

D'rash Worksheet

1. The acronym TaNaK is the word for the Jewish Bible. It stands for T= Torah, N=Nivi-im (Prophets) and K=Kituvim (Writings). Every Torah portion comes from the Five Books of Moses and every Torah Portion has a Haftarah with which it is paired. The Haftarah comes from another book in the Tanach (Bible) usually from the book of Prophets and sometimes from the book of Writings. *(Note: Your Torah or Haftarah might be a special selection because of a holiday or special date on the Jewish Calendar and have different names)*

a. The name of your Torah portion is:

b. The Torah portion is found in which book of the Torah?

c. You will be chanting from:

Chapter _____, verses _____ through _____.

a. Does your Haftarah have a special name, such as a Holiday or a named Shabbat? If yes, what is its name?

b. Your Haftarah is from the book of:

c. You will be chanting from:

Chapter _____, verses _____ through _____.

2. Your Torah & Haftarah portions are more than just the verses that you are chanting. Read through the **entire** portion before answering the following questions! Explain what is happening in your Torah & Haftarah portions. What are they about? Who are the main personalities? Are there some very special teachings or well-known passages in your portion? Write your explanation using complete sentences. *(use another sheet of paper as needed)*

My Torah portion is about:

My Haftarah portion is about:

D'rash Worksheet

5. Having discovered the key ideas that are shared by your Torah and Haftarah portions, explain why these ideas or teachings are important. Why are they important to you? Give an example from your experience that shows their importance. Please use complete sentences in your response.

6. Becoming a Bar or a Bat Mitzvah means, in part, using the teachings of Torah, Haftarah and your entire Jewish heritage to guide your life as a responsible Jewish adult. Explain what becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah means to you and how the key teachings found in your portions will help you to be a respected person in your family, your circle of friends, your community and among the Jewish people. What are your next steps as you take your place among the people of Israel and Temple Beth Ami?
