

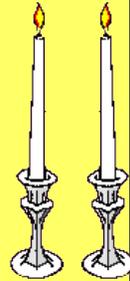
TEAM Spirit

פרשת בראשית

שבת מברכים

CANDLE LIGHTING

6:37 pm



WELCOME BACK!

We hope that everyone enjoyed a restful, uplifting and inspiring Sukkos break.

It is a pleasure to see the students back at school refreshed from their time away and with renewed enthusiasm for learning.

May the coming weeks and months of school be productive and fruitful for everyone at Toras Emes.

HASMODA PROJECT

We are proud of our many students who participated in the Sukkos Hasmoda Project. Make sure your sheets are handed in by **Monday's deadline. Thank you** to the Mann family for their generous sponsorship in honor of the children and teachers of Toras Emes. Yasher Kochachem!



MAZEL TOV

To Rabbi and Mrs. Yaakov Dreyfuss and family on the recent Bar Mitzvah of their son, our alumnus, Shmuel Chaim and special Mazel Tov to proud grandparents Rabbi and Mrs. Kalman Baumann.



BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

Just a week left to get all those box tops in! We cannot afford to slow down **now... the October 21** deadline is just around the corner! Any boxtops still lying around the house or **sitting in your 'junk drawer' should be sent in to** school when we return from vacation.



Please remember to continue to collect box tops after the deadline. The collection will continue throughout the year so do not throw away any box tops!

To Rabbi and Mrs. Binyomin Luban and family on the marriage of their son Nachmie to Shoshana Rockove.



To Dr. and Mrs. Eli Berman and family on the marriage of their daughter Shani to Ari Nissanian.

THINK ABOUT INK!

Please think of Toras Emes before discarding your used ink cartridges. We are able to redeem the cartridges for credit toward much needed office supplies and would appreciate your participation in this endeavor. Your used cartridges can be turned in to either the **boys' or girls' office. Thank you!**



AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS

We are starting our after school sports programs for boys and girls. See forms included with this newsletter.



KIDS FOR KOSHER FOOD BANK

The need for basic food items and other daily necessities is ongoing. Those in need make an appointment to shop, and are not seen by any other shopper. The Food Bank depends on **everyone's participation** to help combat hunger in our community—one meal, one person at a time. Keep in mind that all the food must be either OU, Chaf-K, O-K, or Star-K certified, making it suitable for any family. Thank you for your continued help.



ATERES ZVI

Our Tzedaka project on behalf of needy families in Eretz Yisroel continues through Monday, October 15. Tizku L'Mitzvos!



CHOOSE CHOSEN WORDS

An opportunity for sponsorship of "The Chosen Words" is still available and your help would be greatly appreciated. The \$360 sponsorship, in memory, in honor of, or for a *Refuah Shelaima*, will be printed at the bottom of each Chosen Words that appears in our weekly newsletter for the entire year of 5773.

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Rochel bas Rivka Leah

Ariella Sara bas Elisheva Malka

Yehuda Pinchas ben Asna

Shlomo Meir ben Aviya Nechama

Malka Rivka bas Devorah



WANTED

We are looking for mothers (or fathers) who can serve as a vital link in the chain of communication between school and home, teachers and parents. If you are available to act as a liaison for your **child(ren)'s class**, please call Mrs. Esta Rosenberg at 305.651.0115.

NEED GROCERIES?

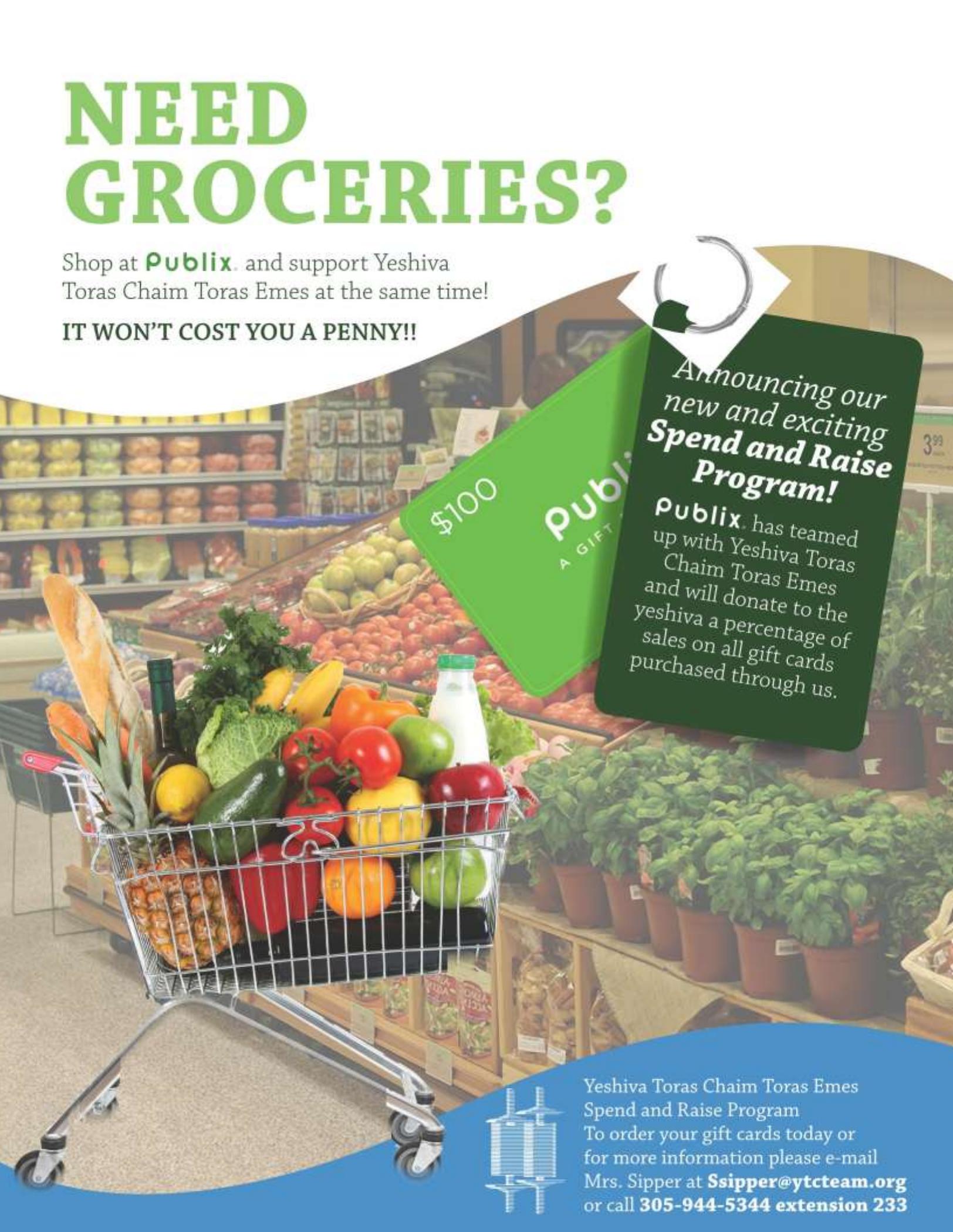
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**TORAS EMES
ACADEMY OF MIAMI**
Samuel Aba & Sisel Klurman
Elementary School

Rabbi Kalman Baumann
Principal

Rabbi Noam Grossman
Assistant Principal

Dr. Deborah Lerer
Secular Studies Principal

Mrs. Naomi Bloom
Early Childhood Director

Erev Shabbos Parashas Bereishis 5773

Dear Parents,

With days, weeks and yes (gasp!) months ahead of predictable, reliable routines of school, studying and home, parents have a wonderful opportunity to also help their children learn the art of decision-making. This somewhat sophisticated skill does not come easily to many, and it would appear the earlier one starts in life making decisions, the more correct and on-target those decisions will be.

You may be wondering – what decisions? Children do not get to decide what family to live with, where or when to go to school, what the rules are at home or in school. They are not consulted about curriculum, school hours or policies, major family decisions or financial matters. Most parents and teachers would prefer they have no say about rules, what their homework requirements are, nor what chores and responsibilities they are accountable for in school or at home.

A look at this week's Parsha, however, shows a different approach. In the very creation of man, *Hashem says: Let Us make man.* ” (1:26) *Rashi* explains that *Hashem* was asking the angels, infinitely lesser beings than He, for advice, so to speak, about what He was about to do. In effect, *Hashem* was role-modeling seeking advice even from those who are of lesser stature and standing than you.

Hashem's decision making prowess was not improved one iota through the angels' input. Rather, He was teaching an important lesson that making a decision is not always limited to the one with the greatest judgment, wisdom or experience. Incorporating others of lesser capabilities is superior to deciding on your own, even if you are *Hashem* Himself!

This includes children! We have put this into practice in school, through our Responsive Classroom approach. Classroom rules are formulated with student input, directed and guided by the teacher. The end result is the children get experience in thinking about and prioritizing what rules will help **them best accomplish their and their classmates and teacher's goals.**

This works at home as well. We don't allow young children to decide what their bedtime should be, but we do give them the choice of what bedtime routine should be. We decide what responsibilities children may have, such as cleaning their room, placing dirty laundry in a hamper, but the children can decide (subject to your approval) when and exactly how those tasks will be performed. Children have a responsibility to complete homework, but how, when and where should be decided by the **child, subject to your agreement, and the child's demonstrating over time, that he or she can keep** his/her part of the agreement.

continued

2.

Decision making is never for the heat of the moment. Planning and forethought are necessary, and, **in a calm moment, you'll be impressed with the mature thinking your child will display. Given the opportunity, your child will pleasantly surprise you with his or her willingness to demonstrate a responsible, motivated approach to doing what needs to be done.** When a child feels coerced into doing something, he or she will resist. When the need to do something is due to a decision the child made, there will be much more cooperation and willingness to do the task.

Giving children decision making power helps them learn responsibility for their actions, accountability for their agreements and how to make a measured, productive decision. It adds up to good *Chinuch!*

Have a decidedly wonderful *Shabbos*,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rabbi Kalman Baumann". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Rabbi Kalman Baumann



TORAS EMES
ACADEMY OF MIAMI
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Dr. Deborah Lerer
Secular Studies Principal

Rabbi Noam Grossman
Assistant Principal

Mrs. Naomi Bloom
Early Childhood Director

October 12, 2012

Dear Parents,

When school resumes after the September/October Yom Tov days, our children are given a gift. They have a brand new chance to approach their school lives with a positive outlook, with organization, with curiosity, and with a desire to do the best they can as they address the academic challenges and requirements at Toras Emes. You, as parents, are a vital factor in helping your children establish this productive approach to school. It begins with good nourishment, sufficient sleep, and extends **to daily communication about the day's highlights, providing a clean, quiet place for** homework, looking at completed homework and reacting properly, and ultimately, requiring a few minutes each night for reading together or independently.

I guarantee that you will be most satisfied with the outcome of your efforts. Children thrive on routine and fare most successfully when they feel supported and empowered to achieve. While free time should certainly be included in the after-school hours, the importance of creating a reliable and anticipated system for being a successful student is of paramount importance. Help your most precious possessions, your children, become confident and productive members of the Toras Emes community and of Klal Yisroel. They will forever appreciate and benefit from your efforts.

I look forward to a rewarding and gratifying 2012-2013 school year.

Shabbat Shalom,

Deborah Lerer

Dr. Deborah Lerer

Secular Studies Principal



JAG

After school sports for girls grades 1-5

With Mrs. Susie Selmar

Tuesdays: OCT. 16, 23, 30, NOV. 6, 13

Time: 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Place: Toras Emes

Price: \$ 45 for 5 weeks or \$10 per week

For more information please call: Mrs. Selmar at 305-651-2747 or 305-467-5301

Please fill out this form and send in a check (made out to Mrs. Selmar), or cash to the office in an envelope labeled JAG.

My daughter _____ in Grade _____ has permission to attend the JAG program.

Parent Signature _____

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAM



Coach Brandon Melamed from Rohr middle school and Coach Appel will be bringing a fun filled after school sports program for all grades one thru five from 4:00PM TO 4:50PM every Monday and Wednesday.

The after school sports program will give each student a fun environment where he can learn and participate in many different sports like basketball, football, and baseball etc.

Rainy days sports will be cancelled and will be added at end of session.

First Session Dates Are: Session Begins October 17th, 2012

Mondays-Oct 22nd, Oct 29th, Nov 5th, Nov 12th, Nov 26th All Grades

Wednesdays-Oct 17th, Oct 24th, Oct 31st, Nov 7th, Nov 14th All Grades

Cost:Full session=\$75.00 (Monday and Wednesday)

Half session=\$45.00 Either (Monday) or (Wednesday)

Single Day=\$10.00

Please make all checks out to Brandon Melamed.

Pickup/Carpool

Pick up will be from 4:50 to 5:00 on the side of the school by the basketball courts.

For further information please contact Brandon Melamed at 786-356-8063

Please fill out bottom and return

Name _____ Grade _____

Parent Phone number _____

I hereby give permission to my son to attend Toras Emes After School Sports Program Parent Signature _____

Full session check this box _____ Half session check this box _____

I have included payment of _____



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Behavior Strategies for Home & in the Community		10/3/12	10/4/12	10/5/12
Enhancing Social Skills & Setting up Successful Play Dates		10/8/12	10/11/12	10/12/12
Fostering Independence, Sleep Habits & Adaptive Skills in your Child		10/17/12	10/18/12	10/19/12
Creating Successful Homework & Organization Skills		10/24/12	10/25/12	10/30/12
Helping Your Child Cope with Changes in their Routine & Other Stressors		10/29/12	11/1/12	11/2/12
Coping with Sibling Rivalry and Family Conflicts		11/7/12	11/8/12	11/9/12

Aventura Location:

2925 Aventura Blvd, #300

Aventura, FL 33180

Davie Location:

7950 SW 30th Street, #201

Davie, FL 33328

Coral Springs Location:

7301 Wiles Road, #106

Coral Springs, FL 33067

chosen words

Personal Growth

Jump!

When two-month-old Tali lay in her crib crying, her father came to her and scooped her up in his arms. But when Tali learned to walk, her father did not come running at his child's cry. He came within Tali's range and waited for the child to walk to him. The father's message, unspoken but well communicated was, "I want to help you, but first you have to do what you can."

Hashem sends us this same message. The Torah compares Hashem to an eagle, who redeems us by taking us upon His wings. The image evokes a vision of a sweeping, soaring salvation—Klal Yisrael borne aloft with the ultimate strength and speed. Rashi explains that the eagle's means of transporting its young is the most protective of all birds. Rather than holding them in its talons, where they are exposed to the dangers below, it carries them on its wings, where they are shielded.

But there's an effort required of those small eagles. They're not swooped up by their mother. They must jump onto her back. They must put in their effort. Then, and only then, are they carried to safety.

The eagle has one more unique habit—it approaches its young with noise and tumult so its powerful landing won't throw them off-balance. Today, the current events that fill our hearts with uncertainty and fear are the noise and tumult aimed at our ears. They are urging us to wake up, telling us that the time has come to jump.



Shabbos Table Discussion:

What are some ways to "jump up" toward Hashem's "wings?"

Adapted from a lecture by Rabbi Mattisyahu Salomon, shlitza, following 9-11, available on the Chazak Inspiration Line, a project of CCHF

Torah Tools for Personal Growth

Inspiration

Ideas

Excellence

Success

"Hashem will redeem us on eagle's wings. But how do we get on board?"

Effective Prayer

In Reality

Twice a day, we say Sh'ma Yisrael, a formula of words that signifies our acceptance of "the yoke of the kingdom of Heaven" and expresses our love for Hashem. Yet both these concepts are utterly abstract. We've committed ourselves, but what does this mean?

The second verse of the Sh'ma teaches us how to make our commitment real: First, through our thoughts and emotions, loving Hashem "With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your might." We should fill our minds with words of Torah, and our hearts with its spirit.

The second means is through speech. "You shall teach them to

your children and speak in them." If we make Hashem and Torah the constant focus of our conversations, we implant them deeply within our children and ourselves.

And finally, we commit ourselves through our acts—dedicating our heads and arms to Hashem through tefillin, and our homes through mezuzos. Through thoughts, words and deeds, the Sh'ma tells us, we transform the "yoke of the Kingdom of Heaven" from an abstract concept into the substance of our lives.

Adapted from "Delving Within," by Rabbi Elias Schwartz, with permission from Mesorah Publications

Better Relationships

Be First

"I should apologize to him? He should apologize to me!" It's the war-cry of almost any long-running feud—usually a feud in which neither party remembers who started it and so much pain has been dealt out that no one's hands are clean. But where is the rule that demands that the wrongdoer apologize first? Certainly one is required to ask mechilah and do teshuvah for wrongdoing—but is the other party required to stew in anger until he sees complete repentance?

An unusual interpretation of a well known verse from Pirkei Avos offers the answer.

"Be the first to greet

every person," the verse says, and that usually is taken to mean, "Don't wait for the other person to greet you. Smile and say hello."

continued on back

Fait Accompli

On Tuesday, Chaim had a rush of energy. He decided to start a new project—learning Navi from beginning to end. During his lunch hour, he ran out to a local Jewish book store and found the books and commentaries he wanted. That evening when he got home, he placed the new sefarim on the book shelf, planning to get up a little earlier the next morning to make time for his learning project.

When the alarm clock rang the next morning at its new time, Chaim's first impulse was to quickly slam down the snooze button. But as he burrowed back into his pillow, he

had a vision—that of his proud new sefarim, gold lettering glinting in the early morning light, waiting for him to open them. The books were there—he got himself up and carried through on yesterday's moment of inspiration.

how undeserving our beneficiaries, how difficult our endeavor—he even leads us to believe we'll be doing more harm than good. But the patriarch Avraham, in his preparation for the sacrifice of Yitzchak, taught us how to immunize ourselves against

“All good intentions are quickly subject to the yetzer hora's best efforts.”

these arguments: One must do something concrete toward the mitzvah.

On the day Avraham was to sacrifice Yitzchak, the Torah testifies that “he awoke early” and “split the wood for the offering.” He knew that the more invested he was in carrying out Hashem's command, the less power the yetzer hara would have to stop him. And this is true of all good intentions—the more we do to clear the path, the more determined we will be to travel it all the way to our goal.

—Sefer Divrei Yisrael

The Rav's Test

A man approached the new rabbi, of Tzitevian, Lithuania. What should he do, he asked Rav Yaakov Kamenetsky, about a large amount of extra change the postal clerk had accidentally given him? Rav Yaakov, of course, advised the man to return the money.

A few weeks later, Rav Yaakov himself went to the post office. The same clerk gave him more stamps than he had paid for. When Rav Yaakov brought the mistake to the clerk's attention, he noticed that the clerk was wearing a slight, sly smile. Obviously, he had been testing the new rabbi's honesty, and Rav Yaakov was delighted to have upheld the image of Hashem's people.

Years later, Holocaust survivors from Tzitevian told Rav Yaakov that this same postal clerk was one of the few local gentiles who had been willing to hide Jews from the Nazis. There was no doubt in Rav Yaakov's mind that this man's compassion stemmed from his first-hand experience with the honesty and integrity of the town's Jews.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

Would Rav Yaakov have changed anything in his behavior had he known beforehand that the clerk would later help the Jews?

Adapted from “The Pirkei Avos Treasury,” with permission from Mesorah Publications

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Be First

continued from front

The word used for greeting others is to give them “shalom,” peace. Thus, Pirkei Avos is guiding us in much more than social skills—it's telling us to seek out the opportunity to make peace with another person. Be the first one to break the ice. Apologize for your harsh words, your hurtful action, even if it was in response to their's.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

Should someone have to admit they were wrong before you reconcile with them?

Adapted from “Visions of the Fathers,” by Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski, with permission from Shaar Press

Dedications

לע"נ מו"ק הראש ושיבת
הרב חיים בן ר' משה ודוק זצ"ל
בב"ע כח' תשרי תשנ"ט

Rabbi Chaim Schmelczer zt"l
Rosh Yeshivah Telshe
Chicago

We gratefully acknowledge our generous sponsors for making this publication possible.



Chosen Words is a biweekly publication of the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation

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We welcome your comments!

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