



YESHIVA TORAS CHAIM  
DR. ABE CHAMES HIGH SCHOOL

Spotlight



June 4, 2010

כ"ב סיון תש"ע

פרשת שלח

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ראשי הישיבה

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Dvar Torah - The Power of a Reminder

One of the main tenets of *mussar* is the difference between knowing something intellectually and feeling it with one's heart. Just being aware of a fact may not be enough for it to influence our behavior; one must take extra steps to heighten one's awareness and increase his consciousness in regard to *mitzvos* and *middos*. We see an example of this principle in this week's *Parsha*.

The Torah tells us that on the second Shabbos B'nei Yisroel spent in the wilderness, a man violated the Shabbos and was subsequently put to death. This episode is followed immediately in the Torah by the commandment to wear *tzitzis*. The *Da'as Zekainim* brings down that this juxtaposition was not happenstance. Rather, Moshe approached Hashem claiming that it is written in the Tefillin we wear, "למען תהיה תורת ד' בפיו" - *in order that the Torah should be on your lips.*" The wearing of the Tefillin keeps one aware of the *mitzvos*. However, on Shabbos we don't wear the Tefillin. Had the *מקושש* been wearing his Tefillin, he would have remembered and not desecrated the Shabbos. The *Da'as Zekainim* goes on to say that Hashem responded by inform-

ing Moshe of the *mitzva* of *tzitzis*, which reminds one of all the *mitzvos* of the Torah, even on Shabbos.

This is puzzling. The *מקושש* wore his Tefillin six days a week, and apparently they protected him from sin as long as he was wearing them. One would think that if he took them off for only one day a week, the effect would not be so severe. It was only a short respite; he was due to put his Tefillin back on the next day. Can even such a short interruption in this *mitzva* cause him to lose his sensitivity to the *mitzvos*?

Rather, even a short gap in the heightened awareness of the *mitzvos* that the Tefillin provided had disastrous consequences for the *מקושש*. We see from here that in order to be constantly, completely conscious of the *mitzvos*, it takes more than just being intellectually aware of them. One needs to surround himself with Torah and *mitzvos*, and never, even for a short time, lose focus of our purpose in this world.

Dvar Halacha – תפילין of פרשיות by Benji Rubin, Grade 12

The פרשיות of Tefillin must be written in the order they appear in the Torah. This is learned out from "והיו הדברים האלה". If one realized later that he made a mistake in the formation of a letter, it may not be corrected unless every subsequent word is erased and then rewritten. The parchment of the Tefillin must be made for the sake of the *mitzva* from a kosher animal. The animal need not be domesticated; kosher wild

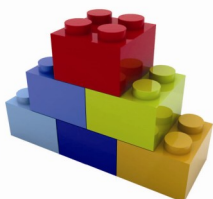
animal and bird skins are acceptable as well. The reason the animal must be kosher is because it says in the Tefillin, "למען תהיה תורת ד' בפיו" - *In order that the Torah should be on your lips,* implying that the only material that one can put in one's mouth can be used for Tefillin. Fish skin, even though it is kosher, may not be used because of its secretions.



Hurry!  
Free Registration ends  
June 17!  
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Thank you to all those who participated in our Annual Chinese Auction, and for helping to "Build our Future!"



## YTC Spotlight

### High School Dedicated in Memory of Dr. Abe Chames Z"L



On 3 Sivan, 5770 (Sunday, May 16), in a ceremony that was at once joyous and bittersweet, the

High School division of Yeshiva Toras Chaim/Toras Emes was officially dedicated in memory of Dr. Abraham Chames Z"L, a most beloved *chaver* of the Yeshiva. The school will henceforth be known as Yeshiva Toras Chaim Dr. Abe Chames High School.

Gathered in the Cantor David Jacob Bais Medrash, the crowd of 500-plus participants was comprised of distinguished community *Rabbonim*, family members, Yeshiva parents and board members, *talmidei HaYeshiva*, and countless friends who felt privileged to have the opportunity to join together on this momentous occasion.

The program began with the recitation of *Tehillim*, which was led by YTC President Aron Lampert and Vice-President Rabbi Moshe Lehrfeld, after which former YTC/TEAM Roshei Yeshiva HaRav Akiva Grunblatt *Shlit"a*, currently Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim (Queens, NY) and Rabbi Bentzion Chait *Shlit"a*, currently Director of Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim's National Torah Initiative, spoke about the magnitude and importance of *chesed* and recalled the legacy of Dr. Chames.



Next to speak was Jacob Chames, a *talmid* in the High School and youngest son of Dr. Chames, who thanked everyone for being a part of this special day. He then shared some personal remembrances of the length his father went to in performing countless acts of *chesed*.

Continuing on the theme of doing *chesed*, Rabbi Binyomin Luban *Shlit"a*, Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshiva Toras Chaim/Toras Emes, charged the community to seek ways to become actively involved in doing *chesed*, as this would be the very best way to honor the memory and emulate the ways of an individual to whom doing *chesed* was so very dear. Additionally, he announced that *chesed* initiatives are being undertaken in all divisions of the school to perpetuate Dr. Chames' rich legacy.

The crowd was then invited to move outside, where they were



treated to beautiful *nigunei d'veikus* by the YTC Choir, after which the sign bearing the new name of the school was revealed. The dedication culminated with delicious refreshments and *leibidig* dancing in the Yeshiva's David and Sally Samuels Dining Hall.

Abe's unparalleled love of *chesed* made him a driving force in the growth and development of our Yeshiva and the entire South Florida community. May his illustrious legacy continue to inspire all those whose lives he touched, and to illuminate the path for the hundreds of *talmidim* who are *zocheh* to attend the school that will so lovingly bear his name.



## The Weekly Quiz

According to Rav Yosef Caro זצ"ל, why does the letter "ש" on our Tefillin have three stems on one side and four stems on the other?

Answers may be submitted in writing to the Spotlight office or emailed to Quiz@ytcteam.net. The first correct answer submitted will be announced in the next Spotlight. You need not be a student to participate. Hatzlochah!

Answer to last week's quiz:

Q: For exactly how long were K'lal Yisroel encamped at Har Sinai?

A: 344 days.

Congratulations to Mr. Josh Lintz of Los Angeles for being the first of many to submit the correct answer.

Hurry! Free Registration ends June 17!

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