



Beth Messiah  
congregation  
Columbus OH

Hebrew School  
Annual Kickoff Meeting  
2016-2017 Sept 29, 7:00 pm

# Welcome

by Howard Silverman



*Back to School*

Parents, Grandparents, Teachers,  
Invested & Interested Others

# Opening Prayer

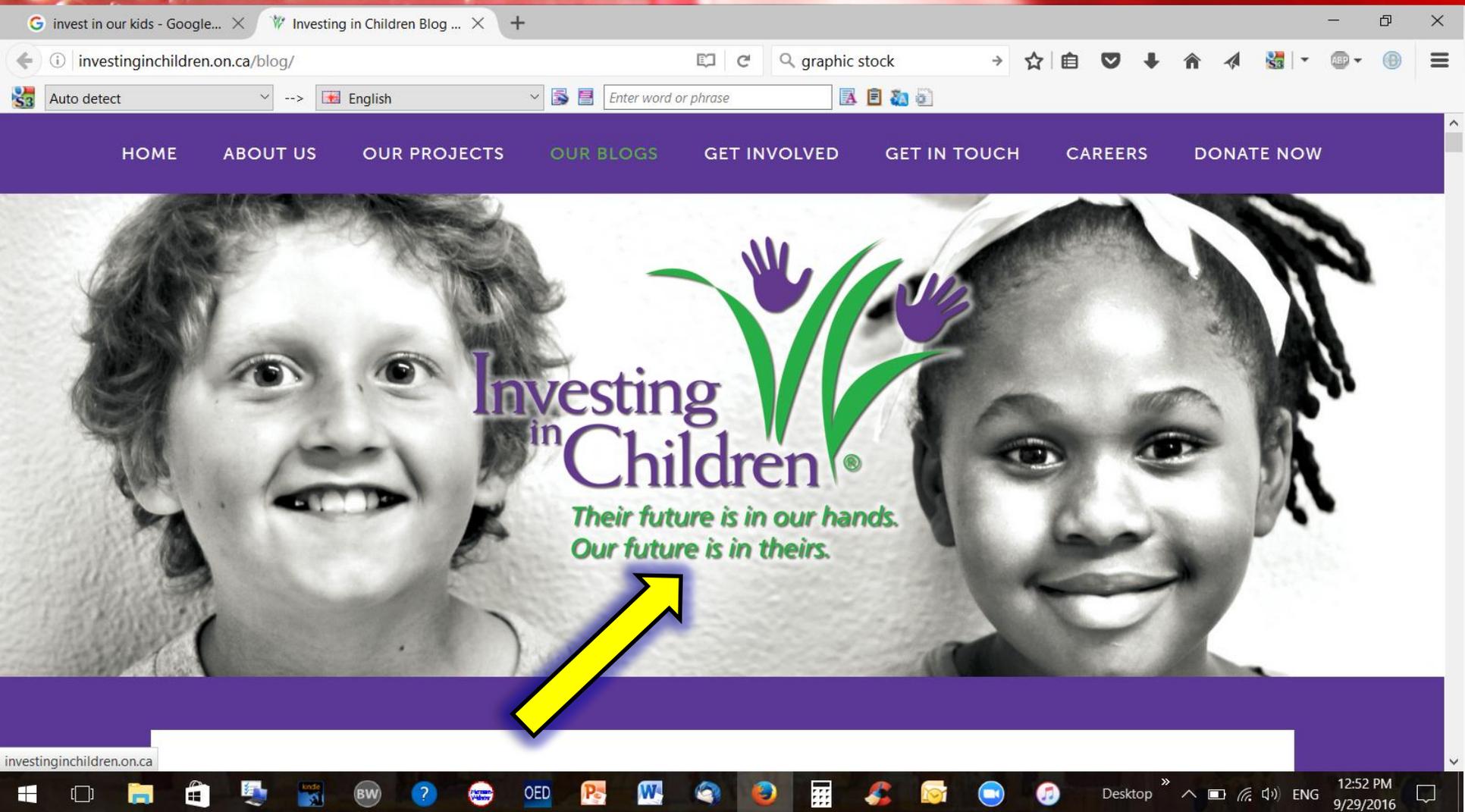
by Howard Silverman



וָיָמָה	עוֹ	אַתָּה	אֵל	מִי	נִי	לִפְנֵי	דַּע
(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)
omed		attah		mi	lifnei		da
stand		you		before whom			Know

# Introductory Remarks

by Andrea Rubinstein



# BMC Lifelong Learning Strategy

by Henri Louis Goulet

- 🍏 The current science on lifelong learning for lifelong thriving in living\* validates the approach commanded by G-d Himself in Deuteronomy 6:7
- 🍏 וְשִׁנַּנְתֶּם לְבָנֵיכֶם וְדַבַּרְתֶּם בָּם בְּשַׁבְּתֵיכֶם בְּבֵיתְךָ וּבְלֶכְתְּךָ בַדֶּרֶךְ וּבְשֹׁכְבְךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ:
- 🍏 You shall **inculcate** them diligently into your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

\*See *The Spiritual Child: The New Science on Parenting for Health and Lifelong Thriving* by Lisa Miller (recommended by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)

# Inculcate!

- 🍅 to teach and impress by frequent repetitions or admonitions : urge on or establish in the person
- 🍅 to cause (as a person) to become impressed or instilled with something
- 🍅 And note well: to 'instill' something is to introduce and implant it gradually, little by little (with the first 13 years being critical)

# Who is Responsible for this Inculcation?

- 🍎 Primarily the text of Deut 7:6 addresses who?
  - 🍎 Parents
- 🍎 Secondly the text of Deut 7:6 addresses who?
  - 🍎 The whole congregation/community Israel
- 🍎 Conclusion: Parents lead and all are responsible for inculcating "the way of the Lord" into our children!

# Warning About Repetition

- 🍎 All repetition in this presentation is premeditated by design, to emulate G-d
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- 🍎 This is a “with all of your, and with all of your, and with all of your” Deuteronomy thing!

# Introductions: Who? Role?



# Faith Webbing: Adapted from Gary Pecuch

- 🍎 Faith Webbing is a deep, purposeful intergenerational approach to connecting youth to faith(fulness) through a congregation. Members of all ages spend time side-by-side involved in the life and outreach of the congregation. The vision is to wrap our children and youth in a web of faith(fulness) so loving and caring that they will know G-d and Messiah Yeshua and always want to be an integral part of a local congregation.

# The Ancient Israelite/Jewish Way

- 🍎 "Faith Webbing" is just a 21<sup>st</sup> century term to refer to the ancient Biblical Israelite and later Jewish intergenerational way of life of the people of God (see, e.g., Gen 18:19; Deut 6:7).



# The Ancient Messianic Jewish Way

- 🍎 All of our Religious School lifelong learning is ultimately about the parental, grandparental, congregational, communal, and otherwise intergenerational inculcation of the Messianic worldview and way of life into our children (Cf. Gen 18:19; Deut 6:7; Eph 6:4, etc.).

# The Ancient Messianic Jewish Way

- 🍎 Yeshua the Messiah emphasized the fact that all who suffered loss for his sake or the sake of the good news would inherit in this age a hundred-fold homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, & fields, all with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life. (Mk 10:30) [Discuss the timeless implications of this text]
- 🍎 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Messiah, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. (Eph 4:15-16)

# It Takes a Whole Synagogue

- 🍎 Rabbi Hayim Halevy Donin in his book *To Raise a Jewish Child* rightly states: "this way of life is achieved only when home, religious school, synagogue, and total environment strategically interact to prepare a child to take their place in the world."

# All Are Responsible

As such, all of us have a responsibility to make an investment in our children. It starts with our parents and grandparents, and continues with all of us, including our wondrous volunteer teachers at all age levels.

# Hebrew School



# Key Component of Religious School



Religious  
School

BMC  
Beth Messiah  
Congregation  
Columbus

The school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship

# Key Component of Community

## Hebrew School

**Only \$75**

Register now at  
614-855-9501

Join us for the  
holidays first!



Beth Messiah  
Congregation  
4950 Morse Road  
[www.bethmessiah.org](http://www.bethmessiah.org)

### When is Hebrew School?

Sunday morning: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.  
(Hebrew alefbet, vocabulary and siddur)

Sunday morning: 10:40 to 11:30 a.m.  
(Jewish history, culture, values, music, and art)

Thursday night: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
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### Children of Jewish-Gentile Homes

BMC is the synagogue of choice for Jewish-Gentile couples who seek to preserve their own identities in Messiah. Such a community of Jews as Jews, and Gentiles as Gentiles, one in Messiah Yeshua, provides a glimpse of the future unity G-d has for Israel and the nations in the Olam HaBa.

# Key Component of Community



Hebrew School: Grades 1-6

Register now at [bethmessiah.org](http://bethmessiah.org)

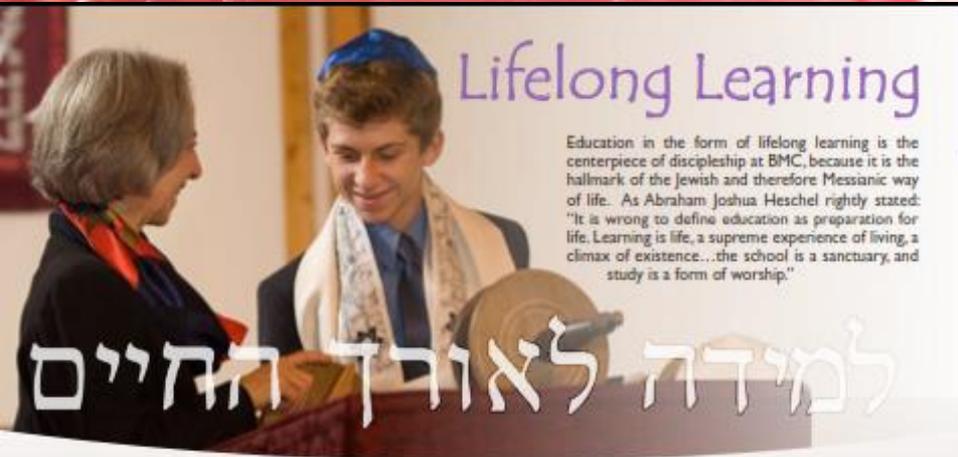
**or 614.855.9501**

# BMC Religious School Overview



The school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship

# The Educational Ideal



## Lifelong Learning

Education in the form of lifelong learning is the centerpiece of discipleship at BMC, because it is the hallmark of the Jewish and therefore Messianic way of life. As Abraham Joshua Heschel rightly stated: "It is wrong to define education as preparation for life. Learning is life, a supreme experience of living, a climax of existence...the school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship."

למידה לאורך החיים

## Babies to Bubbies

BMC provides a full continuum of engaging and thought-provoking lifelong learning opportunities across the life cycle, from babies to bubbies. These opportunities range from the most elementary to the advanced, depending upon where a person is in their development. For our adult lifelong learning opportunities, see [www.bethmessiah.org](http://www.bethmessiah.org).

## Education of the Whole Child

BMC aims for the ideal Jewish education as described by Rabbi Hayim Halevy Donin, which is concerned with the total person of the child. The goal is to influence the child's character, shape their values, and fashion their way of life. Messianic Jewish education at BMC seeks to instill a deep sense of identity, self-worth, significance, and strength in the LORD and His Messiah Yeshua, and imbue the child with wisdom to become self-disciplined, responsible, and well-equipped for good works. BMC agrees that this is achieved only when home, religious school, synagogue, and total environment strategically interact to prepare a child to take their place in the world. To this end, all of the lifelong learning opportunities at BMC are part of a single, holistic, generation to generation approach, in which every component builds on and reinforces the other.

## Jewish Preservation, Not Assimilation

BMC labors diligently for Jewish preservation and protection from assimilation, by fortifying Jewish identity, culture, traditions, and values for its Jewish members. That said, BMC is a community of Jewish persons who embrace Yeshua as Messiah, together with Gentile Yeshua-followers from diverse backgrounds.

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## Hebrew School



### A Sweet New Year

The school year begins with an apple picking field trip to Lynd Fruit Farm in Ptatskals, OH in preparation for Rosh Hashanah. Apples and honey are served, in part, to symbolize our hopes for a sweet and fruitful new year.



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### What Curriculum is Utilized?

Our Hebrew School lifelong learners use resources from the classic Behrman House Curriculum.

### Let's Discover the Alef Bet:

Children learn the names and sounds of the letters of the Alef Bet; and a key Hebrew word, with an accompanying English translation and Jewish cultural explanation, is used to introduce each letter. Learning strategies include creative activities to reinforce the shape and sound of each letter; the introduction of additional Hebrew vocabulary words; playful exercises to engage the child's artistic and creative interests; and clever riddles to amuse.

### Derech Binah: The Hebrew Primer

Hundreds of thousands of children have learned to read Hebrew using this properly paced primer. It features a special focus on visual and auditory discernment between letters, block print writing exercises, reading games, prayer practice and explanation, and playful speed reading, all of which is strategically designed to produce reading fluency.

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### Conduct

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### Commencement

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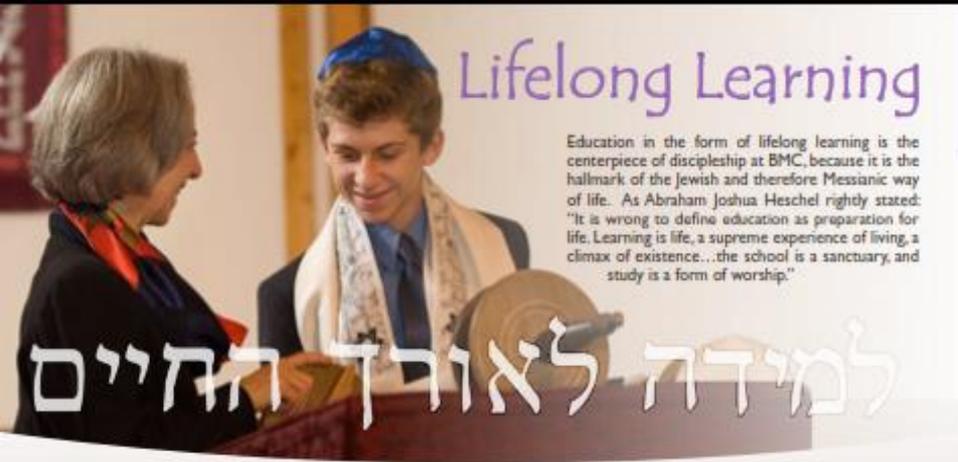
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# Let's Walk Through It

Hebrew School



# The Ideal Hebrew School Setting

- 🍎 warm
- 🍎 relational
- 🍎 engaging (content, pedagogical approach)
- 🍎 respectful
- 🍎 emphasizes responsibility
- 🍎 provides an overall memorable experience
- 🍎 reinforces the Messianic home life
- 🍎 reinforces all lifelong learning is for living

# A Key to Lifelong Learning

- 🍎 Cerego [Click here](#) (0.01-1.26) or see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzpxpOfcUGO>
- 🍎 What did we learn?
- 🍎 What helps people to learn more quickly and remember longer?
- 🍎 Spaced Rehearsal: Spacing out the review of information over increasing periods of time versus one-time "cramming"

# Lifelong Learning Strategy Affirmation

- 🍏 The current science on lifelong learning validates the approach commanded by G-d Himself in Deuteronomy 6:7
- 🍏 וְשִׁנַּנְתֶּם לְבָנֵיכֶם וּדְבַרְתֶּם בָּם בְּשִׁבְתְּכֶם בְּבֵיתְכֶם וּבְלַכְתְּכֶם בַּדֶּרֶךְ וּבְשֹׁכְבְּכֶם וּבְקוּמְכֶם:
- 🍏 You shall **inculcate** them diligently into your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

# A Key to Lifelong Learning

- 🍎 What does this mean for home life?
- 🍎 What does this mean for synagogue life?
- 🍎 What does this mean for attendance in Hebrew School life?

# Wholesight: A Key to Lifelong Learning

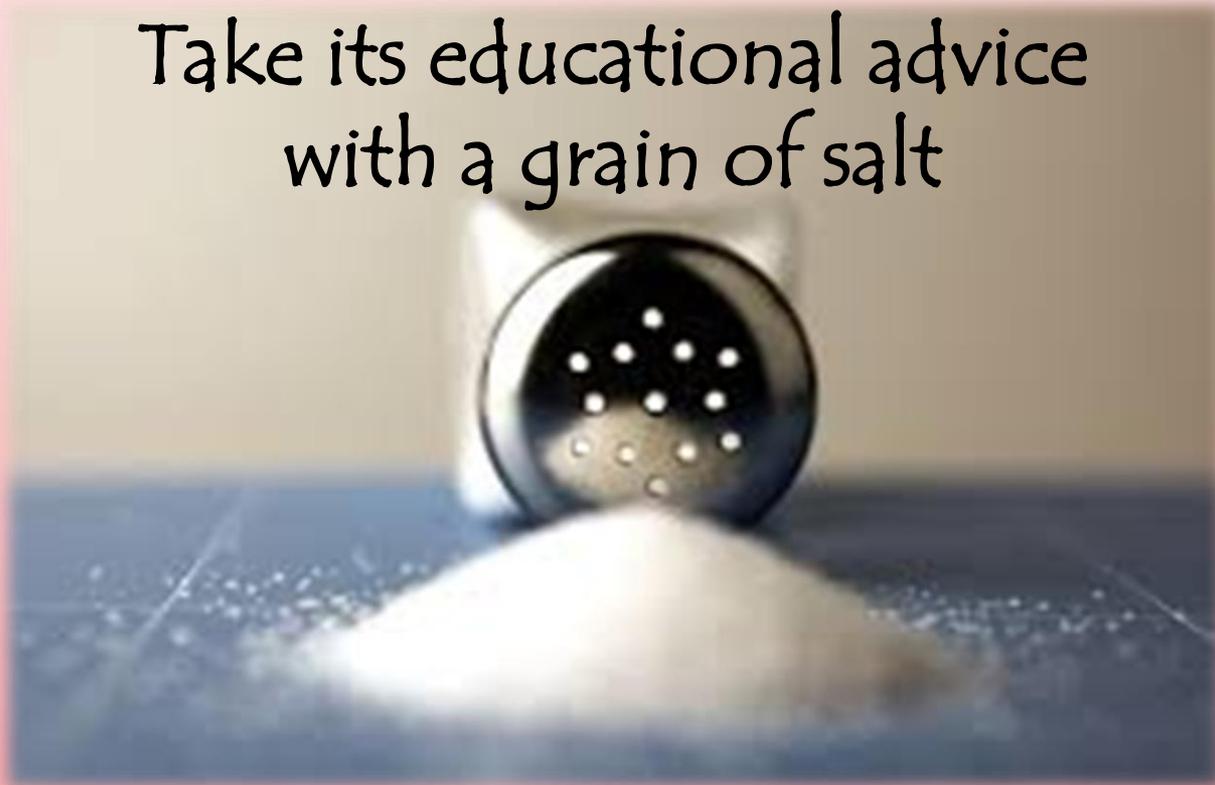
- 🍎 Wholesight (David Naugle/Parker Palmer):  
Ways of knowing complementing the capacities of sight and mind should also be embraced by Messiah-followers in order to do justice to their complete G-d-given natures and allow them to comprehend the totality of reality in its rich multiplicity and fullness to the extent humanly possible. To this end, spiritual writer Parker Palmer has advocated what he calls "wholesight," which fuses sensation and rationality into a union with other, yet often neglected ways of knowing such as imagination, intuition, empathy, emotion, and most certainly faith(fulness). (Discuss)

# Wholesight: A Key to Lifelong Learning

 Wholesight (David Naugle/Parker Palmer) continued:  
In G-d's epistemic grace, he has provided a variety of cognitive capacities which are adequate for and to be employed in grasping the diverse modes of created reality, an ancient concept known as *adaequatio*. All capacities ought to be well employed when it comes to apprehending the truth about G-d, humankind, and the world, else one suffers from metaphysical indigence (deficiency). . . . (Discuss)

# A Word about the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

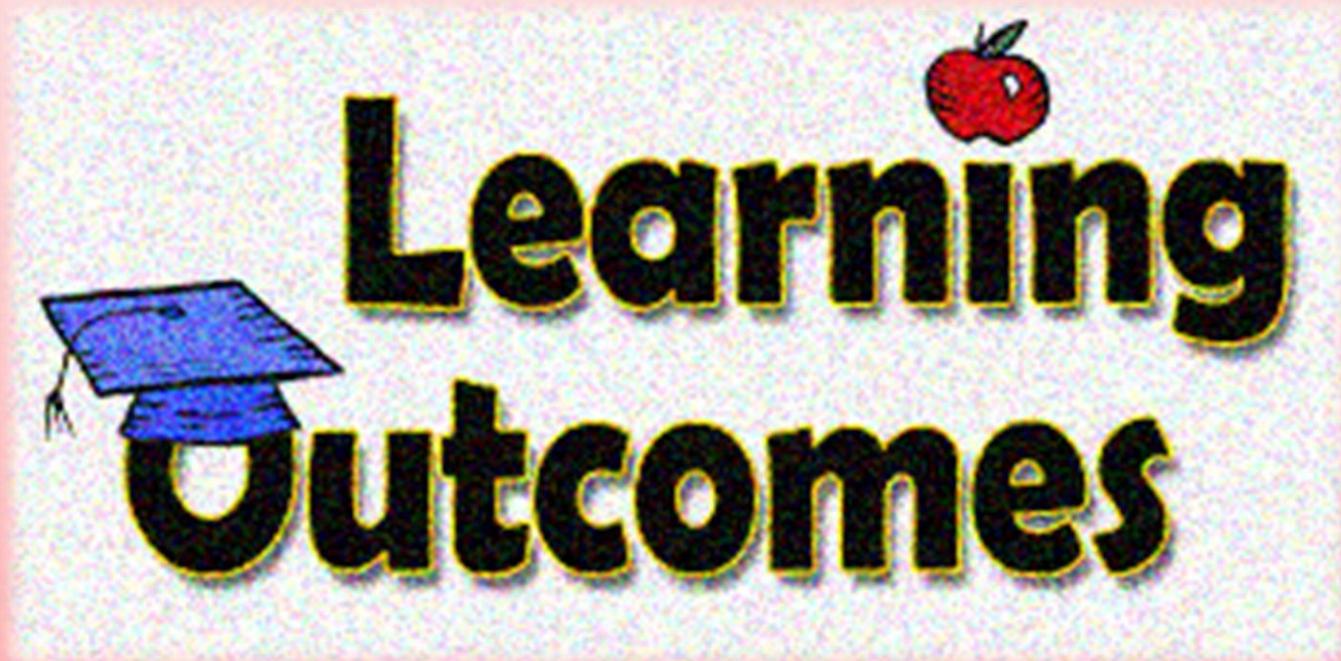
Take its educational advice  
with a grain of salt



# A Word about the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Taking its educational advice with a grain of salt means employing a multifaceted pedagogical approach that critically evaluates but does not deem as deterministic the world's researched findings or unresearched fads regarding learning styles, attention spans, teaching methods, etc. We adapt the best and leave the rest.

# Educational Outcomes



# Messianized Behrman House Approach

Using a Messianized and adapted version of the Behrman House approach to outcomes (see their "Big Ideas for Jewish Learning" at <http://www.behrmanhouse.com/pdfs/pdfs/BigIdeasFINAL.pdf>) we are mapping outcomes to the existing BMC curriculum, which draws from Behrman House, Flame Foundation, & Club Maccabee.

# Reading Recommendations

- 🍎 (1) To Raise a Jewish Child: A Guide for Parents by Hayim Halevy Donin
- 🍎 (2) The Spiritual Child: The New Science on Parenting for Health and Lifelong Thriving by Lisa Miller (recommended by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)
- 🍎 (3) Keeping Your Kids on God's Side: 40 Conversations to Help Them Build a Lasting Faith by Natasha Crain.
- 🍎 All of which must be Messianized & adapted

# A Word about Reading

Unfortunately, the intellectual life, the life of intentional, habitual cultivation of one's mind under Messiah's Lordship, can be valued and entered into only as a part of the overall approach to life just described, and this approach runs contrary to the conditions that define our contemporary lifestyles. Many people today, including many Messiah-followers, simply do not read or think deeply at all. We must recapture our intellectual heritage if we are to present to our brothers and sisters, our children, and a post-Judaeo-Christian culture a version of the Messianic way of life rich and deep enough to challenge the dehumanizing structures and habits of thought of a society gone mad. To do this, we must change our reading habits; indeed, we must alter our entire approach to the life of the mind as part of Messianic discipleship. Reading disciplines the mind, and the mind is like a muscle. If it is not exercised regularly and strenuously, it loses some of its capacities and strength.

—J. P. Moreland, *Love Your God with All Your Mind*, (1997) p.87

# Honoring Our Teachers

- 🍎 Tonight, we honor our wondrous Hebrew School teachers again; all of whom make a sacrificial choice to pour themselves out on behalf of our children.

# Let Us Follow Yeshua's Example

- 🍎 Emulating Yeshua the Messiah, by demonstrating *His* way of thinking and living, let us follow the exhortation of this recontextualization of Philippians 2:4
- 🍎 "Let each of us be focused not only on the matters concerning ourselves, but on the matters concerning our children!"



# Todah Rabah

Questions?

Comments?

# Let us Pray

