

This Week at  
 Temple Israel of Long Beach  
 Experiencing the Warmth of Tradition



June 6, 2026  
 21 Sivan 5786  
 Shabbat  
 Beha'alotecha

**Candle Lighting**  
**Shabbat - 8:06 pm**  
**Kabbalat Shabbat – 8:16 pm**  
**For week of 06/06/26 - 06/12/26**



**PARSHAT BEHA'ALOTECHA**  
 Power or Influence

It is essential to grasp the difference between the two concepts often confused, namely power and influence. We tend to think of them as similar if not identical. People of power have influence. People of influence have power. But it is not so. The two are quite distinct and operate by a different logic.

If you have total power and decide to share your power with nine others, you now have at best one-tenth the power you had before. If you have influence and decide to share that influence with nine others, you now have ten times the influence you had before because instead of just you, there are ten people delivering the same message.

Power works by division, influence by multiplication. Power, in other words, is a zero-sum game: the more you share the less you have. Influence is a non-zero-sum game: the more you share the more you have.

Judaism clearly demarcates between leadership as influence and leadership as power. It is unqualified in its endorsement of the first and deeply ambivalent about the second.

The real leadership embraced by the Torah is that of influence. That is the ultimate accolade given to Moses by tradition. Moses was the first of figures in Jewish history who represented one of Judaism's most revolutionary ideas: the teacher as hero based on his influence.

Not all of us have power but we all have influence. The willingness to work with others to achieve what we cannot do alone; to speak, to listen, to teach, to learn, to treat other people's views with respect, even if they disagree with us. To explain patiently why and what we believe, to encourage others, praise their best endeavors and challenge them to do better still. This is positive influence as demonstrated by Moshe in this week's parsha.

Always choose influence rather than power. It helps change people into people who can change the world.

Excerpt from:  
 "Lessons In Leadership"  
 by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

**KIDDUSH**

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and family

Celebrating his birthday  
 and commemorating the  
 71<sup>st</sup> anniversary of his  
 Bar Mitzvah.



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