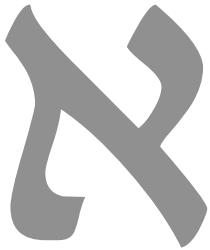


What is Brit?



Alef Group



Choose someone who will read the following text out loud for the group:

Choose someone who will read the questions out loud:

Choose two people who will take notes on the discussion and recap for the group at the end of the discussion:

Bereishit Chapter 17

- 3 Abram threw himself on his face; and God spoke to him further,
- 4 “As for Me, this is My covenant with you: You shall be the father of a multitude of nations.
- 5 And you shall no longer be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I make you the father of a multitude of nations.
- 6 I will make you exceedingly fertile, and make nations of you; and kings shall come forth from you.
- 7 I will maintain My covenant between Me and you, and your offspring to come, as an everlasting covenant throughout the ages, to be God to you and to your offspring to come.
- 8 I assign the land you sojourn in to you and your offspring to come, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting holding. I will be their God.”
- 9 God further said to Abraham, “As for you, you and your offspring to come throughout the ages shall keep My covenant.

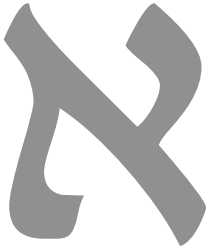
בראשית פרק יז

- ג וַיִּפֹּל אַבְרָם עַל-פָּנָיו וַיְדַבֵּר אֱתֹו אֱלֹקִים לֵאמֹר:
- ד אֲנִי הִנֵּה בְרִיתִי אִתְּךָ וְהָיִיתָ לְאָב הַמִּוֹן גוֹיִם:
- ה וְלֹא-יִקְרָא עוֹד אֶת-שִׁמְךָ אַבְרָם וְהָיָה שִׁמְךָ אַבְרָהָם כִּי אֲבִי-הַמִּוֹן גוֹיִם נִתְתִּיד:
- ו וְהִפְרִיתִי אֶתְךָ בְּמֵאֵד מְאֹד וְנִתְתִּיד לְגוֹיִם וּמְלָכִים מִמֶּךָ יֵצְאוּ:
- ז וְנִקְמַתִּי אֶת-בְּרִיתִי בֵּינִי וּבֵינְךָ וּבֵין זַרְעֶךָ אַחֲרָיִךְ לְדוֹרְתָם לְבְרִית עוֹלָם לְהַיּוֹת לְךָ לְאֱלֹקִים וּלְזַרְעֶךָ אַחֲרָיִךְ:
- ח וְנִתַּתִּי לְךָ וּלְזַרְעֶךָ אַחֲרָיִךְ אֶת אֶרֶץ מִגְדֵיךָ אֶת כָּל-אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן לְאֶחְזַת עוֹלָם וְהָיִיתִי לָהֶם לְאֱלֹקִים:
- ט וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹקִים אֶל-אַבְרָהָם וְאַתָּה אֶת-בְּרִיתִי תִשְׁמֹר אֶתָּה וְזַרְעֶךָ אַחֲרָיִךְ לְדוֹרְתָם:

- 1 How many times do you see the שְׂרָשׁ of “ברית” repeated?
 - 2 How many times is the phrase “זרעך אחריך” repeated?
 - 3 What does the phrase “זרעך אחריך” mean? Who does that include?
-

- 4 Who are the partners in the ברית (ג)? (פְּסוּק ג)
 - 5 What does Hashem give Avraham as a symbol of the ברית (ח)? (פְּסוּק ח)
-

continued



Bereishit Chapter 17

בראשית פרק יז

- 15 And God said to Abraham, “As for your wife Sarai, you shall not call her Sarai, but her name shall be Sarah.
- 16 I will bless her; indeed, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she shall give rise to nations; rulers of peoples shall issue from her.”

טו וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹקִים אֶל־אַבְרָהָם שְׂרַי אִשְׁתְּךָ לֹא־תִקְרָא אֶת־שְׂמָהּ שְׂרַי כִּי שָׂרָה שְׂמָהּ:

טז וּבִרְכֹתַי אֲתֶה וְגַם נָתַתִּי מִמְּנָה לָךְ בֶּן וּבִרְכֹתֶיהָ וְהִיְתָה לְגוֹלִים מְלֻכֵי עַמִּים מִמְּנָה יֵהְיוּ:

6 What does Hashem give Sarai in פסוק טו; (similar to what Hashem gave Avraham in פסוק ה)?

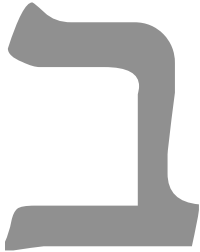
7 What do you think the “ה” represents in Avraham’s and Sarah’s new names?

8 How is this text similar to the ברית מילה?

What is Brit?



Bet Group



Choose someone who will read the following text out loud for the group:

Choose someone who will read the questions out loud:

Choose two people who will take notes on the discussion and recap for the group at the end of the discussion:

Bereishit Chapter 9

- 8 And God said to Noah and to his sons with him,
- 9 “I now establish My covenant with you and your offspring to come.
- ...
 - 11 I will maintain My covenant with you: never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”
 - 12 God further said, “This is the sign that I set for the covenant between Me and you, and every living creature...for all ages to come.
 - 13 I have set My bow in the clouds, and it shall serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.”

בראשית פרק ט

ח וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹקִים אֶל-נֹחַ וְאֶל-בָּנָיו
אִתּוֹ לֵאמֹר:

ט וַאֲנִי הֲנִי מְקִים אֶת-בְּרִיתִי אִתְּכֶם
וְאֶת-זַרְעֲכֶם אַחֲרֵיכֶם:

יֵא וְהִקְמַתִּי אֶת-בְּרִיתִי אִתְּכֶם וְלֹא-יִכָּרֵת
כָּל-בָּשָׂר עוֹד מִמֵּי הַמַּבּוּל וְלֹא-יִהְיֶה
עוֹד מַבּוּל לְשַׁחַת הָאָרֶץ:

יב וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹקִים זֹאת אוֹת-הַבְּרִית
אֲשֶׁר-אֲנִי נֹתֵן בֵּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם וּבֵין כָּל-נֶפֶשׁ
חַיָּה...לְדֹרֹת עוֹלָם:

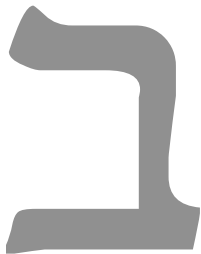
יג אֶת-קַשְׁתִּי נֹתַתִּי בַעֲנָן
וְהָיְתָה לְאוֹת בְּרִית בֵּינִי וּבֵין הָאָרֶץ:

- 1 How many times do you see the שְׂרָשׁ of “ברית” repeated?
- 2 This section takes place right after the מַבּוּל (flood). Who is talking to whom in this section? _____
- 3 What is Hashem saying in by פְּסוּק ?

- 4 Who are the partners in the בְּרִית?
- 5 Who is included in this בְּרִית (פְּסוּק יב)?
- 6 What is the symbol of this בְּרִית (יג) (פְּסוּק יג)?

continued

Bet Group Worksheet, continued



7 The word אֹת means a “sign” or a “symbol”. List as many synonyms (in English) as can you think of for the word אֹת.

8 How is this section similar to the בְּרִית מִלָּה?

What is Brit?



Gimel Group



Choose someone who will read the following text out loud for the group:

Choose someone who will read the questions out loud:

Choose two people who will take notes on the discussion and recap for the group at the end of the discussion:

Bereishit Chapter 17

- 10 “Such shall be the covenant between Me and you and your offspring to follow which you shall keep: every male among you shall be circumcised.”
- ...
- 19 God said...”Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac; and I will maintain My covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring to come.
- 20 As for Ishmael...I hereby bless him... I will make him exceedingly numerous. He shall be the father of twelve chieftains, and I will make of him a great nation.
- 21 But My covenant I will maintain with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you....”

בראשית פרק טז

י זאת בריתי אשר תשמרו ביני וביניכם
ובין זרעך אחריך המול לכם כל-זכר:

...

יט ונאמר אלקים...שרה אשתך
ילדת לך בן וקראת את-שמו יצחק
והקמתי את-בריתי אתו לברית עולם
לזרעו אחרי:

כ ולישמעאל...הנה ברכתי אתו...
והרביתי אתו במאד מאד שנים-עשר
נשיאם יוליד ונתתיו לגוי גדול:

כא ואת-בריתי אקים את-יצחק
אשר תלד לך שרה...

1 In the above *pesukim*, Hashem is talking to Avraham. What is Hashem commanding Avraham to do in פסוק י ?

2 Who is included in this commandment (who must have a *brit milah*)? (פסוק י)

3 In פסוק יט, Hashem tells Avraham that three things will happen in the future. What are those three things?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

continued

Bet Group Worksheet, continued



4 Hashem says he will establish the בְּרִית "אתו." To whom does "אתו" refer?
(פסוק יט)

5 Who is included in the בְּרִית? (פסוק יט) (1 person and 1 group of people)

6 In פסוק כ Hashem gives Yishmael a בְּרָכָה. Is Yishmael included in the בְּרִית with Yitzchak? How do you know? (see also פסוק כא)

7 How are a בְּרִית and בְּרִית מִלָּה the same?

8 How are a בְּרִית and בְּרִית מִלָּה different?

What is Brit?



Dalet Group



☛ Choose someone who will read the following text out loud for the group:

☛ Choose someone who will read the questions out loud:

☛ Choose two people who will take notes on the discussion and recap for the group at the end of the discussion:

Shemot Chapter 31

16 “The Israelite people shall keep the sabbath, observing the sabbath throughout the ages as a covenant for all time:

17 it shall be a sign for all time between Me and the people of Israel.” For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He ceased from work and was refreshed.

שמות פרק לא

טז ושמרו בני ישראל את השבת לעשות את השבת לדורתם ברית עולם:

יז ביני ובין בני ישראל אות הוא לעולם כי עשית זמנים עשה ה את השמים ואת הארץ וביום השביעי שבת וינפש:

1 How many times do you see the שרש of “ש. ב. ת.” repeated? _____

2 “ביני ובין בני ישראל אות הוא לעולם”. Who is saying this פסוק? _____

3 Whom is the ברית between? _____

4 Who are the partners in this ברית? _____

5 What is the symbol of this ברית? (hint: it is repeated three times)

6 The word אות means a “sign” or a “symbol”. List as many synonyms (in English) as can you think of for the word אות.

7 How is this section similar to the ברית מילה? _____

8 This section (which might be familiar to you) is read during kiddush on Shabbat afternoon. Why do you think these pesukim were chosen to be read at kiddush? What is the Torah telling us about Shabbat?

Summary of *Britot*

Group	Describe the text	Who are the players involved? (Between whom is the <i>brit</i> ?)	What is the symbol of the <i>brit</i> ?
Alef			
Bet			
Gimel			
Dalet			

1 What questions do you have now?

2 In what ways are these *britot* similar to each other?

3 In what ways are these *britot* different from one another?

4 How has your understanding of *brit* and *brit milah* changed?
