

11/16/2017

*BronfmanTorah: commentary on the Torah that draws on the lives, skills, and insights of our community*

[View this email in your browser](#)

# The Story of Akavia: The Limits of Pluralism

Rabbi Mishael Zion | BronfmanTorah | November 2017

Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing sourcesheets and guiding questions based on the sessions held during our 30th Anniversary weekend.

This week's sourcesheet comes from Rabbi Mishael Zion, who co-led a course called "Trust, Pluralism, and Open Discourse" along with Moses Sternstein ('00). Looking at traditional texts and contemporary case studies, this session explored the trade-offs that pluralism demands, the points at which pluralism becomes most challenging, and the extent to which pluralism is at odds with other commitments to family, community, religion and culture.

***Moses Sternstein** ('00) is a lawyer and product guy for a Real Estate insurtech company. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife and daughter – but they'll be moving to Englewood soon!*

*Rabbi Mishael Zion is an educator for The Bronfman Fellowship, and a former Co-Director. He is Director of the Mandel Program for Leadership in Jewish Culture, and lives in Jerusalem with his wife and three daughters.*

### **Guiding Questions:**

1. Reading the excerpt from Eduyot Chapter 1, consider: What do we owe minority opinions according to the Mishna? Why conserve them? (Name at least 4 different types of answers.)
2. Reading the story of Akavia from Chapter 5, what do you make of his character? In what ways is he a villain or a hero? Is his request and response to his son congruous with the principles he espouses earlier in his life?

Click [here](#) to download the sourcesheet, which is displayed below.

*Rabbi Mishael Zion and Moses Sternstein teaching during the 30th Anniversary.*

**Continue the conversation. Send Rabbi Mishael and Moses your thoughts:**  
[mishzion@gmail.com](mailto:mishzion@gmail.com) and [msternstein@gmail.com](mailto:msternstein@gmail.com).

**P.S.: We're always looking for more dvar torah writers. Interested? Contact [stefanie@byfi.org](mailto:stefanie@byfi.org). We look forward to hearing from you.**

11/16/2017

Applications for the 2018 [Bronfman Fellowship](#) are open! Help us spread the word. If you know any talented Jewish high school juniors (or people who might know them), please tell them about this opportunity. Application deadline is **January 4, 2018**.



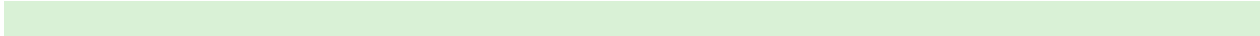
*Copyright © 2017 The Bronfman Fellowship, All rights reserved.*  
You are connected to The Bronfman Fellowship.

[Forward to a friend](#)

**Our mailing address is:**  
418 Broadway, 2nd Floor  
Albany, NY 12207

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

11/16/2017



ReplyForward