



In the Image of God: Exploring What Makes Us Uniquely Human

PARDES LEARNING SEMINAR | WINTER 2024

Sunday, January 14

16:45 IST
9:45 AM EST
6:45 AM PST

Introduction and Orientation

17:30–19:00 IST
10:30 AM–12:00 PM EST
7:30–9:00 AM PST

Mike Feuer

Dvekut: Two that are one. Relationships as an expression of Divine Image and imagination - R' Kook's approach to imitatio dei

Yiscah Smith

The Alter Rebbe's Teaching in Tanya on the Divine Paradox of the Infinite Soul Dwelling in a Finite Body

Judy Klitsner

Biblical Women in Search of Self: Constructing and Deconstructing Eve and Sarah

19:30–21:00 IST
12:30–2:00 PM EST
9:30–11:00 AM PST

Dov Berkovits

Human Creativity: A Divine Creation in a Created World

Diane Bloomfield

Chassidic Teachings of the Sefat Emet: 613 Pathways to Living, Body and Soul, in the Image of God

Elliott Malamet

From Art Green to Yeshayahu Leibowitz: Evil and the Image of God

21:30–23:00 IST
2:30–4:00 PM EST
11:30 AM–1:00 PM PST

Leon Morris

Finding My Unique Voice Within the Inherited Tradition

Yaffa Epstein

The Limits of Human Power: The Rabbis Explore Checks and Balances

Rachel Sharansky Danziger

The Divine Right: Biblical Politics and the Image of God



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Monday, January 15

17:00 IST
10:00 AM EST
7:00 AM PST

Homeroom - Reflections and Intentions for the Day

17:30-19:00 IST
10:30 AM-12:00 PM EST
7:30-9:00 AM PST

Gila Fine

That Day His Soul Rested: Talmudic Ethics of Euthanasia

Elhanan Miller

Caine and Abel: What can we learn from the first murder in history?

Michal Kohane

The Power of Speech: Using Our Unique Gift

19:30-21:00 IST
12:30-2:00 PM EST
9:30-11:00 AM PST

Aviva Lauer

Human in the Image of God, God in the Image of Human

Jessica Minnen

Awareness and Meaning: Towards a Jewish Understanding of Consciousness

Rachel Sharansky Danziger

Elijah and the Image of God: When God and His Prophet Argue Over the Meaning of Divinity

21:30-23:00 IST
2:30-4:00 PM EST
11:30 AM-1:00 PM PST

Guest Keynote Lecture: Oded Adomi Leshem, PhD
Hope: A Core Human Feature in Times of Uncertainty



Oded Adomi Leshem is a political psychologist known for his extensive work on the concept of hope. He has conducted pioneering experimental studies on hope inducement and has authored numerous articles and book chapters on hope as a political phenomenon. Oded is a Senior Research Associate at the Psychology of Intergroup Conflict and Conciliation Lab at the Hebrew University. He also holds positions as a Research Fellow at the Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace and a Visiting Scholar at the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution. He previously worked as a documentary filmmaker and news cameraman.



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PARDES LEARNING SEMINAR | WINTER 2024

Tuesday, January 16

17:00 IST
10:00 AM EST
7:00 AM PST

Homeroom - Reflections and Intentions for the Day

17:30-19:00 IST
10:30 AM-12:00 PM EST
7:30-9:00 PST

Elisha Anselovitz

*Halakhot of War:
From Biblical to
Modern Times*

Diane Bloomfield

*Torah Yoga based on
previous class*

Zvi Hirschfield

*Rambam and
R. Yehuda HaLevi on
humanism and Jewish
Particularism*

19:30-21:00 IST
12:30-2:00 PM EST
9:30-11:00 AM PST

**Meesh Hammer
Kossoy**

*"Therefore the
human was created
individually" Mishnah
Sanhedrin 4:5: Rav
Yitzhak Hutner on Unity
and Uniqueness*

Mike Feuer

*The unique and the
Universal: R. Akiva and
Ben Azzai debate the
essential principle of
Torah*

Elliott Malamet

*Who are We?
The Image of God and
the Secret to Being
Human*

21:30-23:00 IST
2:30-4:00 PM EST
11:30 AM-1:00 PM PST

**Nechama Goldman
Barash**

*Created in the Image
of God: Where Does
Evil Come From?*

Daniel Reifman

*Alexa - Will You Pray
for Me?*

Shani Gross

*The Learning God:
What Happens When
the Teacher Becomes
the Student?*

23:00-23:45 IST
4:00-4:45 PM EST
1:00-1:45 PM PST

Closing Session: Nechama Goldman Barash