

Student Dvar Torah - Parashat Shoftim
By Jack Hanan – Grade 8

In this week's Parashah the Torah writes about a king (17:18): "And it will be as he sits on his throne of royalty". The question is asked why does the Torah say "as when he sits on his throne", and does not say "when he sits". The Rabbi's explain that this comes to teach us that even if a king is a ruler for a long time, he should still view himself as if he just became a ruler. When a person is first put in a position of leadership he has many ideas and plans that he would like to accomplish to benefit the people. However as time goes on the leader might become bored or worn out and forget about everything he wanted to accomplish. For this reason the Torah tells us that a king should always look at himself as if he just started sitting on his throne, and have the same energy as when he started.