



CONGREGATION
BETH SHALOM
WILMINGTON, DE

RABBI
MICHAEL S. BEALS

CANTOR
ELISA ABRAMS COHN

D'VAR TORAH WRITING OUTLINE

1. **INTRODUCTION** Welcome the congregation. Briefly mention the name of the Torah portion, which Book of the Torah it is found, and that we read Torah portions in consecutive order, from just a little more than three weeks after the Jewish New Year in the fall, through the five books of Moses, (*Genesis/Bereishit*, *Exodus/Shemot*, *Leviticus/Vayikra*, *Numbers/B'midbar*, *Deuteronomy/D'varim*), until the following fall. All Jewish communities throughout the world are on the same, exact Torah portion each week, and every Jewish community has been chanting the Torah in this fashion for almost-2,500 years, making the weekly chanting of the Torah one of the oldest continuing religious practices in world history.
2. **TORAH VALUE** Mention one or two values/ideas found in your Torah (or Haftarah) portion which caught your attention -- tell us why they are important to you.
3. **AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL** Link the Torah value in #2 to something unique in your own life.
4. **MITZVAH PROJECT** Link the Torah value in #2 to your Mitzvah Project. Describe the project, why you chose it, who did you impact, and how can your guests continue your work, by providing a website, email, phone number and/or contact person. If you are creating a program, you can place the contact info in the program, and if we are using zoom, you can put the contact info in Chat.
5. **THANK YOUs** Link the Torah value in #2 to thanking your cantor, rabbi, Hebrew School staff, friends, family, and especially your parents for helping you prepare for your bar/bat mitzvah and for getting you to the age of 13 in one piece.
6. **CONCLUSION** Restate the Torah value mentioned in #2, and any take-aways you want your guest to remember about your D'var Torah. By this time, you will have mentioned the Torah value/thesis statement FIVE times, leaving no one in any doubt regarding what your D'var Torah was addressing.