

Shabbat School Devarim: Shoftim “judges”

SUBJECT	TEACHER	HEBREW DATE	DATE
Justice	Rebbitzen Pammy, Miss Beverly	8Shoftim Elul 5785	8/30/2025

OVERVIEW: OUR DESIRES VS WHAT IS JUST

TEACHER GUIDE

STUDENT GUIDE

INTRODUCTION “OPENING” 5 MINUTES	Say to them: “Shalom Yeladim” (sha-LOAM Ye-la-DEEM). Tell them how to respond: Shalom Morim	Say Shema, Pledge of Allegiance. Lots of people talk about justice, but do they practice justice?
IDENTITY: B'NEI ISRAEL/BRIT AHM 5 MINUTES	Hebrew: שְׁמָע Part of Speech: verb feminine; verb masculine Transliteration: shema Pronunciation: sheh-MAH Meaning: call (gather) together, consider, give ear, hear, listen, obey, perceive, understand, witness When G-D returns will you be ready?!”	What is justice?
IDENTITY: HEARER OF G-D'S WORD 5 MINUTES	Read Portions: Devarim 16:18-21:9 (16:18-20) Yesha'yahu 51:12-52:12 (52:1-12) MattiYahu 5:38-42 (5:38-42) Learn our memory verse for the year 5785.>> For information about all kinds of yeladim events go to ShalomPensacola.com/children	Memory Verse: Psalm 22:2-6 2My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Distant from my salvation are the words of my groaning. 3O my God, I cried out by day, but You did not answer, by night, but there was no rest for me. 4Yet You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. 5In You our fathers put their trust. They trusted, and You delivered them. 6They cried to you and were delivered. In You they trusted, and were not disappointed.
IDENTITY: BELIEVER OF G-D'S WORD 5 MINUTES	Ask: Can we have justice without absolute TRUTH?	Discuss: Without truth how can we judge right and wrong?

IDENTITY: FOLLOWER OF G-D'S WORD 5 MINUTES	Ask: Who says Hine'ni?	Discuss: How are justice and mercy related to one another?
IDENTITY: DOER OF G-D'S WORD 5 MINUTES	Who we are is largely dependent upon what we do; we seek justice, even when it means we do not get our way.	Ask: What gain is there in living without justice?
GAME/ACTIVITY	What is Just?	<<-if evil abounds who gets hurt?
HOMEWORK 3 MINUTES	Our letter of the month of Elul is kuf. Look around shul for something that begins with the kuf sound; "Shavua tov, until next week!"	Close with prayer: say out loud what you are grateful for and things you need prayer for today.

NEED

- Bible

Rabbi's Drash:

RESOURCES

- Pledges & Shema
- Shabbat Guide

NOTES

The first goal is to approach all scripture with humility and prayer.

Have you ever been in an argument with a friend or sibling where you both believed that you were right? So, you went to a grown-up and asked them to help settle the argument for you. While you were explaining your side of the situation, in your heart you were hoping that the adult would choose your side.

Well, did you know that in this week's Parsha, we learn that when we have a disagreement like the one above, where both parties believe they are right, when we go before the adult (judge) we should not be hoping to get our way. We should be hoping that justice (what is right, not who is right) comes about.

Deuteronomy 16:18-20:

18 “Judges and officers you are to appoint within all your gates that Adonai your God is giving you, according to your tribes; and they are to judge the people with righteous judgment. 19 You are not to twist justice—you must not show partiality or take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and distorts the words of the righteous. 20 Justice, justice you must pursue, so that you may live and possess the land that Adonai your God is giving you.