֵין בְּרַכוֹת בְּרַכְנוּ בְּמִצּוֹתָיו

# ROOT ANALYSIS

Write in the missing root letters.

8. בְּרָאֵם \_\_\_\_\_

7. הַמְבָרְכִים \_\_\_\_\_

6. בְּרַחוּם \_\_\_\_\_

11. רֹאשֵׁי הַבָּיִת \_\_\_\_\_

10. בְּרָאֵם \_\_\_\_\_

9. בְּרַחוּם \_\_\_\_\_

Can you see the three-letter root בְּרַךְ in these words?  
It is found in every בְּרַכָּה.

הַמְבָרְכִים    בְּרַכּוֹ    בְּרוּךְ

blessed = בְּרוּךְ

bless (plural) = בְּרַכּוֹ

the One Who is blessed = הַמְבָרְכִים



**ROOT ANALYSIS**

ב	ר	ך
---	---	---

CLUE: כ - ר - ב

# TRANSLATION

Review the vocabulary and make your best best guess at the meaning of the בְּרָכוּ.

words

Adonai = יי

and more = וְעַד

before = אֶת  
direct object

word parts

the = הַ    to = לְ

בְּרוּךְ יי הַמְבָרֵךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.



בְּרָכוּ אֶת-יי הַמְבָרֵךְ.



# THE DANCE

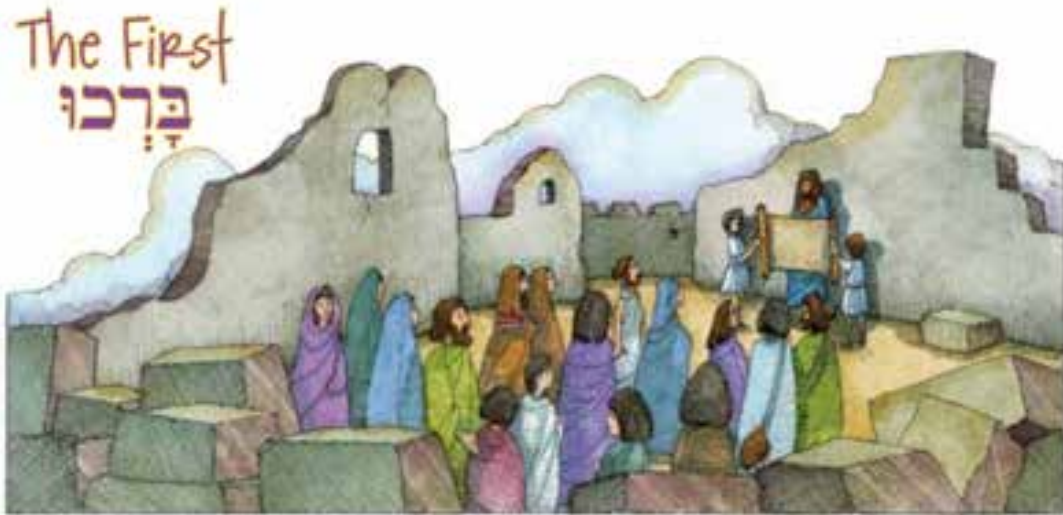
בְּרָכוּ



בְּרָכוּ



# THE FIRST פְּרָכּוֹ



Jewish people used to gather on a mountain in Jerusalem to worship and feel close to God. At those times, Jews felt like they really belonged. And, at those moments, God felt very close.

Then it was over. The Babylonians conquered Jerusalem. The Temple was destroyed and left in ruins.

Israel was in exile.



**What do you think?**

- How do you think the Jews felt visiting the Temple?
- How do you think the Jews felt after the Temple was destroyed?



# THE FIRST בְּרִכּוּ

It took 70 years for the Jewish people to be able to return. They began to rebuild the Land of Israel and the Temple, but there were many problems.

Two new leaders, Ezra and Nehemiah, came from Babylonia. They held a festival in the Temple courtyard to bring the people together. For the first time ever, the Torah was read from beginning to end.



## What do you think?

- What do you think it would have been like to return to the Temple after 70 years?
- Why do you think this was the first time the Torah was read from beginning to end?

# THE FIRST בְּרַכּוֹ

**Imagine this!** The festival begins with the Levites taking the stage before the people.

The words they spoke were the בְּרַכּוֹ. It was at this moment that the exile was over.

Israel was again one people, and they again had a home.



**What do you think?**

- What do you think it felt like to pray the בְּרַכּוֹ at this time?
- What emotions do you think could be seen?

# THE FIRST בְּרַכּוֹ

## Discussion Questions

- How did saying the בְּרַכּוֹ end the exile?
- How can remembering this first בְּרַכּוֹ in the unfinished Temple help us to know where to point our hearts when we say the בְּרַכּוֹ?
- Bonus question: This story tells us that everyone would go to the Temple three times a year. Can you guess what those three times were?



# LET'S READ

Practice reciting these phrases that contain the root בָּרַךְ.

1. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

2. בָּרְכוּ אֶת־יי הַמְּבָרֵךְ. בָּרוּךְ יי הַמְּבָרֵךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

3. בָּרְכוּנִי לְשָׁלוֹם מִלְּאָכִי הַשָּׁלוֹם מִלְּאָכִי עַל־יוֹן.

4. מִי שֶׁבֵּרַךְ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ אֲבָרְהָם יִצְחָק וְיַעֲקֹב, שָׂרָה רַבֵּקָה רַחֵל וְלֵאָה.

5. יְתַבָּרֵךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא

# BEING A COMMUNITY

The **בְּרִיחוּ** turns the group of people who have come to a service into a **community**.



**What groups do you belong to?**

**What communities do you belong to?**



What's the difference between a group and a community?



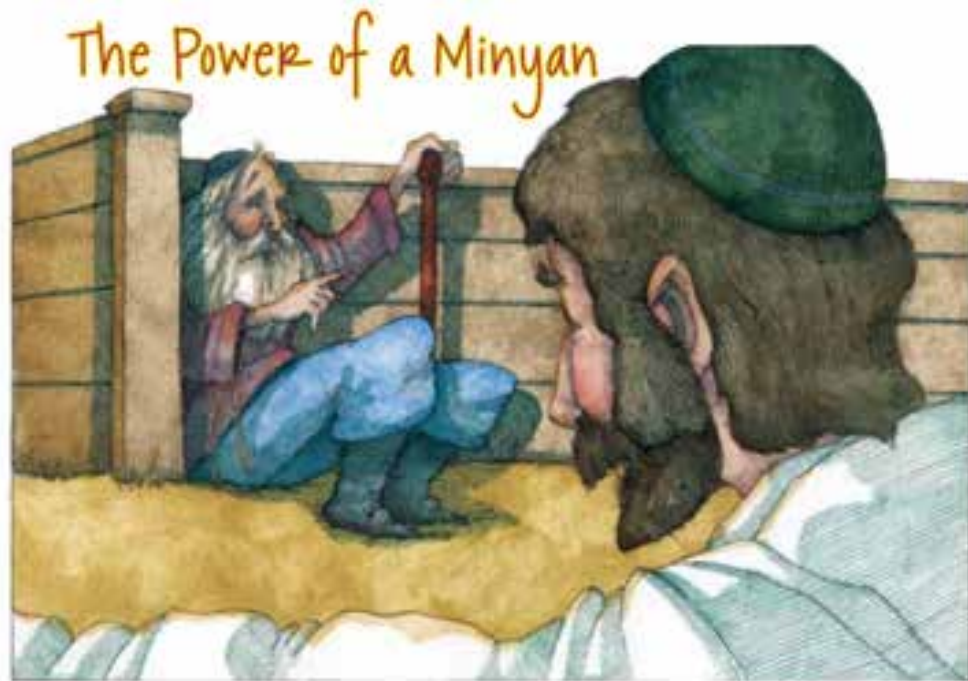
# A MIDRASH



What's special in Judaism  
about the number 10?



# A MINYAN



The Seer: "Go home."

The man: "But..."

The Seer: "Go home before Shabbat!"

The man: "But..."

# A MINYAN

The Seer explained, "Sometimes a minyan has more power than a miracle-working Rabbi."



# A MINYAN

## Discussion Questions

- What was the power of the minyan in this story?  
How did it work?
- Why do you think we need a minyan in order to say the בְּרָכוֹ?



# LET'S PRACTICE

1 בְּרוּךְ לְעוֹלָם הַמְּבֹרָךְ יי בְּרָכוּ אֶת וְעַד

2 בְּרוּךְ בְּרָכוּ אֶת הַמְּבֹרָךְ עוֹלָם לְעוֹלָם וְעַד

3 בְּרוּךְ יי וְעַד הַמְּבֹרָךְ בְּרוּךְ וְעַד בְּרָכוּ

4 בְּרָכוּ אֶת יי הַמְּבֹרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וְעַד

5 בְּרוּךְ יי הַמְּבֹרָךְ אֶת יי הַמְּבֹרָךְ

6 הַמְּבֹרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וְעַד בְּרוּךְ הַמְּבֹרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וְעַד



# LET'S PRACTICE

7 בָּרְכוּ אֶת יי הַמְּבָרָךְ בְּרוּךְ יי הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

8 וַיְבָרֶךְ אֱלֹהִים אֶת-יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי וַיְקַדְּשׁ אֹתוֹ

9 בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם הַזֶּן אֶת-הָעוֹלָם כָּלֹּ בְּטוֹבוֹ

10 וְעַל כָּלֵם יִתְבָּרַךְ וַיִּתְרוֹמַם שְׁמֶךָ מִלְּבָנוּ תָּמִיד לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

11 בֶּן יְבִרְךָ אוֹתָנוּ כְּלָנוּ יַחַד בְּבִרְכָה שְׁלֵמָה וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן

12 בְּרַכְנוּ אֲבִינוּ כְּלָנוּ כְּאַחַד בְּאוֹר פְּנִיָּה, כִּי בְּאוֹר פְּנִיָּה נִתְּתָ לָנוּ

13 כְּמוֹ שְׁנַתְּבָרְכוּ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ אֲבָרְתָּם יִצְחָק וַיַּעֲקֹב בְּכָל מִכַּל כָּל