

Candy Service December 4, 2005

Each prayer in the weekday shacharit service was matched up with a candy that has something to do with the meaning of the prayer, or a meaning derived from the prayer, or the name or part of the service it's in. Although I provide explanations for almost all of the prayers in the weekday shacharit service, it would take a VERY long time to go through every single one. My suggestion is to choose about 10 of the prayers and spend more time on those, or just not provide candy for every prayer. Also, you can provide candy but eliminate the discussion if you have a lot of time.

I did not include any candy with peanuts in them (or, actually, any nuts) to avoid allergic reactions. Chocolate is unavoidable ;-)

Hand out a candy to each person, and try to have them guess why this candy was chosen. We can also have people guess which candy will be chosen for the next prayer.

Pg. 2– Modeh Ani:

Lifesavers: God “saved” our lives while we slept, and returned them to us in the morning. The name of these candies is lifesavers, just as our lives were spared, or saved, last night so we woke up this morning.

Pg. 10– Birkot Haschacar:

Jelly Beans: They all have the same main idea: chewy candy, but each of them has their own flavor. This is the same with the Birkot Hashacar: all of the prayers have the same gist– they are all about thanking God for everyday miracles and things that we take for granted but each one has its own flavor.

Pg. 54– Baruch She–amar:

Still coming up with a blank...

Pg. 80– Ashrei:

Sweet–Tarts: Like sweet–tarts, there are two different “parts” to this prayer. It is read responsively, the leader and congregation exchanging every other line. A sweet tart has two different but distinct flavors: sweet, and sort of sour–tart. These represent the two readers of this prayer.

Pg. 88– Halleluyah:

Hershey's Chocolate: In Halleluyah we are supposed to praise God with our whole being, with dancing and singing loudly (even shouting!), and playing musical instruments. Hershey's is possibly the most popular chocolate in the nation, and fills us with joy. Haven't you seen those commercials where people

talk about how happy they are when they eat a bar of Hershey's chocolate? Well, that's how happy we are to praise God with our whole mind, body, and soul!

Pg. 92– Az Yashir Moshe:

Water Taffy (salt-water preferred): The Israelites had just crossed the Red Sea, which has quite a bit of salt water. The salt water taffy is made from the water that they crossed. It is sort of an ironic way to celebrate their freedom.

Pg. 94– Chatzi Kaddish:

Kit Kat: This candy has lots of layers of milk chocolate, wafer cookie, and chocolate filling...The Chatzi Kaddish separates different parts of the service, and wafers have many different layers. Here we are brought from the P'sukei d'zimra to the shacharit service, and the wafer represents the different parts, or layers, of the service.

Pg. 96– Barchu

Pop Rocks: WAKE UP!!! It's time for the main part of the service, and a call to worship. Pop rocks are the noisiest candy around– they sizzle and fizz in your mouth. They remind us to wake up and get ready for shacharit. How could you fall asleep with pop rocks in your mouth?

Pg. 98– Ahavah Rabah

Hershey Kisses: Ahavah Rabah is all about love– our love for God. The Shema is surrounded by prayers proclaiming our love to God. And what better way to show you love somebody than by Hershey kisses?

Pg. 100– Shema and V'ahavta

M&M's: These tiny chocolate candies are possibly the most popular in the world. M&M's are sold practically everywhere, and people internationally love them. This is the same idea with the Shema– Every Jew across the world knows the Shema, even if every single other prayer and custom is different from ours. Both the Shema and M&M's are universal.

Pg. 104– Mi Chamocha

I haven't thought of anything yet–but don't worry!

Pg. 106– Amidah

Bubble gum (small pieces): The Amidah is often the longest prayer in the service. There is an average of 18 prayers, and sometimes more, in the Amidah, and the first couple are said out loud, and some even responsively. After all the community prayers, people have a chance to say private prayers, and this can take a while. Bubble gum also takes a while to chew. It runs out of flavor eventually, but after other candies.

Pg. 158–Kaddish Shalem

Kit Kat: This candy has lots of layers of milk chocolate, wafer cookie, and chocolate filling...The Kaddish Shalem separates different parts of the service, and wafers have many different layers. Here we are brought from the shacharit service to the end of the service, and the wafer represents the different parts, or layers, of the service.

Pg. 160–Aleinu:

Red Vines (or any kosher licorice) : These are made in long, sweet strings of different flavored licorice. They are really bendable, just like us during the Aleinu. We bend at the knee of this prayer, and the licorice can also bend.

Pg. 6– Adon Olam:

Now and Later: These are chewy candy bars with a perfect name. The adon olam is the end of our service, but we still should not forget God and his miracles, and our prayers throughout the day. While we shouldn't forget, it is time to go on with other parts of the day. This is the main idea of both the candy and this prayer: do it now and finish, but remember it later.