

Town Hall VIII

November 24, 2020

Vort of the Week

הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה קְרָאוּ בְּשֵׁמוֹ הוֹדִיעוּ בְּעַמִּים עֲלִילְתוֹ

Give thanks to Adonoy, proclaim His Name; make His deeds¹ *Make His Divine attributes known to the world.*

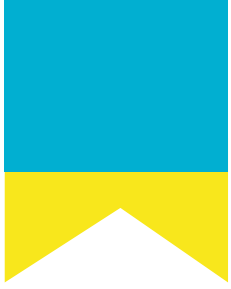
דַּרְשׁוּ יְהוָה וְעִזּוֹ בְּקִשׁוֹ פָּנָיו תָּמִיד

Search for Adonoy and His might, seek His presence continually

☆☆😊 **Perfect Segue** 😊☆☆



Thanks!



Washington Redskins Controversy

Background

- The Washington Redskins were an NFL team from Washington DC
- After years of controversy surrounding their name and logo, they changed their name to the Washington Football Team
- Many people, including some Native Americans, feel that the name and logo is an honor and source of pride to them
- Many say the name and logo are offensive, racist slur, and caricaturizing Native Americans



Perspective of Native Americans:

- According to a study by the Annenberg Public Policy Center from 2004, as well as a 2016 poll by the Washington Post, **9 in 10 Native Americans said they were NOT offended by the Washington Redskins name**
- According to a 2019 study by Berkeley, **49% of Native Americans polled said that the Washington Redskins name WAS offensive**





Questions

- Should the Washington Redskins have changed their name?
Why?

Questions

- What are the benefits of changing the name?
- What might we lose by changing the name of the team?

Questions

- Is the name Redskins still problematic if majority of Native Americans do not find it offensive?
- How many people need to be offended by the Redskins for it to not be ok? Do they need to be Native Americans?

Zooming Out

Is finding something offensive valid grounds for censoring it?

As Jews

- What would be the Jewish equivalent of a name like the Redskins
- How would you feel about this?