## <u>Tell a story</u> Parsha Bechukotai

## by Julie Zhuk on 2024-06-01

At the start of this week's Parsha, G-d states "If you follow my Statutes and observe My commandments and observe them, then I will give you the rain you are waiting for. G-d also added that the land would get the produce it was needing and the tree of the field would get the fruit that it had been waiting for. The one thing G-d was asking the Jewish people in this week's Parsha was to keep His commandments. If they were to do that they could enjoy all of the material things that would be given to them and they would be able to live the way they wanted to. All of this would be in the land of Israel of course. In this week's Parsha. G-d also gave a rebuke to the Jewish people warning them about exile persecution and other evils that could happen potentially to them. That would only happen if they would abandon the covenant that He had set out for them.

In this week's Parsha we learn that five times a year all Jewish people are supposed to wish each other strength and courage. The reason for this is because in this week's Parsha they are to complete the reading of the Torah. Since this week's Parsha ends the conclusion of the five books of Moses, it is customary to wish every Jew to stay strong and stay strengthened. This Parsha teaches us another word called keri, it's a Hebrew word that translates in English to coincidence G-d is warning the Jewish people, that if they treated situations with Him as a coincidence. He would be furious with them back.

What this week's Parsha is telling the Jewish people is we have to acknowledge G-d's providence in our lives. We have to constantly think that everything happens because G-d wanted it to happen, not because it randomly did. There is a reason behind things. Jews can't have a superficial and erratic relationship with our Creator, it won't help anyone grow or get to know Him on a deeper level. This week's Parsha reminds us to reach out and think about G-d more than just when we think He is needed in our lives.