

## Jewish Literacy Programme

### Year 4 ~ Week 19

**English Translation**

Write each Hebrew word into script

**חומש Words**

with you (masc., sing.) \_\_\_\_\_

אַתָּה

blessed \_\_\_\_\_

בָּרוּךְ

from him, from it \_\_\_\_\_

מִמֶּנּוּ

all of us \_\_\_\_\_

כָּלֵנוּ

his father \_\_\_\_\_

אָבִיו

strong \_\_\_\_\_

חֲזָקָה

**English Translation / Explanation****G.K. Words****Jewish Life (1)**

**It is a *mitzvo* to make a Se'udas Mitzvo** (a meal connected with the performance of a mitzvo) **on the Shabbos evening after the birth of a baby boy.** We have a "שלום זָכָר" to welcome (שָׁלוֹם) the newborn boy (זָכָר = male). A deeper meaning is given by the Rabbis. We are taught that before a child is born he is taught the entire Torah. However, as soon as he enters the air of this world, an angel comes and strikes him on his mouth, causing him to *forget* the entire Torah. **We come together at the שלום זָכָר in order to remember the Torah learning that the child was given before he was born and encourage him to spend his life involved in Torah.**

**שָׁלוֹם זָכָר**

adapted from:  
www.torah.org/  
learning/lifecycles/  
milah/shalomz.html

Why nothing similar to a  
Shalom Zachor for girls?  
see: www.torah.org/  
learning/lifecycles/  
milah/milah2.html

**The בְּרִית מִילָה is performed on a Jewish boy when he is eight days old, even if the eighth day is שַׁבָּת or כַּפּוּר.** Sometimes the בְּרִית מִילָה will be postponed, on medical advice, until the baby is healthier and stronger. **The Bris Miloh is a sign of the closeness between Hashem and the Jewish People.** The בְּרִית מִילָה also has the effect of weakening the יִצְרָה הָרָע and preparing the child for serving Hashem.

**בְּרִית מִילָה**

adapted from:  
www.torah.org/  
learning/lifecycles/  
milah/vol1no3.html

**Pidyon Ha'Ben, the "redemption of the first born son," takes place when a baby is at least 31 days old, and involves "buying him back from a Kohen" with five silver coins.** Originally, all first born were supposed to be the special servants of Hashem, כֹּהֲנִים, but they lost this special responsibility to the לְוִיִּים at the חֲטָא הָעֵגֶל (sin of the golden calf). Only the לְוִיִּים did not get involved with the חֲטָא הָעֵגֶל. Hashem decreed that all כֹּהֲנִים would now come from the tribe of לֵוִי.

**פִּדְיוֹן הַבֵּן**

see: www.aish.com/  
literacy/lifecycle/  
Pidyon\_Haben.asp

According to הלָכָה (Jewish law) **a woman becomes obligated to keep the Mitzvos (becomes Bas Mitzvo) at the age of 12 and a man becomes obligated to keep the Mitzvos (becomes Bar Mitzvo) at the age of 13.** We usually have special celebrations to mark these important occasions.

**בַּר מִצְוָה  
בַּת מִצְוָה**