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בית הוראה דעטראיט

BAIS HORAAH OF DETROIT

HALACHA HOTLINE

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF HaRav Shmuel Irons שליט"א VAAD HALACHA Rav Aharon Yoel Sorscher • Rav Yissachar Wolf • Rav Boruch Miller

ISSUE #37 – Kiddush FAQs

Below are some common questions and answers based on psakim from the rabbonim of the Bais Horaah. Please note: if one believes they have heard a different opinion in the past, one's family posek should always be consulted. Mareh mekomos for any of the answers below are available by email request to **ask@bhdetroit.org**.

May I drink water after candlelighting?

- After accepting Shabbos, one may not eat or drink anything before kiddush, **even water**. This is unlike before havdalah, when water is permitted.
- Children under bar or bas mitzvah may eat or drink before kiddush.
- There is room to be lenient to permit someone who **feels unwell** to drink water. Alternatively, they can simply make kiddush.
- A person who needs to take a **pill** may drink a **small amount of water** with it. (See FAQ #31 for guidelines on taking medication on Shabbos.)

If one is turning bar or bas mitzvah on Shabbos, is there an issue with hearing or making kiddush before nightfall?

- Yes. To ensure they have definitely turned bar or bas mitzvah, they should **delay kiddush** until the same number of minutes after sunset that they normally wait before doing melacha on motzai Shabbos. If the family prefers, they may make kiddush earlier, and the bar or bas mitzvah child can then make kiddush on their own at the proper time.

Who should make the kiddush for the family when there is no father in the home?

- In general, **the mother** should make the kiddush for the family. A bar mitzvah boy under 18 should make the kiddush only if all women in the home over bas mitzvah age have davened maariv shemoneh esrei. Once he is over 18, he can make it even if they did not daven maariv shemoneh esrei.

If a man was already yotzai kiddush, may he make kiddush again for his wife?

- Yes. On both Friday night and Shabbos day, he may **repeat kiddush** for his wife. This is unlike havdalah, which he should not repeat for her (see FAQ #36 on Havdalah).

At a simcha on Friday night, should one kiddush be made for everyone?

- Ideally, one person should make kiddush for everyone. However, depending on the setting, it can be hard to hear every word. Missing even one word can sometimes invalidate the kiddush, even if you answered amen and drank the wine. For this reason, it may be better for **each table or family** to make its own kiddush, where everyone can hear clearly.

Can I stack two plastic cups to use for the kos?

- No. Stacking cups **does not help**. Ideally, a sturdy, reusable cup made of metal or glass should be used. If none is available, a plastic imitation becher may be used. If that is also unavailable, a disposable plastic cup may be used. A cup that breaks down while in use, such as a flimsy paper cup, is not valid for kiddush. If none of these are available, kiddush may be made directly on the wine or grape juice bottle, even if it is not full.

How much wine must be in the kos?

- On Friday night, the kos should hold at least **5.1 fluid ounces**. On Shabbos morning, **2.9 fluid ounces** is sufficient, since the daytime kiddush is d'rabanan.

I don't have wine or grape juice available, what should be done?

- On Friday night, one should wash and make kiddush on **challah**, saying hamotzi in place of hagafen. If challah is unavailable, **chamar medinah** (e.g., coffee, beer or whiskey) may be used. On Shabbos morning, chamar medinah is preferred over challah.

Is it permitted to make kiddush on whiskey on Shabbos morning?

- Wine or grape juice should be used if available. If they are unavailable, chamar medinah, **which includes whiskey**, may be used. The kos must hold at least 2.9 fluid ounces, and 1.5 fluid ounces must be drunk. If this is too much whiskey for the one making kiddush to drink alone, others may share in drinking it to complete the shiur of 1.5 fluid ounces.

Must the paragraphs of v'shamru and zachor be said at the Shabbos morning kiddush?

- The common minhag is to say these paragraphs. However, if one cannot say them, for example, if he has no text nearby and does not know them by heart, he may say just the bracha of **hagafen**. In that case, he is still yotzai kiddush l'chatchila. One should not begin from "Al Kain."

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How much of the kos must be drunk?

- The one making kiddush must drink a shiur of malei lugmav. On Friday night, this is **2.6 fluid ounces**. On Shabbos day, it is **1.5 fluid ounces**.

Do the listeners need to drink from the kos?

- No. Listeners are yotzai kiddush **without drinking**. Drinking from the kos is praiseworthy, but it is not required.

What should be done if I am unable to drink wine or grape juice?

- Unless you are the head of the household, you should hear kiddush from **someone else** and simply not drink from the kos.
- If the head of the household cannot drink wine or grape juice, he should still make kiddush and have someone over the age of chinuch (7 or 8) drink in his place.
- If no one present over the age of chinuch can drink, follow the guidelines above for when wine or grape juice is unavailable.

If I talked or ate before the one making kiddush drank, am I still yotzai?

- Yes, you are yotzai kiddush. However, to drink from the wine or grape juice, you must make a **new hagafen**.

How much mezonos must one eat to be yotzai kiddush b'makom seudah?

- One must eat **1 ounce** of mezonos made from one of the five grains: wheat, barley, spelt, rye or oats. The mezonos must be eaten within **4 minutes**.

If this type of mezonos is unavailable or one cannot eat it for medical reasons, what should be done?

- In this case, they may drink an **additional reviis** (2.9 fluid ounces) of wine or grape juice. If they are the one making the kiddush, they must drink this in addition to the malei lugmav (see above).

If I made kiddush in the kitchen, may I eat the mezonos in the dining room?

- Ideally, one should make kiddush and eat in the **same room**. However, there is room to be lenient if you had in mind at kiddush to eat in the other room and both rooms are under the same roof.

If everyone already heard kiddush in shul, should kiddush be made again before the seudah?

- If everyone also ate **1 ounce of mezonos** within 4 minutes (see above), a second kiddush is not required. However, if there is any doubt, or if a young child was not yet yotzai, kiddush should be made again at home.
- Even when it is not required, it is **praiseworthy** to make kiddush again at the seudah.

What should a woman do if she wants to eat before the seudah on Shabbos morning?

- Ideally, she should first daven shemoneh esrei. If that is difficult, she should at least daven **brachos**. To satisfy all opinions, she should then make kiddush on grape juice (even light grape juice) or coffee and **eat mezonos** (see above). If this is not possible, a halachic authority should be consulted for other options.

May one drink before davening on Shabbos morning without making kiddush?

- Yes. Water and other **non-alcoholic beverages** may be drunk before davening, even without kiddush.

If someone missed the Friday night kiddush, what should be done?

- Friday night kiddush can be made any time **during the night**. If it was missed entirely, it should be said on Shabbos morning **in place** of the daytime kiddush, omitting vayechulu. Until then, one may not drink anything, even beverages normally permitted before davening (see above).

May leftover wine in the kos be used again for kiddush or havdalah?

- If wine or grape juice was **left uncovered** for a long time, it should not be used for kiddush or havdalah.
- Otherwise, it may be reused. If the mekadesh **drank directly** from the kos, as is proper, the leftover wine must first be made fit for a kos shel bracha. To do so, add some fresh wine and pour it all back into the bottle before refilling.

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