

November 3, 2017

Dear BQLI Region Friends,

As the 100th Anniversary of Women's League rapidly approaches, our Region's Sisterhoods, along with the other 350+ Sisterhoods internationally, are wondering how to best recognize and celebrate such a momentous milestone. WLCJ has come up with a different approach for its *Divrei Hokhmah* (study topics) this year. I introduce, "Brought to You by the Letter ***Kuf***!" Yes, it harkens back to our days watching Sesame Street with our children and grandchildren but, when you learn that *kuf* is the 19th letter of the Hebrew alphabet with a numerical value of 100, we understand how fitting this decision is for a centennial celebration!



One of the selected *kuf* words is ***Kodem***, which means before or previously. As we do in our lives, Women's League seeks to understand and recognize its beginnings, as well as the extraordinary changes and advances it has made throughout the decades. As the saying goes, "you don't know where you're going if you don't know where you've been."

Another selection, ***Kayam***, has multiple and overlapping meanings: preserve, sustain, save, maintain, and exist. *Kayam* appears in the *Shehechayanu*, the blessing we say to thank God for sustaining us so that we can celebrate great moments in our lives. I urge you to begin to think about what we do to sustain and preserve today in a way that is infused with sanctity and meaning.

One hundred years ago, Mathilde Schechter and her fellow rabbinic spouses founded our Women's League community, our ***Kehillah***. As Conservative Jewish women, we were tasked with perpetuating traditional Judaism in our homes, synagogues, and communities. As members of WLCJ, we have excelled at this mission but, we must not become complacent as we begin the next 100 years! Our focus ought to be on what we can do to continue as a ***Kehillah Kedoshah***, a holy community.

B'Shalom,
Grace

PS: For the complete *Kuf Divrei Hokhmah* study suggestions, please visit WLCJ.org