



Torah family Mini-mag

Issue 1



This magazine is a special place for Torah keeping families to learn and share and grow together. Whether you are 2 or 69, you will find something here for you. Enjoy and Shalom!



Info and Index

Torah Family Mini-mag is an e-magazine just for families that are trying to keep Torah. Everyone gets a chance to share, from children to grandparents.

This magazine is owned and operated by Heidi Cooper, and all submissions are checked and placed by her. Please enjoy reading the material, and be sure to share what you have learned with everyone else.

Ads or classifieds are available for \$5 per issue, and will be placed within the magazine as well as on the servinginmyrubberboots.blogspot.com website. Categories accepted include: Torah, crafts, homesteading, herbs, modesty, home schooling, general Scriptures.

This magazine is available to all for free and all submissions are given freely. Each issue will be available in PDF download at the servinginmyrubberboots.blogspot.com website.

Thank you very much for taking part in this project.

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Classifieds

* Handmade gemsbok shofars for \$100 each. One is polished, one is finished naturally with lanolin. Made with care on a farm in Northern Michigan. Please email goodshepherdfarm@vtrocket.com for more info.



Sarah and Danny Adventure

OF TENTS AND STARS

A Sarah and Danny Adventure

By Heidi Cooper



“Mom, why does the Bible talk so much about the tabernacle? It goes on and on about hooks and pillars and tells the same story at least three times!” Sarah worked impatiently at the sewing project her mother was determined for her to finish.

“That’s a good question. About half the book of Exodus is about the tabernacle.” Mom carefully placed a few more stitches in her own sewing project.

“I know they built it and worshipped there, but why is it so important?”

“Well, יהוה dwells in the heavens. The Bible tells us that His home is in the heaven of heavens. But when He freed His people from slavery in Egypt, He wanted to be with them. He wanted them to really feel a part of His family. So He asked them to build Him a home on earth.”

“Wow, so He told them what kind of house He wanted! Oww! This needle is too sharp! I just poked my finger again!” Sarah did not like this sewing business, and couldn’t wait to be rid of it.

“Let me see. Oh it’s just a little poke. You’ll be fine. Yes, He picked the kind of house He wanted. But actually He picked a tent.”

“Why would He pick a tent, when He could have had a big wonderful house?”

“Really, Sarah! It took over 2000 lbs. of gold to make it! Isn’t that a pretty nice tent?”



“Well, yeah. Our tent isn’t made of gold. It’s made of green canvas. But I would still want a big house.”

“But there’s something special about a tent. When we look outside at the stars, we see a picture of a tent.”

“No, we don’t! We see a big empty sky with shiny lights.” Sarah was frustrated with her sewing and with her mother.

“Sarah, do try to put your stitches in a straight line. It’s important to do your best. In Bible times, most everyone lived in a tent at some point in their lives. They put goat hair on the roof.

It had little tiny holes in it. During the day, the light would shine in through those little holes and look like stars. When it rained, the goat hair swelled and sealed up the holes. They didn’t even get wet.”

A light suddenly went on in Sarah’s brain, and for just a moment, she forgot how much she hated sewing. “You mean we are living inside יהוה’s tent! Wow! I never thought about it like that.” Sarah threw her sewing on the table and ran to find her brother.

“Danny, guess what! We live inside יהוה’s tent! Let me show you!” And she busied herself building a tent out of a sheet and some chairs. When she was all done, she and Danny crawled inside, and looked at the little lights shining between the threads of the fabric.

“See, Danny! The stars are the holes inside the roof of His tent!”

And so it is that יהוה chose to make His special dwelling inside a tent. Next time you look up at the stars, picture yourself inside His tent and thank Him for sharing His wonderful home with you.





Children's gallery

Welcome to the children's section! This is the place for crafts and pictures and poems sent in by children just like you! If you have a picture or story or poem you would like to share, have your parents send them to the editor at [sheepmommy @ yahoo.com](mailto:sheepmommy@yahoo.com). Please include your first name and age. We look forward to hearing from you.

Make your own Fabric Challah Bread

Shavuot is on June 12 this year! We enjoy waving braided loaves and sharing the many things we are thankful for. I thought it would be fun to have loaves for the children to wave, too. I hope you enjoy making these fabric challah bread loaves for your children. They are very simple and forgiving to make, and well within the abilities of a beginning sewer.



Materials:

Cotton fabric scraps

Batting

Sewing machine (optional)

Sewing needle and thread

Safety pin

Instructions:

Step 1: Cut your fabric into 3 strips measuring 4 in by 20 in.



Step 2: Fold each strip lengthwise with right sides together. Fold down a quarter inch on each end. Sew a quarter inch seam down the length to make a tube.



Step 3: Turn the strips right side out with a safety pin.



Step 4: Stuff each tube with batting. I cut a long strip of batting about 6 in. wide and ran it through with the safety pin. Be delicate so the batting doesn't tear.



Step 5: Using a needle and thread, sew one end of each tube shut with a gathering stitch to cinch up the end. Do not cut your thread between tubes, but rather connect them all together tightly and secure with a couple knots. Then cut your thread.



Step 6: Braid the three tubes together to the other end, and secure those ends as you did the first end.



Step 7: Enjoy Shavuot with your family. These would also make a great addition to a play kitchen or a Sabbath box.

Contributed by the editor

If you have feast related craft ideas that are more substantial than paper, feel free to share them in a future issue! Contact the editor at [sheep_mommy @ yahoo.com](mailto:sheep_mommy@yahoo.com).



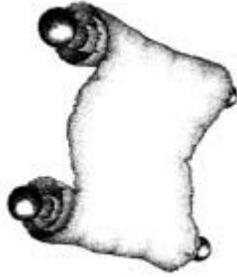
Torah Family Interview

For our first Torah Family Interview, I would like to introduce Ed and Debbie. They have been messianic for four years, and are currently enjoying 14 grandchildren.

Let me introduce myself. My name is Debbie, and I have been married to my wonderful Ed for 40 years. We have three married daughters and 14 grandchildren. My husband and I have been believers in “Jesus” since our youth, and brought our girls up in a traditional church. I home schooled two of the girls for several years, which was a great joy. Looking back, I think that those years of studying together using Scripture as a filter and foundation for our studies were early steps in the spiritual journey that became more strenuous several years later.

I find great enjoyment and creative fulfillment in sewing, especially quilting, scrapbooking, and other crafts (I’ve dabbled in more than I care to admit). I love to create and add beauty to our world, especially with fabric and thread. I also love to read, obsessively.

About four and a half years ago I was challenged by a Messianic evangelist who was staying with some friends to question almost everything I believed about what the Scriptures said. When his teaching was first relayed to me I took an attitude of “I don’t know who this man is and he sounds crazy.” But a voice in my heart said “Then prove that he is wrong.” Thus started a really exciting journey into the Word. In a matter of a few days the Scriptures opened up to me like never before. My searching was rewarded with fresh insights each day. I’ve always been a questioner, a searcher. While homeschooling, I read most of the material that I had my girls read, and then some. I love to learn and understand our world and the people that have influenced it. I would go home from church questioning a teaching or the practices of our church without understanding at the time why things did not seem to line up. I must admit, before this, my reading of Scriptures was more of filling a duty than a loving search because too many passages did not make sense, especially in light of what I was hearing from the pulpit.



My “light went on” moment came with a simple word search in my fat Webster dictionary for the word fulfill. Yeshua in Matthew 5:17 tells us “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy but to fulfill.” One dictionary entry totally blew out of the water, for me, the “law is done away with” doctrine of our Replacement Theology church. I then spent large parts of my days searching the Word for passages that built on this new concept that the Torah was still applicable to me today. Every day had wonderful, enlightening moments as I started to see for the first time the eternal plan Our Father has for His people. At first, my study centered on the “Law” and finding passages in the Apostolic Scriptures that verified God’s loving instructions. This led me to the Tanach to see, in a new way, pertinent teachings, not just Sunday School stories. I searched the internet and read as many books as I could find that taught about this Hebraic Roots concept. I had three fellow searchers to share new teachings with and toss around all these new ideas. One at a time several family members came to see these truths and we learned together. I spent more time studying those first few months than I had for years.

The greatest blessing I have found on this Torah journey is seeing all of His Word as one continuous story and message. (Good bye dispensationalism!) Seeing a Father who truly does not change makes it a true blessing to have a personal relationship with Him. Doing the church’s “holidays” can not begin to hold a candle to the excitement and blessing of actually observing the Father’s Feasts with family and friends. Each new part of His instructions that we incorporated into our life brought blessings and more levels of understanding. First it was observing Shabbat, which was challenging during the few months that we continued to attend church, but soon became a vital part of our lives. Kosher was a bigger hurdle, but as we learn more of the scientific reasons, all we can say is “Our God is so smart!”

It has been an ongoing struggle to battle bitterness and hurt after learning the things we had been taught by the church. One book we were given rather early had the “everything is pagan” attitude. It may have been necessary to lead us to put certain things out of our lives, but those truths can be painful and being judgmental of others too easily follows. We had two rather painful encounters in our own home with pastors who felt they had

some divine assignment to correct our “faulty hermeneutics,” which I learned later was a Greek world-view way of interpretation. I prefer to learn how to understand His Word with Hebraic eyeglasses, which we still are adjusting to. But I continue to ask for Abba’s forgiveness and help with those bad attitudes.

Most Shabbats find us at home, just the two of us. We live in a rural area with no congregation to attend. We spend an occasional Shabbat and the feast days with some of our family and one or two other families. The internet has been our lifeblood. We spend many hours each week listening to Shabbat services and Torah portion teachings; God’s Learning Channel, El Shaddai Ministries, and Rico Cortes being favorites, along with several others. It did not take too long to reformat our “Sunday is church” mentality to seeing our week as a progression that builds up to preparation day and climaxes as we sit down for a special meal to usher in Shabbat. We never experienced anything but stress in our church going days of driving to morning and evening services, choir, board meetings, etc. It is hard to meet with the Father under those circumstances. Now we are blessed with true rest, and a time to meet with and hear from YHWH.

Although we are now “semi-retired” and have more free time, health and financial issues keep us close to home. At this season of our lives, what we can contribute to our grandchildren is vital to us. I have heard it said that grandparents are mentioned more in Scripture than parents. Spending time with them, teaching them and being role models is so important. These precious souls, being taught the Torah from a young age, will be the heart and soul of the Hebraic Roots movement in years to come. With all the challenges of raising children for the LORD in today’s society, parents need all the support and encouragement from like-minded extended family that they can get. We can be actively involved with their education, spend the Feasts and Sabbaths with them and with humility, show them that we still have plenty to learn about walking out our faith in a way that pleases our Father.

We can encourage our loved ones, and keep reminding ourselves, to keep focused on the big picture - loving and serving our Heavenly Father, and not getting side-tracked by the minor issues that too often become major issues. Seeing paganism under every rock, debates over calendars, how to pronounce the Name, differing views of prophecy and how we should prepare for the future, translation issues, and many other conflicts, keep us from our most important job. We need to concentrate on being salt and light in a world that is bent on self-destruction and seems ready to implode. It is so easy to give into a fear than can literally cripple us. We all need to keep focused on having a true servant’s heart, putting our needs and wants on the back burner and putting serving the Father and His precious children above all else. We must stay focused on our relationship with our

Saviour rather than on information. It is Yeshua who saves, not our getting all the facts straight. And it is He who will see us through troubling times.

*Blessed is the man who shall not walk in the counsel of the wrong,
And shall not stand in the path of sinners,
And shall not sit in the seat of scoffers,
But his delight is in the Torah of YHWH,
And he meditates in His Torah day and night.
For he shall be as a tree
Planted by the rivers of water,
That yields its fruit in its season,
And whose leaf does not wither,
And whatever he does prospers.*

Tehillim (Psalms) 1:1-3

The Scriptures

Thank you, Ed and Debbie, for sharing your lives with us. Stay tuned next issue as we meet another Torah keeping family.

Enjoy some warm weather fun with your family. Have an outdoor scavenger hunt! Work on the list all together, or split up into teams. Have fun!

Look For:

Pinecone

Feather

Flower

Bark

Water

Bird

Squirrel

Stick

Pretty rock

Fern

Something red

Something smooth

Something prickly

Something shiny

Something loud

Something soft

Something manmade

Something beautiful

Something new

Something wild and crazy



Articles

Restoration In Shavout

By Ben Schminke

As the only feast honored annually by both Jews and Christians, Shavout holds a unique place amongst the seven commanded feasts of YHVH. Jews lift up this day as “the birthday of the Torah”, while Christians (who call Shavuot by its Greek name “Pentecost”) see it as “the birthday of the Church.” Christians count 50 days from Easter to determine the date of Pentecost, and Jews count 50 days from Yom Ha Bikkurim (First Fruits) to celebrate Shavuot. Despite this obvious attempt at obedience and remembrance, the official Jewish position is that Pentecost has no relationship at all with Shavuot, and at the same time Christians are largely unaware that Pentecost is, in fact, the fulfillment of several Old Testament prophecies. Christians even go so far as using Pentecost (which occurred on a Sunday according to Acts) as a main excuse for changing the Sabbath from the seventh day to the first day! The sad thing is that the pride, arrogance, ignorance, and bickering of these two religions overturns the very point of the feast. Shavuot is ultimately about bringing sinful people into relationship to YHVH, not by their own power but through His supernatural Spirit. The Spirit replaces our hard hearts and allows us to follow His commandments the way Yeshua did.

Christians are largely correct that something new was “born” on Shavuot, just 10 days after the ascension of Messiah. In John chapter 14, Yeshua speaks at length as to the purpose of the Holy Spirit.

Vs 15-16, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.”

Vs 26, ”But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”

The purpose of the Spirit is to help us keep His commandments...the commandments of Yeshua, who of course followed the commandments of YHVH in a perfect and complete way. This is indeed a miracle, as the Holy Spirit makes dozens of important appearances

throughout the Old Testament, but is usually given *temporarily* to a single *individual* in order to help YHVH's will be done. Contrary to what some may preach, the Holy Spirit itself, was not born on this day, rather was now made available to ALL those who are called to enter into the heart transforming ways of YHVH, as lived and taught by Yeshua.

The wonderful events in Acts chapter 2 could have been anticipated even by those who did not personally hear Yeshua's words.

Ezekiel 39:29, "And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord God."

Zechariah 12:10, "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn."

Joel 2:28, "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions."

Ezekiel 11:19-20, "And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, that **they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them**. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God."

The divine placement of Shavuot as the central feast in the Holy calendar cannot be ignored. The feasts of the Spring are about "beginnings" and about washing our sins away so as to be acceptable to YHVH. Conversely, in the Fall feasts we see a great and terrible judgment coming, but also a great expectation of the celebration of fullness and completeness. In Shavuot, stuck in the middle, and the only celebration appointed to Summer, we realize our current situation. Without His helper leading us into truth and helping us to walk in His ways, we would truly run back into our sinful ways. Our Father may see us as sinless, but our earthly reality to various degrees is still one of learning and growing. We are reminded that our spiritual walk, like the timing of His feasts, is a process and a journey—not a once and done experience. In Corinthians 13, Paul writes,

Verses 9-10 "For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away."

Verse 12 "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face-to-face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known."

The bread we eat during the spring feasts is unleavened, to remind us of our status as sinless from our Father's point of view. The sheaf that is waived in the spring is the grains of the first harvest, pure, not yet winnowed, not yet cracked, not yet ground, not yet baked. The fully prepared bread of Shavuot however, *is* leavened, reminding us of the reality of our fleshly imperfections. There are two fully baked loaves of bread waived before YHVH, one for each errant house of Israel, as both Christians and Jews attempt to understand our distinct places in Our Father's eternal plan. Now is the time for restoration, reconciliation, and reaching out to one another. During the fall feasts, when the trumpet sounds, judgment comes, and we are finally sitting at the banquet table with our Bridegroom, our walk will finally be complete and the very temporary dilemma we now live with will be resolved at last.

Jeremiah prophesied in Chapter 31, "I shall renew my Covenant with both the house of Israel [the Church] and the House of Judah [the Jews]...I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD."

May the brothers from both houses use this appointed time to truly learn to humble themselves before YHVH, cast out false traditions and fleshly expectations, and offer up our hearts to be shaped by the author and finisher of our faith.





Command: Use just, or accurate, weights and measures in your business and personal dealings.

Verse: Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt.
(Lev 19:35-36)

A just weight and balance are the LORD'S: all the weights of the bag are his work.
(Pro 16:11)

Bible story: Luke 19:1-10

Did Zaccheus follow this command? What made him change his mind? What should our motivation be for following Torah?

What does this story mean to me, and how can I learn from Zaccheus?

New Hebrew word: צדק just - right, moral, legal, equal

In the original Paleo Hebrew, the concept is clearly following the straight way.

Challenges:

1. Play store with your children. Make a point of demonstrating some unjust practices. For example, if you are the customer, when the price is 25 cents, say that you only feel like paying 5 cents. When you are the cashier, tell your child that the price just went up to \$1. They will quickly learn that being on the receiving end of unjust weights and measures is no fun. Explain to them that fairness is much better.
2. Find a simple board game that involves crossing the finish line. Take turns, giving each child a chance to make up the rules for the game. They may choose to make the rules favor

only them. Use it as an opportunity to teach that just weights and measures applies to rules, too. The rules should be fair for everyone.

3. Practice using equivalent measures, meaning equal measures. I have rewritten the following recipe in such a way that you will have to translate to more familiar terms. Accuracy is a very important part of this command, too.



CHOCOLATE CHIP MUFFINS

Makes 1 dozen

1 egg

6 oz milk

$\frac{1}{4}$ pint oil

32 Tablespoons flour

$\frac{2}{6}$ cup brown sugar

3 teaspoons baking powder

$\frac{1}{3}$ Tablespoon salt

8 Tablespoons chocolate chips

Blend liquid ingredients.

Add dry ingredients just until mixed.

Fill muffins cups $\frac{2}{3}$ full.

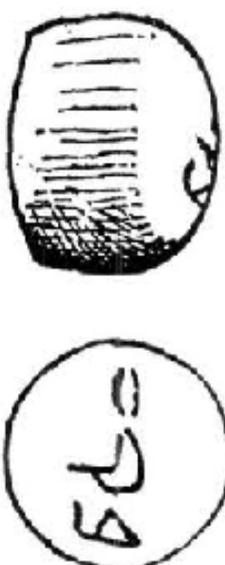
BAKE 400 degrees 20 minutes.

4. If you are able, get a copy of “Little House Cookbook.” It has wonderful accounts of general store practices during Laura’s lifetime. You might be surprised that “just weights and measures” was not an assumed way of living at that time. You may want to learn more about retail practices and decide whether or not stores follow this Torah principle.

5. Work through the following nine note booking and activity pages contributed by hearts-in-training free printables. After that, you will find some copy work pages for different ages.



Just Measurements and Weights



לֹא־תַעֲשֶׂוּ עֹוֹל בַּמִּשְׁפָּט בַּמִּדָּה בַּמִּשְׁקָל
וּבַמִּשְׁוֹנָה מֵאֲזֵי צִדְקַי אֲבִי--צִדְקַי אֵיפֹת
צִדְקַי וְהִינּוּ צִדְקַי וְהִיָּה לְכֶם אֲנִי יְהוָה
אֵלֵהֶיכֶם הַיְשֹׁר--הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מִמִּצְרַיִם
מִצְרָיִם

Do not falsify measurements, whether in length, weight or volume.

You must have an honest balance, honest weights, an honest dry measure, and an honest liquid measure. I am YHWH your Elohim who took you out of Egypt. ~Vayikra/Lev. 19:35-36

Do not falsify measurements, whether in length, weight or volume.

You must have an honest balance, honest weights, an honest dry measure, and an honest liquid measure. I am YHWH your Elohim who took you out of Egypt. ~Vayikra/Lev. 19:35-36

לֹא־תַעֲשׂוּ עוֹל בַּמִּשְׁפָּט בַּמְדָּה

בַּמִּשְׁקָל וּבַמְשׁוּרָה מֵאֲזֵנֵי אָבִי

אָבִי־צֶדֶק אֵיפֶת צֶדֶק וְהִין צֶדֶק

יְהִיָּה לָכֶם אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם

אֲשֶׁר־הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם



A Right Scale and Balances

פְּלֵס וּמֵאֲזֵנָי
מֵשְׁפָּט לַיהוָה
מֵעֵשְׂרוֹ
כָּל-אֲבֵנֵי-כֹּסֶם



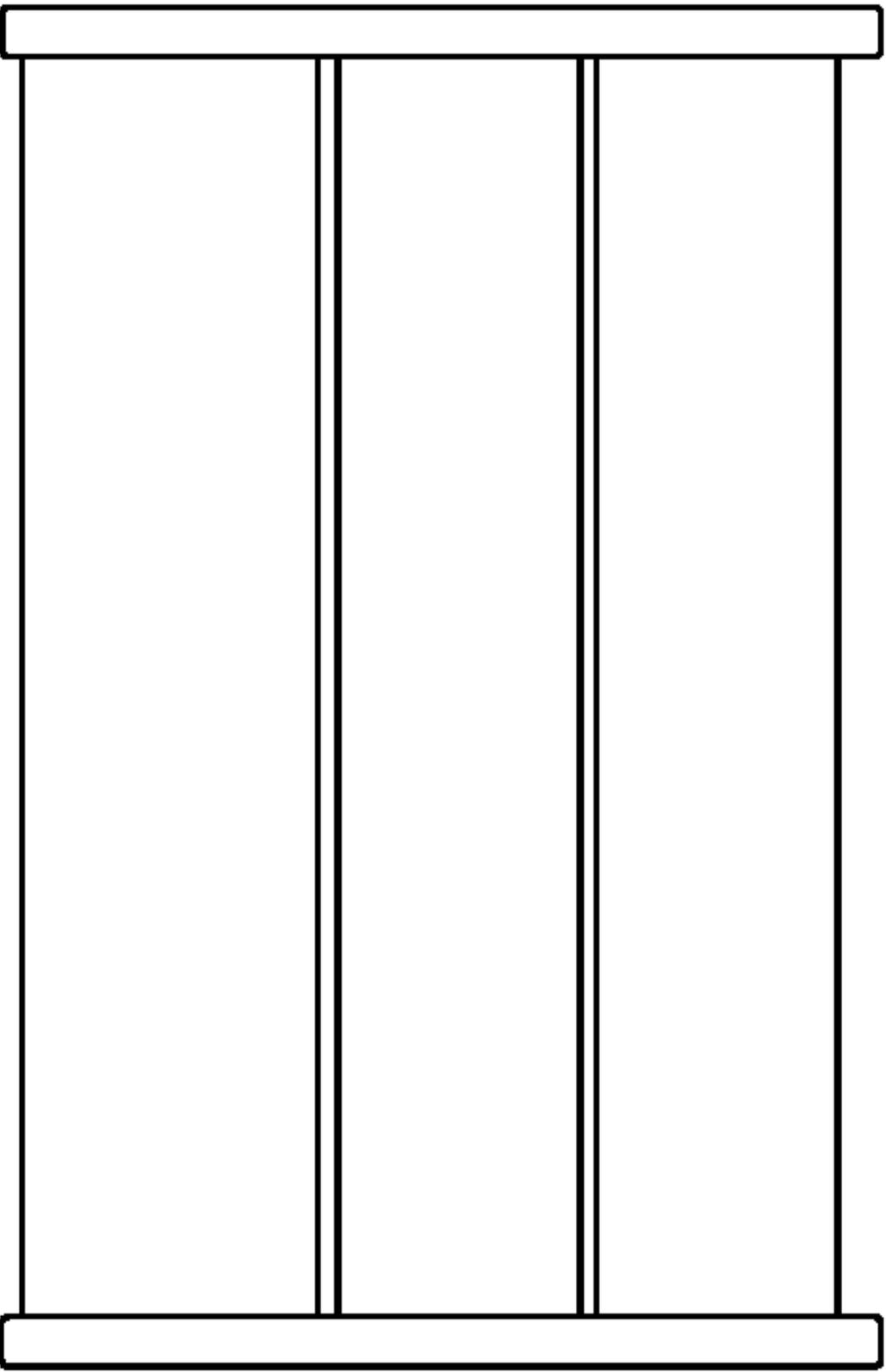
A right scale and balances are of
YHWH; All the weights in the bag
are His work.

~Mishle/ Proverbs 16:11

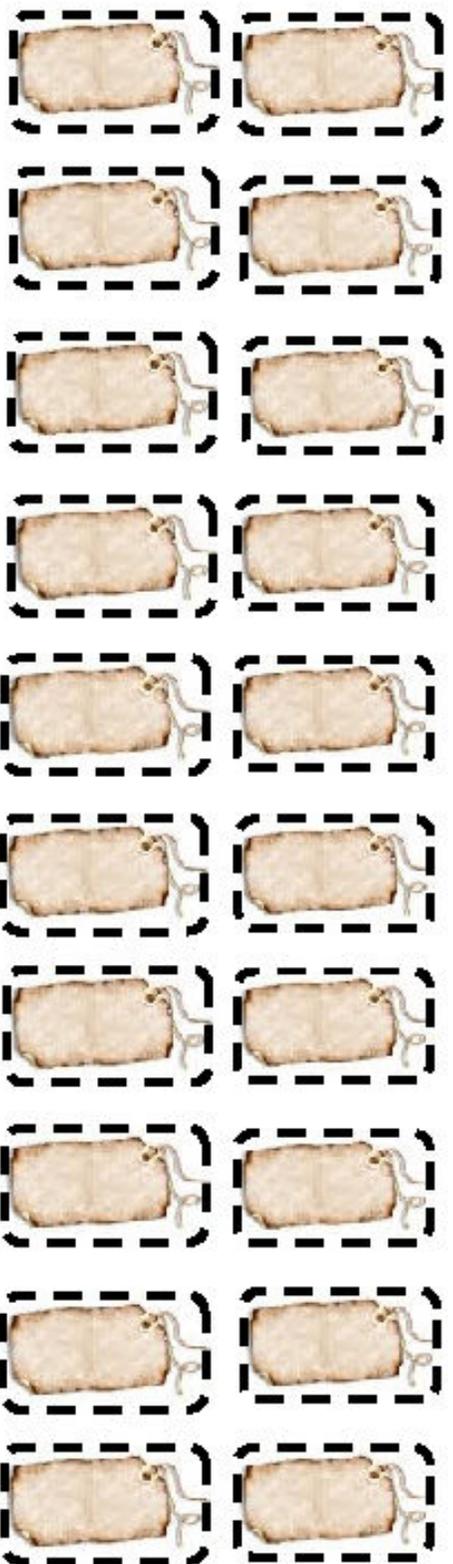
Illustrate:

What do your store shelves look like?

Don't forget to add the fairly priced tags!



Fill in the price tags, then cut them out. Once you have finished
“stocking” your store shelves, add the fairly priced tags!



**A right scale and balances are of YHWH; All the
weights in the bag are His work.**

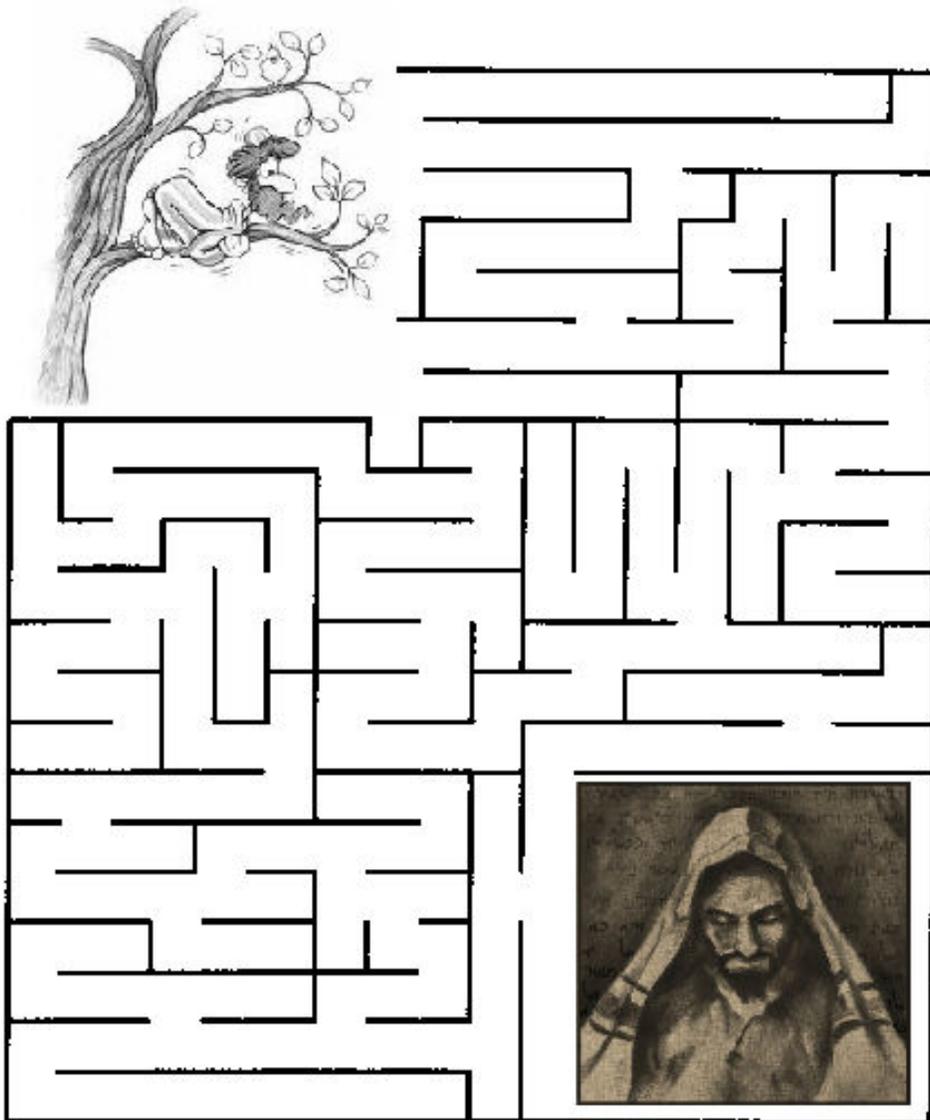
~Mishle/ Proverbs 16:11

²And see, a man called Zakkai! And he was a chief tax collector, and he was rich, ³and he was seeking to see who יהושע was, but was unable because of the crowd, for he was small in stature.

⁴And having run ahead, he climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, because He was about to pass by.

⁵And as יהושע came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zakkai, hurry and come down, for I have to stay at your house today." ~Luke 19:2-6

Can you help Zaccheus find his way to **ישוע**?



Name _____

O יהוה, our Master, how excellent is Your Name in
all the earth,

You who set Your splendour above the heavens!



Out of the mouth of babes and infants You have
founded strength,

Because of Your adversaries, to put an end to enemy and avenger.

For I see Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,



The moon and the stars, which You have established.

What is man that You remember him?

And the son of man that You visit him?

Yet You have made him a little less than Elohim,



And have crowned him with esteem and splendour.

You made him rule over the works of Your hands;

Draw the moon and stars.



You have put all under his feet,
all sheep and oxen, and also
the beasts of the field.

The birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,

Passing through the paths of the
seas.



וַיְהוָה, our Master, How excellent is Your Name in
all the earth!

From Psalm 8:1-9

Name _____

O YHWH, our Master, how excellent is Your name in all the earth, You who set Your splendor above the heavens!



Out of the mouth of babes and infants You
have founded strength, because of Your
adversaries, to put an end to enemy and
avenger.



For I see Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have established.

Draw a picture of the moon and stars.



What is man that You remember him?
And the son of man that You visit him?
Yet You have made him a little less than
Elohim, and have crowned him with esteem
and splendour.



You made him rule over the works of Your
hands; You have put all under his feet,
All sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of
the field,



The birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, passing through the paths of the seas.

O YHWH, our Master, How excellent is Your name in all the earth!

Psalm 8:1-9

