



**Student Dvar Torah - Parashat Vayechi**  
**By Priscilla Baranoff – Grade 8**

In this week's Parasha in Yaakov's blessing to Reuven (49:4) the Torah tells us that being impulsive is not a good character trait to have. In describing this, the Torah gives us a metaphor which is unusual. The metaphor compares impulsivity to water. Rabbis explain the metaphor as follows. The same way water flows quickly, so is the behavior of a person who acts impulsively without carefully thinking about what he has to do and the consequences of their actions. A person who acts impulsively without being careful is likely to do things he will regret. The Torah's metaphor of water is a reminder of the dangers that can occur when acting impulsively.