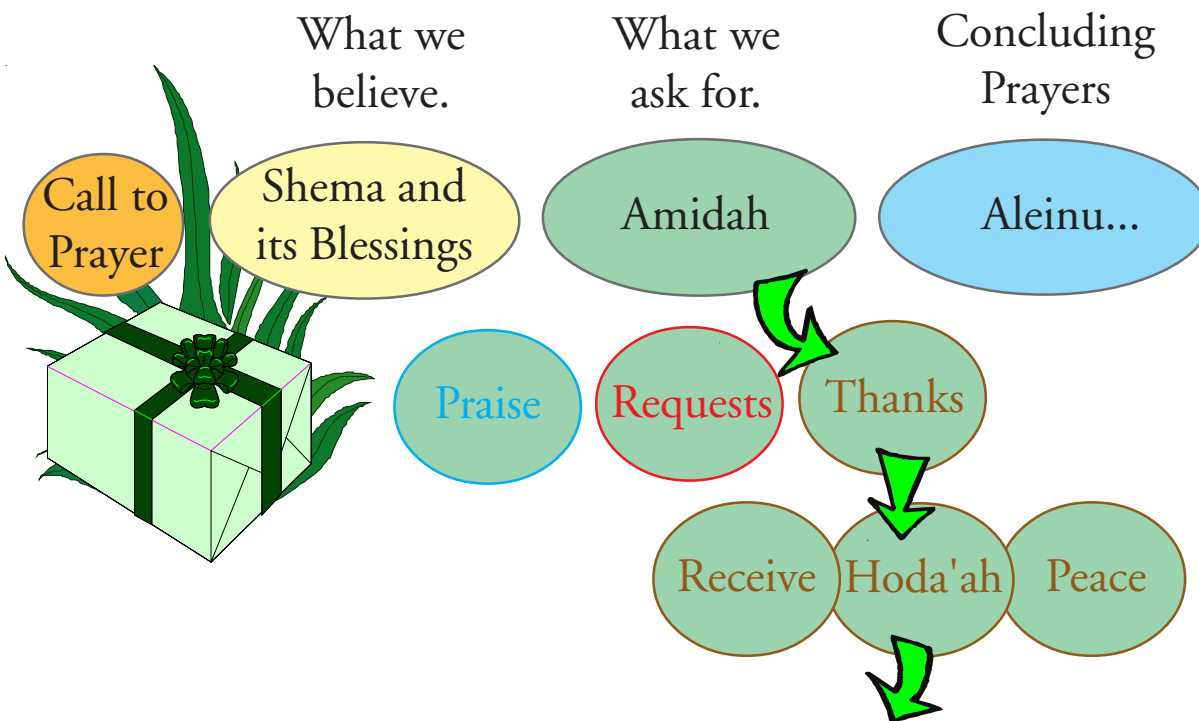


מודים



הודאה, **בְּרַכַּת הַהוֹדָאָה**, the Blessing of **Thanksgiving**, is the second of the final three **בְּרַכּוֹת** which are recited in every **עֲמִידָה** -- Shabbat, festivals, and weekdays. All three of these **בְּרַכּוֹת** are considered to be ones of **הוֹדָאָה**, **thanksgiving**. In this second **בְּרַכָּה** we give thanks for our lives, our souls, and for all good things.

A **הודאה**, **בְּרַכַּת הַהוֹדָאָה**, Blessing of **Thanksgiving**, was also part of the ancient Temple service more than 2,000 years ago. The people would bow before God as the high priest would recite a **הודאה**. Like subjects thanking a ruler in advance for granting requests, we too bow as we recite **מודים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ** - we give thanks to You.

מוֹדִים

 מוֹדִים
Give thanks

 מוֹדִים
Give thanks

 אֲנַחְנוּ
we

 אֲנַחְנוּ
we

 לָךְ
to You

 לָךְ
to You

 מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ
We give thanks to You

 מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ
We give thanks to You



 שְׂאֵתָה הוּא
for You are

 שְׂאֵתָה הוּא
for Your are



 יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ
Adonai, our God

 יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ
Adonai, our God

 וְאֱלֹהֵי
and God of

 וְאֱלֹהֵי
and God of

 אֲבוֹתֵינוּ
our ancestors

 אֲבוֹתֵינוּ
our ancestors

 לְעוֹלָם
forever

 לְעוֹלָם
forever

 וְעַד
and ever

 וְעַד
and ever

The first three words, מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ, come from the first book of Chronicles. King David gives thanks in chapter 29 verse 13, as the materials are gathered for the building of his son Solomon's temple.

מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ, שְׂאֵתָהּ הוּא יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ
לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד. צוּר חַיֵּינוּ, מָגֵן יִשְׁעֵנוּ אֵתָהּ הוּא לְדוֹר וָדוֹר.
נוֹדָה לָךְ וְנִסְפָּר תְּהִלָּתְךָ עַל חַיֵּינוּ הַמְּסוּרִים בְּיָדְךָ,
וְעַל נְשְׁמוֹתֵינוּ הַפְּקוּדוֹת לָךְ, וְעַל נְסִיךְ שְׂבָכָל יוֹם עִמָּנוּ,
וְעַל נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ וְטוֹבוֹתֶיךָ שְׂבָכָל עֵת, עָרֵב וּבִקֵּר וְצָהָרִים.
הַטוֹב כִּי לֹא כָלוּ רַחֲמֶיךָ, וְהִמְרַחֵם כִּי לֹא תִמוּ חֲסָדֶיךָ,
מִעוֹלָם קִוִּינוּ לָךְ.



וְעַל כָּלֵם יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִתְרוֹמֵם שְׁמֶךָ מִלְּכָנוּ תָמִיד
לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

וְכֹל הַחַיִּים יוֹדוּךָ סְלָה, וְיִהְיֶה לָנוּ אֵת שְׁמֶךָ בְּאַמֶּת,
הָאֵל יִשׁוּעָתָנוּ וְעֲזָרָתָנוּ סְלָה.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, הַטוֹב שְׁמֶךָ וְלָךְ נֶאֱדָה לְהוֹדוֹת.

We thank You, for You are Adonai, our God and the God of our ancestors forever. You are the Rock of our lives in every generation. We give thanks to You for our lives which we place in Your hands, for our souls, for Your daily miracles, and for the wonders and good things that happen constantly. Your compassion never ends. Your kindness has no boundaries. We have always placed our hope in You. For all these things, may Your name be praised forever and ever. May every living thing acknowledge You. Praised are You, Adonai, whose name is Goodness. To You it is a pleasure to give thanks.

מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ

Key Phrase

מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ, שְׂאִתָּה הוּא יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ
וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

We give thanks to You, for You are Adonai our God
and God of our ancestors forever and ever.

Key Words

...וְ and

...נוּ our

*שְׁ that, for

אֲבוֹתֵינוּ our ancestors

אֱלֹהֵי God of

אֱלֹהֵינוּ our God

אֲנַחְנוּ we

אַתָּה you

אַתָּה הוּא you are

וָעֶד and ever

יָדָה thank, acknowledge (root)

מוֹדִים give thanks

לְהוֹדוֹת to give thanks

לְעוֹלָם forever

לָךְ to you



*Usually written as שְׁ

שֶׁאַתָּה הוּא יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ

The first and last words of this blessing, מוֹדִים and לְהוֹדוֹת, both come from the same root - יָדָה - thank or pay tribute. The first and third letters of this root often drop out. This can make the root hard to identify. The modern Hebrew word תּוֹדָה "thank you," comes from this same root. Say תּוֹדָה for Your ability to learn new words, by translating into English, below.

יָדָה _____ מוֹדִים _____ לְהוֹדוֹת _____
לְךָ _____ אֲנַחְנוּ _____
מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לְךָ _____

אַתָּה _____ שׁ* _____ שֶׁאַתָּה _____
אַתָּה הוּא _____ שֶׁאַתָּה הוּא _____
נִי _____ אֱלֹהֵינוּ _____
נִי _____ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ _____
אֱלֹהֵי _____ וְ _____ וְאֱלֹהֵי _____
אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ _____

לְעוֹלָם _____ וְעַד _____
לְעוֹלָם וְעַד _____

שֶׁאַתָּה הוּא יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ לְעוֹלָם וְעַד

וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ

1. Three words built on the root for "thanks" are found in this בְּרָכָה, in lines 1, 3 and 11. Find and circle them.* (Line 3 is tricky).

2. Class Reading Game: Have your teacher photocopy and enlarge the prayer, giving one copy to every few students. Cut out and separate all the words. Place them in a gift box and shake them up. Gradually reassemble the prayer like a puzzle, reading each word you remove from the box. Every student who completes a line should read it out loud.

1. מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ, שְׂאֵתָהּ הוּא יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ
2. לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד. צוּר חַיֵּינוּ, מִגֵּן יִשְׁעֵנוּ אֵתָהּ הוּא לְדוֹר וָדוֹר.
3. בְּיָדְךָ, וְנִסְפָּר תְּהִלָּתְךָ עַל חַיֵּינוּ הַמְּסוּרִים בְּיָדְךָ,
4. וְעַל נְשְׁמוֹתֵינוּ הַפְּקוּדוֹת לָךְ, וְעַל נְסִיף שְׂבָכָל יוֹם עִמָּנוּ,
5. וְעַל נְפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ וְטוֹבוֹתֶיךָ שְׂבָכָל עֵת, עָרַב וּבִקֵּר וְצָהָרִים.
6. הַטּוֹב כִּי לֹא כָלוּ רַחֲמֶיךָ, וְהִמְרַחֵם כִּי לֹא תִמּוּ חֲסָדֶיךָ,
7. מִעוֹלָם קִוִּינוּ לָךְ.
8. וְעַל כָּלֵם יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִתְרוֹמֵם שְׁמֶךָ מִלְּכָנוּ תָּמִיד לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.
9. וְכֹל הַחַיִּים יוֹדוּךָ סֵלָה, וַיִּהְלָלוּ אֶת שְׁמֶךָ בְּאַמֶּת,
10. וְהִאֵל יִשׁוּעָתָנוּ וְעֲזָרָתָנוּ סֵלָה.
11. וְבָרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, הַטּוֹב שְׁמֶךָ וְלָךְ נִאֶה לְהוֹדוֹת.

**(You will find clues on the top of page 4)*

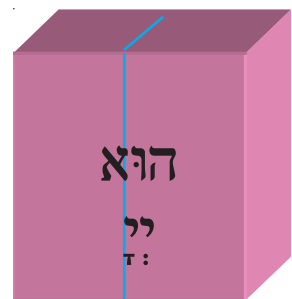
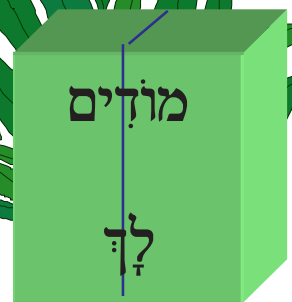
לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

We read in Psalm 92 - טוֹב לְהַדוֹת לַיהוָה - "It is good to give thanks to God." Gratitude is an essential teaching in Judaism. Words for thanks occur over sixty times in the book of Psalms alone. When the prophets accused the people of Israel of having lost their way, not being grateful was one of their major criticisms.

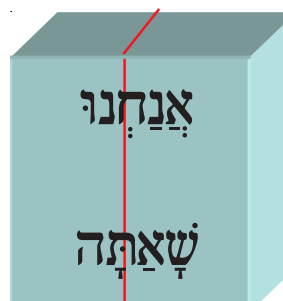
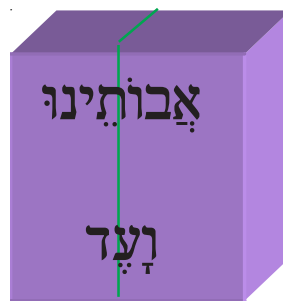
One way of saying תּוֹדָה is by giving gifts. Each box contains a three word prayer sequence from מוֹדִים. One word in each sequence is missing. Find the missing word in English in the blanks below. Then use pages 4 and 6 to fill in both the missing Hebrew and English.

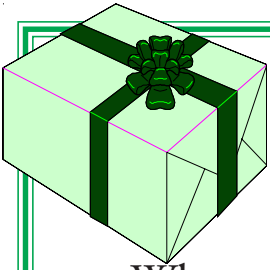


our ancestors

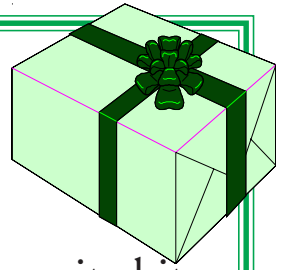


_____ and God of _____
 _____ we _____
 _____ to You _____
 _____ forever _____
 _____ for You _____
 _____ and to You _____





Reading Drill



When the **חזן** repeats the **עמידה** out loud (after we have recited it softly), we generally sit and listen, or pray privately. When the **חזן** gets to **מודים**, however, we simultaneously recite an alternate version, called **מודים דרבנן** - the **Thanksgiving of the Rabbis**. Why? While it is acceptable to have someone (the **חזן**) make requests on our behalf, "thank you" should really be said by each person.

מודים דרבנן

1. מודים אנחנו לך, שאתה הוא יי אלהינו ואלהי
2. אבותינו אלהי כל בשר, יוצרנו, יוצר בראשית.
3. ברכות והודאות לשמך הגדול והקדוש, על שהחייטנו
4. וקיימתנו. כן תחינו ותקיימנו, ותאסוף גליותינו
5. לתצרות קדשך, לשמור תקיך ולעשות רצונך,
6. ולעבדך בלבב שלם, על שאנחנו מודים לך.
7. ברוך אל ההודאות.

When you have completed the chapter, and have all your **מודים** reading lines checked, your teacher will give you a sticker!

I have mastered
ברכת הודאה

