

Shabbat School Bereshit: Yitro "Yitro -Moshe's Father in Law"

SUBJECT

Above All Others?

TEACHER

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Cathy Harris

HEBREW DATE

20 Sh'vat 5786

DATE

2/7/2026

OVERVIEW: WHAT DOES IT MEAN WHEN TORAH SAYS AD-NAI IS "ABOVE ALL OTHER GODS"?

TEACHER GUIDE

STUDENT GUIDE

INTRODUCTION "OPENING" 5 MINUTES	Say to them: "Shalom Yeladim" (sha-LOAM Ye-la-DEEM). Invite them to respond: "Shalom Morim!"	Say Shema, Pledge of Allegiance. Are there 'other' gods?
IDENTITY: B'NEI ISRAEL/BRIT AHM 5 MINUTES	Hebrew: שׂטן Part of Speech: Noun Masculine Transliteration: sheyd Pronunciation: shay-d Meaning: devil, demon When G-D returns will you be ready?!"	Is our G-D just the "biggest", "oldest", or "most-powerful" god out there?
IDENTITY: HEARER OF G-D'S WORD 5 MINUTES	Read Portions: Shemot 18:7-20:23 (20:1-23) Yeshayahu 6:1-7:6, 9:5-6 (6:1-9) Mattiyaahu 5:21-30 (5:21-30) Learn our memory verse for the year 5786.>>	Memory Verse: Yeshayahu 41:10 ¹⁰ Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Surely I will help you. I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.
IDENTITY: BELIEVER OF G-D'S WORD 5 MINUTES	Ask: What are some other gods?	Discuss: Why do people worship other gods?
IDENTITY: FOLLOWER OF G-D'S WORD 5 MINUTES	Ask: Other nations created idols with their own hands out of wood and stone. Yet these idols seem to have power over them. How?	Discuss: We know we have an enemy: hasatan (the accuser) with demons that do his bidding. Do you think that these spirits could

		deceive whole nations into believing they are gods??
IDENTITY: DOER OF G-D'S WORD 5 MINUTES	Who we are is largely dependent upon what we do; we do not give ourselves to serve other gods (demons) but only recognize THE ONE TRUE G-D.	Ask: What are some of the "other gods" that people worship today? Are these different from the ones the pagan nations did in ancient times?
GAME/ACTIVITY	Respect	<<-a timely object lesson that teaches what we owe to those around us.
HOMEWORK 3 MINUTES	Our letter of the month of Sh'vat is gimmel. Look around shul for something that begins with the sound like the English letter "g"; "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 had a friend tell you a story about something that happened to someone they knew? Maybe a fishing story or a sports story? As you listened to them speak about what they had heard, you knew it was possible that it happened. But, there was still a little doubt because it is a story they heard from a friend.

Now, if you heard the same story and it was about something that happened directly to your friend, this story would have more impact in your life and you would more easily believe it because you know your friend. This same experience was happening with Moshe and Yitro when they met.

We read in our Torah parsha that Yitro told Moshe he had heard all about what Ad-nai had done to Egypt for the sake of Israel. Then, we find Moshe retelling all of those things to Yitro first hand as someone who had seen and heard what had happened personally.

Our testimony of what Ad-nai has done in our lives is very powerful simply because it is our testimony - our victories, our blessings, which we are able to share. Everyone has blessings they can share and people really need to hear them.