



B. Mitzvah D'var Torah Outline

The purpose of the D'var Torah (a teaching of Torah) is to help understand not only your Torah portion, but what the portion might teach us today.

To help you understand your Torah portion, please search for your Torah portion by name, online at <https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study> and other sites such as Chabad.org and discuss with members of your family. There are summaries, commentaries, essays and stories on your portion online. You will also want to read your Torah portion in English. Please read through the entire English text of your Torah portion (not just the verses you are reading aloud). Rabbi Bellows is happy to meet to study your Torah portion with you before she meets to go over the D'var Torah. Please call the office or email Rabbi Bellows to set up either one or two meetings at least 2 months before your service.

Please use additional paper to complete your outline, if necessary.

OUTLINE

- I. Introduction to D'var Torah: Question, story, or example relating to your portion.
- II. Summary of the important points in your Torah portion. What is your Torah portion about? Please offer a brief summary of the portion and conclude this section/paragraph with your "teaching point"- what stands out most to you that you might want to talk about/teach us.
- III. Explain the point you want to teach and apply it to life today. What is the message of your teaching point and why is it important to learn about and understand today?
- IV. Please describe one or two of your Mitzvah projects and how they might relate to your portion.
- V. Thank You paragraph
- VI. Conclusion and Shabbat Shalom

Other helpful items:

- Begin your D'var Torah with "Shabbat Shalom" and end your D'var Torah with "Shabbat Shalom."
- Double Space and use large font.
- Number the pages
- Title your D'var Torah with your name and date of Bar/Bat Mitzvah service at the top of the page.
- The first draft of your D'var Torah is due 1-2 weeks after your speech appointment and at least 3 weeks before your service. Please email it to Rabbi Bellows at lbellows@bethamdbg.org .