

בס"ד

"Perfect For The Shabbos Table, Always Something Sweet To Share"



SWEETER THAN HONEY

Short & Sweet
Easy To Read.



REDT-A-SHIDDUCH



PARSHAS KI SEITZA

YEAR 3 WEEK 2

Sponsored By The Floor Family:

In honor of our son, Yossi, on his bar mitzvah.
Yossi helps distribute *sweeter than honey* in Monsey, helping spread sweetness to others.
May Hashem help him continue to feel the **sweetness** of learning, davening and serving
Hashem
May he continue to grow, shine and be the amazing person he is!

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Sweeter than honey is

לזכות רפואה שלימה אריה לייביש בן טויבא
לעילוי נשמת שאלתיאל אייזיק שבגא בן חיים קלוימוס

This is not meant to rule practical *halachah*; rather it's to show the sweetness of learning.

Based on R' Yitzchak Zilberstein's seforim

Q. How Important Is It To Daven With A Minyon?

R' Yiddy was the famous mohel in his area. One morning, he was rushing to shul to catch the last minyon in the town when someone came running to him, completely out of breath.

"Excuse me! Are you R' Yiddy, the famous mohel?"

"Yes..." R' Yiddy said.

"I can't believe it! Hashem sent you! Please, you have to come with me!"

R' Yiddy had no idea what he was talking about.

"Our son's bris is right now in the shul down the block. All the guests are there waiting, the whole family is there, the baby is ready, and our mohel called that he is sick and can't come! I walked outside, completely lost, and of all people, YOU are walking by! This has to be from Hashem!" Can you please come right now and do the bris?"

For R' Yiddy, doing another bris was no problem. He would gladly do it, even without being paid. But then he looked at the time. The last was about to start.

If he went to the bris, he could still daven before zman tefillah, but he would lose his chance to daven with a *minyon*.

Yiddy looked at the father, and imagined the room full of people waiting. The bris couldn't continue; the food was out and getting cold, and soon people would have to leave. The father was begging him with tears in his eyes, and it sure looked like Hashem had placed him there at exactly the right moment.

R' Yiddy stood there thinking, "What should I do?"

Who To Ask?

A. Of course to R' Yitzchak Zilberstein Shlita!
Who makes Torah Learning so sweet & geshmak!!!

1) If a mohel was about to daven Mussaf and was asked to do a bris milah, **he should not miss davening with a minyan because of the bris, unless there's a real risk that the bris will not happen that day without him.**

The reason is that it's not the mohel's mitzvah; it's the father's mitzvah to make sure his son has a bris milah, and the father just asks the mohel for help. **So the mohel's own mitzvah, to make sure he davens with a minyon, comes before someone else's.** (See Shaarei Teshuvah 286:4 and Kaf HaChaim 90:58)

2) **Davening with a minyon is 100 times greater than being a mohel or a sandek.**

Therefore, if someone is asked to please come and be a mohel or sandek but knows he won't be able to daven with a minyon, **he should not do so.**

The Yetzer Hara works very hard to tell people that davening with a minyon isn't so important. But the fact that the Yetzer Hara fights so hard against it shows us just how important it really is! This helps us realize we need to make sure we daven with a minyon. (Based on Shulchan HaTahor 52:1)

3) All this is when planning ahead. **A person should not plan to miss minyon in order to be a mohel. But in our case, it wasn't planned; everyone was already waiting, and there was no other mohel. He should NOT make everyone wait. This is called *tircha d'tzibbura*, causing a group of Yidden to wait and become stressed.**

In short: Yiddy should do the bris, even though it means he will have to daven alone.

A Role Model!

Once, the Mountain Dale Rosh Yeshiva, R' Shlomo Rothenberg ztl, had to ask a boy to leave the yeshiva.

R' Rothenberg went over to the boy, Yanky, and said, "Yanky, you know how much we tried to make it work, but now it's best for you to move on."

Let's make a deal: just because you're leaving the yeshiva doesn't mean that I can't be your friend. We have a relationship, and it doesn't end here. I want to be your friend for life. I care about you now, just like I did when you were in the yeshiva... Maybe even more!" R' Rothenberg then gave Yanky a big goodbye hug.

Later that day, when Yanky was home, his father heard banging coming from Yanky's bedroom. He got worried and thought, "What's going on in there? Is he angry about what happened?"

His father went to check and saw Yanky banging a nail into the wall to hang a picture. His father was shocked and couldn't believe what he saw. "Are you hanging up a picture of R' Rothenberg?"

"Yes," Yanky said. "But," his father asked, "wasn't he the one who threw you out of the yeshiva?"

"That's true," Yanky said. "But that doesn't change anything. R' Rothenberg told me that he loves me even more now and will do anything for my success. So who else would I want to hang on my wall? R' Rothenberg is my role model!" A few years passed. Yanky grew and changed for the better!

What's The Lesson? We live in a world that wants everyone to be perfect from the start. But life is not meant to be that way. There are ups and downs. We must always remember that behind every struggle is a person, a Yid with feelings and a holy soul. Never give up on a neshamah!

This connects to this week's parshah:

We learn about a *ben sorer u'moreh*, a boy around 13 years old, who *doesn't listen to his parents* and does things that Chazal say can lead him down a very bad path. The Torah says that because the way he is acting shows where he is headed, not in the right way if he continues on this path, he is put to death.

Chazal say a *ben sorer u'moreh* never happened and will never happen. So why did the Torah teach us about it?

Answer: To teach us a powerful lesson: We should never say, he is so bad. No! Never, ever give up on anyone. No matter how much trouble a child or anyone may be causing, we cannot label them and say they are a *ben sorer u'moreh* or decide what their future will be. There is always hope. There is always a neshamah inside, and their best is yet to be seen. (Based on R' Moshe Wolfson ztl)

Sometimes all a person needs is for someone to have patience, believe in them, always be there for them, and never give up on them!

What Is My Mission?

Dr. David Lieberman once gave a speech about how to deal with people who are difficult and hard to get along with.

Dr. Lieberman asked the people in the room, "Who here can say that they have no problems, disagreements, or challenges with anyone in the world?"

Only one person raised her hand. It was a woman, and when asked how that was possible, she said, "It's very simple. Anyone I have a problem with, I just ignore and remove from my life!"

Dr. David Lieberman later repeated what this woman said in a different speech: "It almost sounds funny, but it's actually sad. That's not called having no problems. That's called ignoring problems and avoiding life!"

What's the lesson? We must learn to grow from life's challenges, not avoid them! Sometimes one must avoid certain people, but usually that's not the case, and doing that is called running away from life!

This connects to this week's parshah:

We learn about going out to war. Chazal say this war can also refer to our war with the Yetzer Hara.

In life, we all want to know what our special mission is.

What did Hashem send ME into this world to accomplish? That's the million dollar question!

Guess what, here's the secret: It is the very thing that is the most difficult for you!

The thing the Yetzer Hara makes us crazy about. Whether it's guarding our eyes, dealing with certain people, or whatever it is, this test is exactly what we were sent down here to win, grow, and become closer to Hashem through it! (Based on Nesivos Shalom)

(R' Tzadok hakohen speaks about knowing our mission in this world and says that it's also when we have something that we are very good at, and that we enjoy doing, that is also a sign that we need to use that to help the world!)

A Geshmaka Question & Readers Answers

This weeks geshmaka question:

Why do we blow the shofar the whole month of Elul; why isn't it enough to blow only on Rosh Hashanah?

Last week's Geshmaka Question:

We learn about judges: what are some good tips on how one can judge others in a good way and not negatively?

Sruly Klein: Judge others how you would like others to judge you! You would want others to be understanding; that's how we must see others and try to judge them positively!

Ask your friend or Rav/Rabbi for an answer and it may appear here.
Text your answer in by Sunday to (347) 669 0369 or by email to torahissweeter@gmail.com

A Joke With A Lesson

Duvi walked into the doctor's office **with both ears badly burned**. The doctor looked at him and while helping him asked, **"How in the world did this happen to you?"**

Duvi said, **"I was ironing my shirt when the phone rang. Without thinking, I picked up the iron and thought I answered the phone..."**

Ouch, the doctor said, **That explains ONE ear. What happened to the other one?"**

Duvi said, **"What do you think? I had to call an ambulance. And yes, I by mistake used the iron again..."**

What's the lesson? In life, everyone makes mistakes.

The goal isn't to never make a mistake. The goal isn't to burn the other ear! Learn from the first mistake, grow from it, and make sure it wasn't wasted and that something important was learned!

A robber once explained to a rabbi why robbers are actually the nicest people around:

"You see, a doctor wants you to be very sick. A mechanic wants your car to break. But robbers? We only want one thing for you: You should be VERY rich!"

The rabbi said, **"If you really mean it and only want them to be rich, then don't steal their money..."**

The robber said, **"Rabbi, now you're getting involved in how I make a living? I'm just telling you, I want them to do well..."**

What's the lesson? Hashem is the One who truly wants what is best for us! This is our life's work: to keep reminding ourselves that Hashem only wants what's truly good for us!

Short Stories and Inspiration.

How one Sleeps?

The Imrei Chaim of Vishnitz once went away to rest up. The Rebbe went to rest in the middle of the day and woke up later, only to realize that, in that area, the only minyon was about to start. So the Rebbe went straight to daven mincha.

Someone close to the Rebbe and who had some chutzpah asked the Rebbe, **"How can the Rebbe go from sleeping straight to davening mincha? Doesn't one need to prepare?"**

The Rebbe said, **"I actually did prepare! For some, sleeping is a physical thing to do, but it can also be part of serving Hashem! So I didn't just rush into mincha; I'm always busy serving Hashem and getting ready."**

What's The Lesson? One can turn sleeping into serving Hashem.

One can connect to Hashem not only when davening or learning, but also when doing regular things.

This Connects To This Weeks Parshah:

The parshah speaks about going out to war. It can also mean war with one's yetzer hara. But one can use and turn his yetzer hara to good use. Sleeping, eating, playing, and the like can be used to gain energy to serve Hashem and become holy!

Accepting your life situation!

Once, there was an unexpected delay that caused R' Shimshon Pincus ztl to be late to the airport and miss his flight. He was forced to wait almost 24 hours at a faraway airport in South America until he could find a seat on another flight. Later, someone asked him how he felt being stuck in a faraway place in an airport in the middle of nowhere.

R' Shimshon said, **"I knew Hashem put me there for a reason, and that this was His will! Maybe I needed to make a tikkun, to correct something that I couldn't do anywhere else?! Maybe that was the reason Hashem brought me there. The davening that I ended up doing there in the airport was actually unlike any other davening I have ever experienced!"**

What's the lesson? To accept whatever happens, wherever we are at the moment, and whatever Hashem sends our way is something very special and holy!

This connects to Elul:

One way to do teshuvah is by accepting how Hashem deals with us. When we accept how Hashem deals with us, even with all the challenges we had and have, and say, **"Hashem, I know it's all from You. I accept it, even though I don't understand, and still have questions."** Hashem says back to us, **"I too accept you. No matter what you have done, even if Hashem has questions about the person, even if you have done the worst sins, Hashem accepts you too!"**

We know that Elul stands for **"I am for my loved One, and my loved One is for me."** This could also be explained in a deeper way; **"I am for my loved One, for Hashem,"** can mean not only that I am for Hashem, **but that I also accept how Hashem deals with me and believe that everything He does is for my good.** Then, **"my loved One is for me."** Hashem is for us and accepts us too, **no matter what we have done! (Based on Nesivos Sholom)**