



הלכה of the Week

~ זימון ~

~ (ברכת המזון) recited in a group ~

Three or more men over the age of thirteen who ate a meal together that included bread are obligated to recite ברכת המזון as a group. This is called "זימון". One of the men recites a passage inviting the others to join him in reciting ברכת המזון. The others recite another passage in response.

If ten or more men ate together they add the word אלקינו when reciting the passage.

The text of זימון is printed in the סידור before ברכת המזון, as well as in small printed copies of ברכת המזון.

The leader recites the first ברכה of ברכת המזון aloud while the others recite the ברכה quietly, word by word. They end the ברכה before the leader does, and answer אמן to his ברכה. It is proper that the rest of ברכת המזון be recited in the same way.

Among Sephardi Jews everyone ends the ברכה together.



פירקי אבות of the Week

פרק ד

ט"ו רבי אלעזר בן שמוע אומר, יהי כבוד תלמידך חביב עליך כשלך, וכבוד חברך כמורא רבך, ומורא רבך כמורא שמים:

Rabbi Elazar Ben Shamua says:

- let the honour of your student be as dear to you as your own;
- honour your friend as much as you respect your teacher,
- and the respect you have for your teacher should be just as great as your fear of Heaven.
