



This Week at Chabad Lubavitch of Maine



CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES
FOR
PORTLAND:

Friday, Aug. 14 7:28 pm

Torah Portion: [Re'eh](#)

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Message from the Rabbi

Dear Friends,

This weeks Torah reading contains the reminder that Judaism believes in free choice.

Gd does not force us to observe the commandments, and He will not stand in our way if we choose not to follow them. In other words, G-d gives humankind the potential to disobey. The choice is ours.

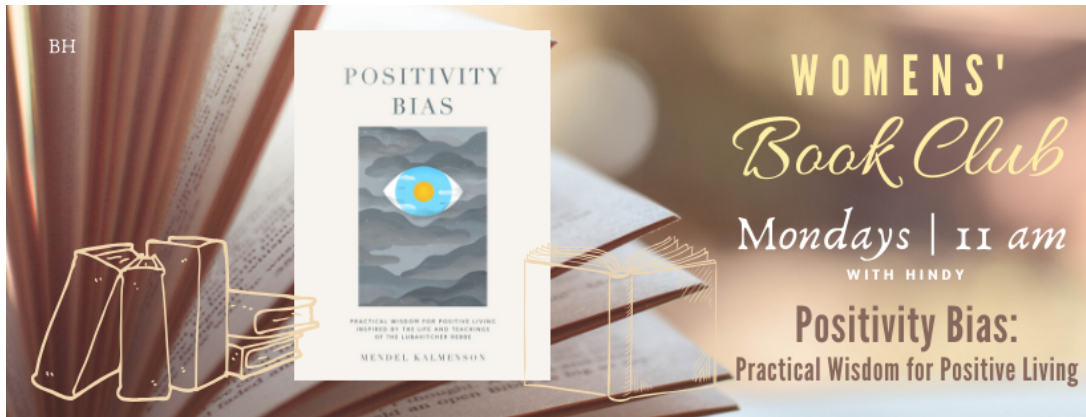
The reason is that without such a challenge, there would be little value in our Divine service. It is only because we have an alternative, living in a world where Gdliness is not open and apparent, and our personal desires conflict with the Torahs decrees, that our choice to serve Him is truly virtuous. In order for us to serve Gd under such conditions requires that we reach to the core of our being and summon up powerful spiritual energies. Such service is an achievement, one which brings a sense of accomplishment to both us and to Gd.

Shabbat shalom.

Rabbi Wilansky



Women's Book Club



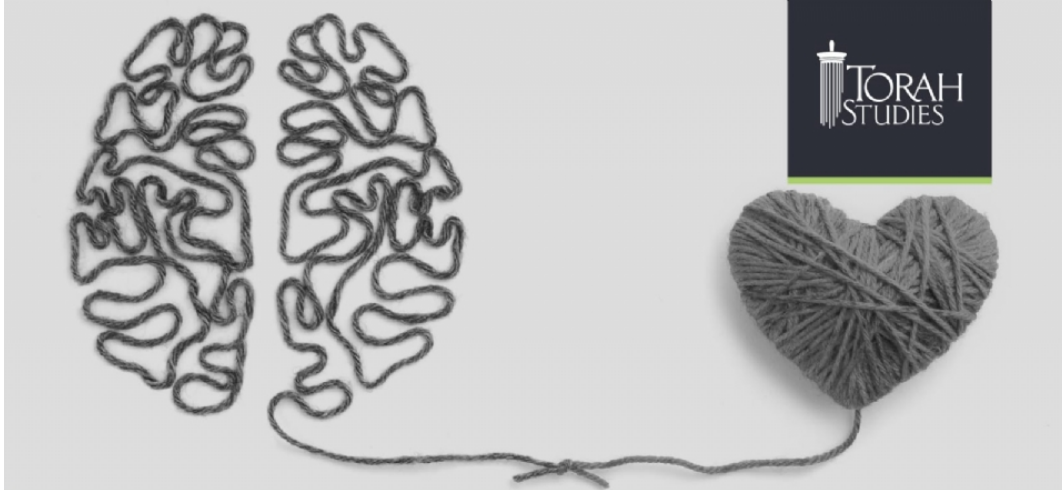
Women, come join the Weekly Book Club, as we delve into "Positivity Bias".

Monday, August 17, 11:00 am.

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Torah Studies: Mind Over Matter Isn't Just A Slogan



MIND OVER MATTER ISN'T JUST A SLOGAN

Controlling and Directing Our Feelings with Laser Precision

JEWISH SOLDIERS at the outset of military campaigns were instructed, “Do not fear!” But is it really possible to command fear away? How about the other way around—is it possible to will yourself into liking someone or something? Unsurprisingly, the answer is “Yes!”

Join Rabbi Levi for the weekly class on the Torah Portion. **Wednesday, August 19, at 11:00 am.**

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Hebrew School House Calls

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BY THE NUMBERS

16 Kaddish Facts Every Jew Should Know

Get to know one of Judaism's best-known but least-understood texts.

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PARSHAH

Being Kosher: What Do the Kosher Signs Teach Us?

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STORY

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ESSAY

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Parshah in a Nutshell

Parshat Re'eh

See, says Moses to the people of Israel, I place before you today a **blessing** and a **curse** the blessing that will come when they fulfill Gds commandments, and the curse if they abandon them. These should be proclaimed on **Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal** when the people **cross over** into the Holy Land.

A **Temple** should be established in **the place that Gd will choose to make dwell His name there** , where the people should bring their **sacrifices** to Him; it is forbidden to make offerings to Gd in any other place. It is permitted to slaughter animals elsewhere, not as a sacrifice but to eat their **meat** ; the blood (which in the Temple is **poured upon the altar**), however, may not be eaten.

A **false prophet** , or one who entices others to worship idols, should be put to death; an idolatrous city must be destroyed. The identifying signs for **kosher** animals and fish, and the list of non-kosher birds (first given in Leviticus 11), are **repeated** .

A tenth of all produce is to be eaten in Jerusalem, or else exchanged for **money** with which food is purchased and eaten there. In certain years this **tithe** is given to the poor instead. **Firstborn** cattle and sheep are to be offered in the Temple, and their meat eaten by the *kohanim* (priests).

The mitzvah of **charity** obligates a Jew to aid a needy fellow with a gift or loan. On the **Sabbatical year** (occurring every seventh year), all loans are to be forgiven. All indentured servants are to be set free after six years of service.

Our Parshah concludes with the laws of the three **pilgrimage** festivals **Passover**, **Shavuot** and **Sukkot** when all should go to **see** and **be seen** before Gd in the Holy Temple.



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OBITUARY

Rabbi Adin Even-Israel (Steinsaltz), 83, Renowned Scholar, Author and Devoted Chassid

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