

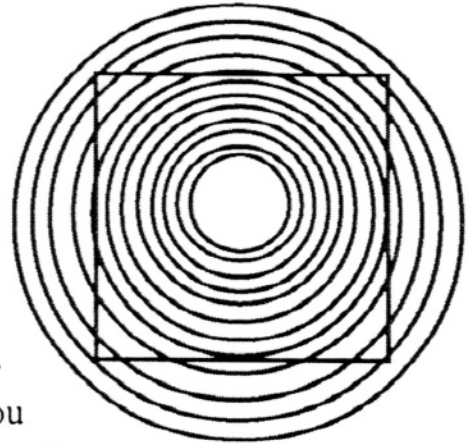
# בִּינָה

*"Prayer for Understanding"*

The fourth prayer in the Shemonei Esrei is the prayer for understanding. This comes from the first line of the prayer, אַתָּה חוֹנֵן לְאָדָם דַּעַת וּמַלְמֵד לְאִנוּשׁ, בִּינָה, "You favor man with knowledge and teach mankind understanding." The prayer goes on to request, "Grant us from Your perception, understanding and intellect. Blessed are You, Adonai, Grantor of perception."

Have you ever seen an optical illusion? An optical illusion is something that looks one way, but in reality is another way. Take a look at this group of circles, and the square in the middle. Do the sides of the square bend inward? Look carefully! Are your eyes telling you the truth? Or what about this picture? What do you

see? Do you see a young woman or an old woman? Which one is there? Are your eyes telling you the truth? Can you see everything the way it really is?



What these optical illusions teach us is that we need help to understand and to know what is true and what is not. In fact, this is what the Torah calls "wisdom." Wisdom is being able to see things in our world, and to understand what is true and what is not, from God's point-of-view. Sometimes things appear one way, when they are actually another. For instance, sometimes it looks like people who don't love God and follow His commandments have a happy life and get everything they want. But if we look at life through God's wisdom by understanding things through what His Bible teaches us, then we will know the truth, and the truth gives us true happiness and freedom.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Prayer for Understanding

L A C I T P O I N H T U R T M Q Q  
E D U C N E R O K Q A Y W O W U D  
R Z J L J R I N P H O P D C E A N  
I R M C A S O R P N F S P S M R L  
S I F E U W T E E L I U T Y E I F  
E F P L L H D A R W L I Q C S P A  
D P L E G Z I L C Y O F E T R C L  
A I D I T O S I E N P I E E W H S  
Z G S Y L M C T P H V N Y V U C E  
E N F L L S E Y T E X A N M R A H  
I B V D A Y R N I E R D V G K E O  
K F R D E T N I O P P A S I D T O  
D E I P D G M C N F T V C W K R D  
F G D O W I E H T L L U G B E I Q  
M Q H J L B N Z H L B Y L X E N S  
G N I D N A T S R E D N U J S I B  
Y S L U F G N I N A E M R I Z L B

listen teach disappointed happy desire seek discernment reality  
optical appear question receive insight meaningful perception  
falsehood truth knowledge illusion understanding wisdom prayer

MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY  בְּנֵי מִשְׁפָּחָה

	ש	א	מ	א	ע	כ	ו	א	ב	ס	א	
ן	ס	צ	מ	ח	ג	ס	ת	ב	פ	ל	ז	ב
ת	פ	ל	ז	ב	ך	ש	ע	א	ו	א	ד	ך
נ	ה	ד	כ	נ	ט	ד	מ	צ	ס	ח	ג	ס
ד	ו	ד	י	ג	ר	ב	א	ף	י	ה	ק	ב
ב	פ	ל	ז	ב	ת	ך	ש	ע	כ	ו	א	ת
ו	ר	נ	ט	ד	ן	צ	מ	ח	ג	ס	ת	א
	ל	ד	ץ	ר	ס	ד	כ	נ	י	ה	ק	

- |                 |        |               |        |
|-----------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| 6 GRANDMOTHER   | אֲבִי  | 1 FATHER      | אָבִי  |
| 7 GRANDSON      | אִמָּה | 2 MOTHER      | אִמָּה |
| 8 GRANDDAUGHTER | בֶּן   | 3 SON         | בֶּן   |
| 9 UNCLE         | בָּת   | 4 DAUGHTER    | בָּת   |
|                 | אָבִי  | 5 GRANDFATHER | אָבִי  |



WISE SOLOMON

FIND: 2 BIRDS, 5 TREES, 2 FISH, A LIZARD, THE ARK  
OF THE COVENANT

The fear of  
Adonai is the  
beginning of  
knowledge;  
Fools despise  
wisdom and  
instruction.

Prov. 1:7