# What is Torah Studies?

# Learn about Judaism and Jewish History

This program seeks to provide Jewish study material for the Jewish men and women who are otherwise separated from the Jewish community and cannot attend study groups or classes.

The Aleph Institute provides the courses for a nominal cost, recognizing that the average inmate in prison has limited financial means. We offer scholarships for the courses and the necessary books for those inmates who are indigent.

## **Contact Us**

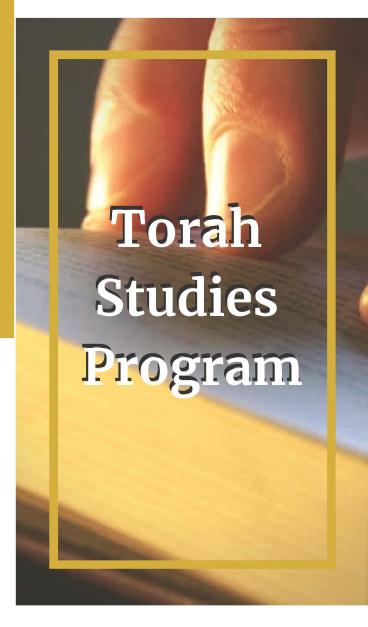
If you have any questions or concerns about our Torah
Studies Program please feel free to get in touch.

If you would like to join our program please go to our website and fill out an application or email us at our contact information below

- 412-421-0111 ext. 100
- The Aleph Institute NE Region 5804 Beacon Street Pittsburgh, PA 15217-2004
- devorah@alephne.org







#### Chumash I

This course covers each of the five books of Moses (Bereishis through Devarim) and provides a synopsis of each parsha. A basic level of understanding of the weekly Torah is grasped. Once an entire book is completed the student will under go an exam and upon completion of one book will move on to the next.

#### Chumash II

This course goes into further depth the five books of Moses but on a more advanced level. Students will be using the Stone Edition Chumash. Chumash I must be fully completed before starting Chumash II.

#### Kaballah

This course concentrates on the study of Tanya, the book for the soul. It starts with an overview lasting several chapters that assists in a better understanding of the complex text we are about to study. It continues with the text of Likuttei Amarim and Sha'ar Hayichud.

### **Ethics**

The course goes into the ethics of Judaism. It goes into depth the virtues of a Jewish man and women and what that entails. It is the study of Mishna.

#### Tifillah

This course uses the book "My Prayer" published by Kehot Publication Society. IT goes through the various daily prayers, expounding on them and explaining their meanings and practice.

#### **Talmud**

Rabbinic discussions pertaining to Jewish law, ethics, customs, and history. This course focuses on Gemara (c. 500 CE) and Mishna (c. 200 CE). The Talmud is the basis for all codes of rabbinic law and is quoted often in rabbinic literature.

#### Moshiach

The focus for this course covers the foundation of the Torah Jewish belief, developed by Dr. Michael Schulman. A famous principle of faith is the belief in the imminent coming of Moshiach, the Messiah. The who, what, where, when, and how are covered which reminds us that we are all creations of an ultimate goal.

#### Hilchos Beis HeBechirah

This course teaches the laws of the rebuilding of the temple as described by Maimonides in his works, the Yad Hachazakah

#### **Kashrus**

This course covers what it means to be Kosher, what kosher is, why Kashrus is important, and how to be Kosher.

## **Jewish History**

Explores the history of the Jewish People.

The course includes creation, Torah, prophets, kinds, building the Holy Temple, the first exile, the Greeks rule in the land of Israel, the Hasmonean period, the second exile, Jews in Western Europe and Spain and the end of the "Golden Age".

# How does the program work?

To join the program an Aleph application must be filled out and submitted. Once the application has been approved, Students are then given a choice of which courses they would like to take. All materials are sent by the Aleph Institute to the student.

Students are allowed to sign up for two courses at a time. In total there are ten courses to complete. Each course will have its own units and unit exams. At the end of every course there is an exam which is proctored by a Rabbi, Chaplain, or prison staff. Upon completion a certificate will be rewarded.