

## Join Us for Mitzvah Day

Assembling food pantry bags, filling summer fun packs for Sterling Elementary students, making care packages for children at local hospitals, preparing meals for the homeless, beautifying gardens in Shalom Park. These are just a few of the projects that you can participate in on Mitzvah Day on Sunday, May 15, from 9 AM-1 PM. All ages welcome. Please register for a project, <http://templebethel.org/action-justice/projects/mitzvah-day-2016/>. ✨

**מצוה**  
"Mitzvah"



## JLI Explores Lessons in Character from Biblical Stories of Kings, Judges, and Prophets

Jewish Learning Institute of Charlotte introduces a brand new course that will use Biblical characters, including heroes and villains to teach us how to improve our lives in modern times. How do we beat burnout, gain perspective when our judgment is clouded, and make progress on the goals most important to us? This newest course from the Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) offers an interesting twist to dealing with these common challenges—an approach that examines the stories and characters of kings and prophets.

Beginning Tuesday May 17, 7:30 PM, Rabbi Yossi Groner will conduct the six sessions of the JLI course, "Strength and Struggle: Lessons in Character from the Stories of Our Prophets," for six consecutive Tuesdays for the evening class and Rabbi Shlomo Cohen will begin on Wednesday May 18, 11 AM for six consecutive Wednesdays for the morning class. All classes will be held at Lubavitch Education center, 6619 Sardis Road in Charlotte.

"Strength and Struggle is a journey in which we gain insight into our own struggles by examining the lives of inspiring biblical heroes and antiheroes," said Rabbi Levi Kaplan of JLI's editorial board. "For many, it will fill an important gap in knowledge in the area of biblical history, and it

provides fascinating wisdom from the Talmud and 3,000 years of Jewish literature, to help them deal with life's struggles on the road to becoming more effective people."

Strength and Struggle spans six eras in biblical history, to acquaint participants with the nuances of the Israelites' earliest history and intimate details, as seen in the lives of many of its beloved characters, including David, Saul, Ruth, Jephthah, Elijah, Elisha, and Jonah.

"The course is filled with eternal lessons for life — of struggle and triumph, courage and humility, hope and resilience," explains Rabbi Groner "If you've ever wanted to meet King David in person, this is about as close as

you'll come."

Dr. Simcha Leibowitz, the representative of the World Zionist Federation to North America and an expert on leadership and biblical studies, commented about the course, "Even great leaders, judges, and kings experience challenging circumstances and moments of weakness from which we must learn to emerge even stronger. I am certain that participants in this program will find this original and fascinating approach to biblical study meaningful and relevant to their lives and to the daily challenges they face."

Like all previous JLI programs, Strength and Struggle is designed to appeal to people at all levels of Jewish knowledge, including those without any prior experi-



ence or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with a particular synagogue, temple, or other house of worship.

Interested students may call the Ohr HaTorah office at 704-366-3984 or visit [www.myJLI.com](http://www.myJLI.com) for registration and for other course-related information. Fee for \$99 per person and \$180 per couple. ✨



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