

YESHIVA
TORAS CHAIM
TORAS EMES
KLURMAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TEAM SPIRIT

Miami Candle
Lighting
5:23

Friday
January 1, 2021
ז טבת תשפ"א

Through the
Classroom Door
Pgs 4-9

מזל טוב

To Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Sapoznik and family on the birth of a boy!

To Rabbi and Mrs. Mordechai and Carol Fried on the birth of a granddaughter to their children Dovid and Rina Dunoff!

To Mr. and Mrs. Alex Friedlander and family on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, our alumnus, Gabriel!

COVID CORNER

- Please remember that if any family member is showing COVID symptoms or awaiting COVID test results, all of your children must stay home.

Please email safety@ytcte.org if you have any COVID-related questions or concerns.

Mask Reminder

Every child must come to school wearing a mask that fits comfortably and properly over their nose and mouth. Please remember to send your child to school with at least two masks to school each day.

**רפואה שלימה**

Binyomin Simcha ben Adina Minya
Bentzion ben Naomi Rochel Margalit

Nechama Malka bas Blima
Dov ben Leah
Yael Chana bas Sara

Yaakov ben Malka Rachel
Shmuel Yitzchok ben Zlata
Menachem Moshe ben Fraidel
Mina Yehudis bas Marsuda Marsel

Refoel Dovid ben Etta Reva
Yehudis bas Chasiba
Yochanan Baruch ben Fruma Etta
Aharon Moshe ben Rivka Tili
Zisle bas Sarah
Miriam bas Rivka
Eliezer Yitzchak ben Sara
Yehuda ben Rivka Leah
Tinok ben Elisheva Miriam
Chava Leah bas Aida

Stay Hydrated!

Water fountains have been replaced by bottle-filling stations. All children should bring a refillable water bottle with them to school each day



From the desk of Rabbi Baumann



EQUANIMITY AND YOUR MIND

Erev Shabbos Parashas Vayechi 5781

Dear Parents,

This past week, many thousands of *talmidim* around the globe endured the sad news of the passing of a great man, *Moreinu HaRav Avraham Kanarek, zt'l*. Not well known beyond the circle of three generations of students in *Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim in Yerusholayim (CCJ)*, Rav Kanarek embodied the rich Torah legacy of pre-war Europe and the burning devotion to pass on the great *Mesorah* of *Torah and Mussar* to succeeding generations of American *Yeshiva Bochurim*. His incredible humility and simplicity could not mask his greatness.

I will attempt to share an insight of *Rabbi Kanarek's* that I was privileged to hear from him, nearly 50 years ago. He was discussing *Seichel*, which is usually translated as wisdom, understanding and insight. It is that quality that every person strives for. Everyone wants to be "smart" – from the youngest to the oldest. It is why parents invest so much into providing the best education possible for their children. It is why teachers work so diligently to instruct their students.

Although innate intelligence is a gift from Hashem, it is up to each person to make his mind work. *Rav Kanarek* cited two examples from this week's and recent *Parshiyos* to illustrate how a person can sabotage his own natural intellectual gifts. The first example is *Reuven Yaakov Avinu*, in his blessings to his sons as he lay on his deathbed, delivered rebuke along with blessings. *Reuven* was destined for greatness, but he lost it because on some infinitesimal level he was lacking in the *Middah* of patience. He became angry because of that small amount of impatience and that caused an error in judgment, when he rearranged his father's bed. Because of a lack in *Middos*, he couldn't think properly and his *Seichel* was affected. He could therefore no longer be counted upon for the leadership role that had been waiting for him as the first born.

In another example, the Torah describes *Yosef* as a *Na'ar*. The *Seforno* explains (*Bereishis 37:2*), that *Yosef* had exceptional intellectual prowess, understanding and wisdom. And yet, there was foolish youthfulness that co-existed. He didn't think deeply enough as to the ultimate consequences of his words and actions, as young people frequently fail to do, and therefore he brought back incriminating reports about his brothers. As *Rav Kanarek* explained, *Yosef's* barely perceptible shortcoming in the area of maturity caused a confusion in his mind, and thereby a mistake in his actions, with devastating consequences.

Although innate intelligence is a gift from Hashem, it is up to each person to make his mind work.

We all have deficiencies in our *Middos*, we all struggle with controlling our emotional reactions to upsetting scenarios. What advice is there for us to maintain and strengthen our *Seichel* under such circumstances? *Rav Kanarek* addressed that question and offered the following approach: Think over what you are about to do. Develop *Yishuv HaDaas* – equanimity. However, he quoted *Rabbeinu Yonah* as saying that even if you do think things over, it is only effective if you are not agitated. An angry

person can think over & over & over again, but his mind is not working properly because of the anger, so it won't help. One needs to get into a settled frame of mind, let things go, don't be so bothered by the current circumstance and then your *Seichel* can function at maximum capacity.

How does one work on this and hope to achieve this equanimity when faced with frustrating and anger provoking circumstances? *Rav Kanarek* explained that if one's entire frame of reference is *Olam Hazeh*, this world, he will be agitated because he'll take things very hard when they go wrong. However, if one's focus can shift to *Olam HaBa'ah*, the next world, the ultimate goal of Hashem's master plan, then he won't be as perturbed by things not going as planned. What goes on day to day in this world is not that critically important, not that worth getting upset about. This is a key to achieving *Menuchas HaNefesh* – a deep sense of peacefulness.

Rav Kanarek was addressing himself to young men, on the threshold of adulthood. The truisms he shared reverberate for old and young alike. We need to inculcate within ourselves, and thereby in our children, that we can best use the great gift of our intellect if we can control our *Middos*, by developing the proper attitude toward the value of this world and the one to come. May *Rav Kanarek's* teachings, example and inspiration help us all to enable our Heavenly gifts to be used to their maximum capacity.

His incredible humility and simplicity could not mask his greatness.

Yehi Zichro Boruch.

Best wishes for a calm, peaceful Shabbos,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann

... if one's focus can shift to Olam HaBa'ah, the next world, ... then he won't be as perturbed by things not going as planned.

Through the Classroom Door

1G-1 Siddur Celebration

Excitement was palpable in the 1G-1 classroom this week as the girls began davening from their brand new, beautifully decorated Siddurim. Thank you to the Anonymous family who sponsored the Siddurim. Mazel Tov to the girls on this momentous milestone!



Through the Classroom Door

4G-2 Siyum on Parshas Vayishlach!

This week 4G-2 has a siyum in honor of finishing Parshas Vayishlach. Pizza and fries were sponsored by the Klein family. The parents all sent in mazel tov wishes to the girls for a surprise presentation. Rabbi Baumann spoke to the girls and introduced the guest speaker Rabbi Dreyfuss. Rabbi Dreyfuss told the girls that there are 154 pessukim in Parshas Vayishlach and was in awe of how well they knew the pessukim and how much they accomplished!



Through the Classroom Door

5G Winter Solstice!

Mrs. Ehrenreich's fifth grade girls celebrated the beginning of winter. They dressed up in their winter gear and enjoyed a special treat of hot cocoa with whipped cream and marshmallows!



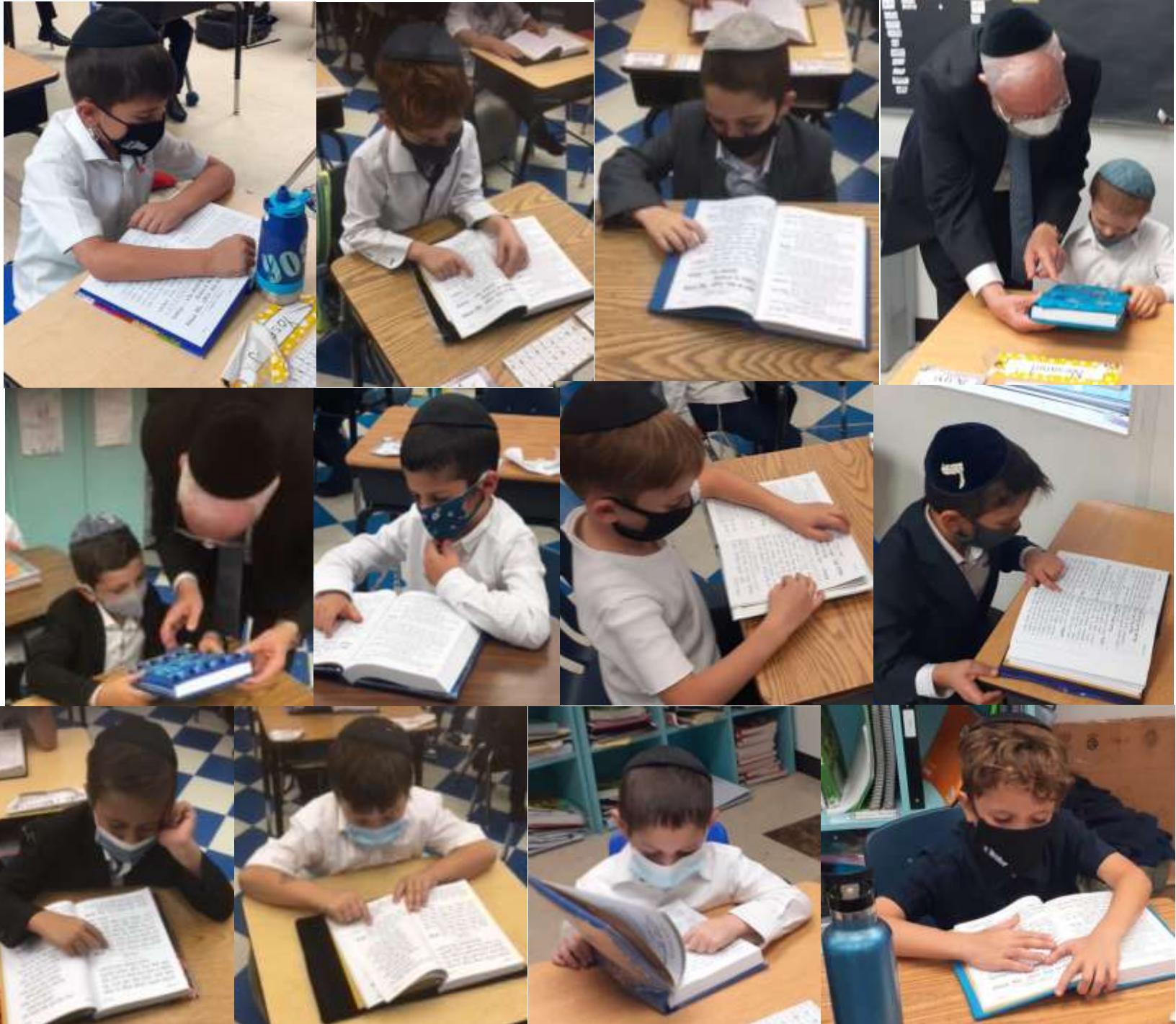
3G-1 מערת המכפלה Projects!



Through the Classroom Door

1B Siddur Celebration!

Excitement was palpable in the first grade classrooms this week as they began davening from their brand new, beautifully decorated Siddurim. Thank you to the Kopelman, Riesel, and Anonymous families for sponsoring the Siddurim. Mazel Tov to our boys on this momentous milestone!

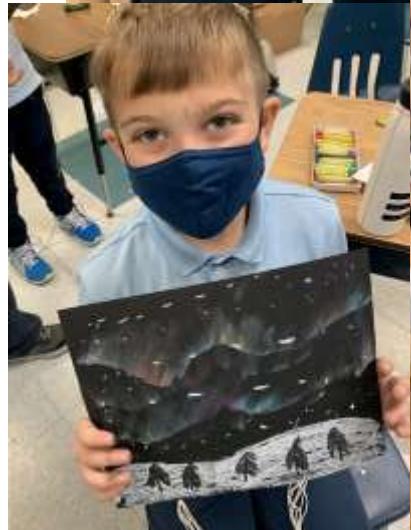
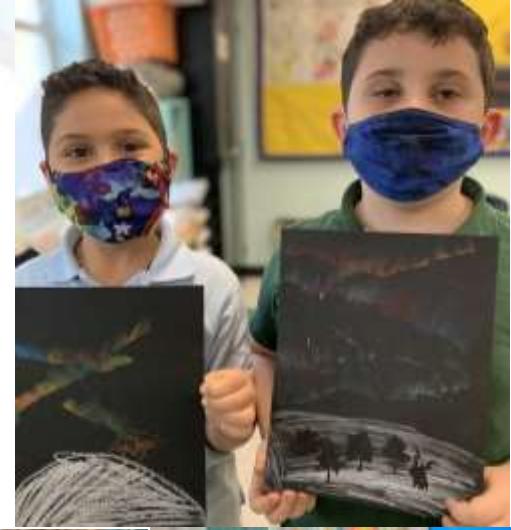


Friday, January 1, 2021

י"ז טבת תשפ"א

Through the Classroom Door

Art - Northern Lights



4B-3 Brachos Bee!

Congratulations to our winner, Shaya Silverstone!



Through the Classroom Door

Mishnayos Zoom with Rabbi Chait

In conjunction with the extra-curricular Mishnayos Program, KES boys department launched an exciting new program of "Zoom Mishnah". Boys grades 3-5 have been logging in to learn Mishnayos on Tuesday nights. On average, over 55 boys have been joining this incentive-less program over the initial two weeks. The high rate of participation is directly linked to the joy of learning that the Rebbeim infuse in each talmid. May this geshmak/love of learning continue to grow and propel them to greatness in Torah and Avodas Hashem.



Friday, January 1, 2021

ז טבת תשפ"א

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!



PLEASE JOIN US AT A VIRTUAL EVENT

26 TEVES 5781

JANUARY 10

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that we can continue to provide our students
with a Torah education, no matter the obstacles.

Help us reach our goal!



Thank you to everyone that has participated in our dinner campaign to date!

We encourage all parents to participate by placing your personal ad, or by soliciting ads/ pledges from friends, families and business acquaintances. Personal or solicited ads/pledges will be applied to your give or get obligation.

We look forward to having all our parents and friends at our virtual Dinner.

chosen words

Personal Growth

The 48 Essential Qualities for Learning

If you want to acquire Torah, all you have to do is study. Right? Surprisingly, Pirkei Avos tells us that study is just one of 48 qualities necessary to successfully acquire Torah, to truly make it yours.

Among the others named in the Mishnah are joy, modesty, slowness to anger, a good heart and closeness with peers.

According to Rav Chaim Volozhiner, you attain Torah in direct proportion to your efforts in developing these traits. Without them, Torah can't be fully grasped.

Quality # 14: Knowing One's Place

Rabbi Stein had an encyclopedic knowledge of Talmud and halachah. People called from around the world to ask him delicate, complex questions, involving medical ethics, business, psychology, even questions of life and death. His grasp of Torah created in him a depth of wisdom that was perceived by all. So naturally, when his community's yeshivah planned its fundraising dinner, Rabbi Stein was asked to be the key speaker.

"I'm sorry," he responded. "But I'm not a public speaker. I'll be happy to say a few words, but if you're looking for someone who will really reach the audience, ask Rabbi Berger."

Weeks later, after Rabbi Berger finished his smashingly successful address, a member of the audience approached him with a difficult halachic question. "I'm sorry," replied Rabbi Berger, "but I think Rabbi Stein would be much better qualified to help you."

A person who knows his strengths and weaknesses, who knows his assets and deficits, is a person in whom Torah can grow. Because he knows his strengths, he understands his

responsibilities. And because he knows his weaknesses, he understands when to be quiet, when to step aside, when to defer to higher wisdom.

For Torah to be truly assimilated into the soul, it can't be blocked by false humility or undue self-assurance. The one who Pirkei Avos calls "hamakir es mekomo," "one who knows his place," has made a place for Torah within himself.

Adapted from a taped lecture by Rabbi Noach Weinberg, Aish HaTorah

Effective Prayer

Practicing Perfection

In the days of the Beis Hamikdash, a non-Jew who desired to bring a sacrifice to Hashem had a choice. He could bring it to the Beis Hamikdash, where an unblemished offering would be required. Or, he could offer it at his own altar, where an imperfect animal would suffice. Those who chose the former experienced a far more elevated state, a bit of which lingered within them.

Jews, however, had no option but to bring their offering to the Beis Hamikdash, where perfection was required. A Jew, Hashem was telling us, has no option but to reach for perfection.

Today, in the absence of the Beis Hamikdash, the opportunity to experience this uplift resides in shul. There, we can bring

Torah Tools for Personal Growth

- Inspiration**
- ▼
- Ideas**
- ▼
- Excellence**
- ▼
- Success**

Better Relationships

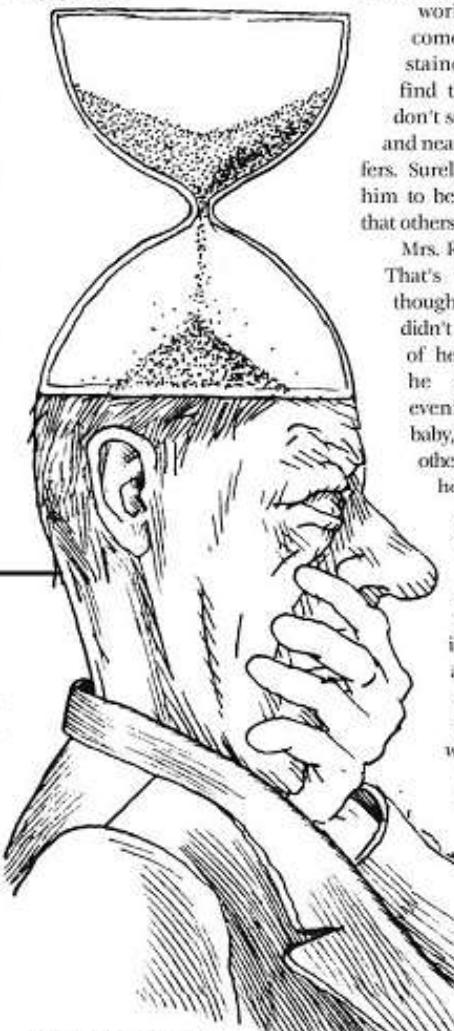
Cause To Pause

"Mrs. Rubin," said the teacher, "I can't help but notice that your son's homework sheets often come in wrinkled and stained. You know, I find that when parents don't stress responsibility and neatness, the child suffers. Surely you don't want him to be the type of child that others are going to tease."

Mrs. Rubin was crushed. That's what the teacher thought of her—that she didn't take proper care of her children. Could he see her each evening, juggling a baby, a toddler, and the other children in need of homework help, refereeing, or just a sympathetic ear?

All this she did gladly, pouring ceaseless effort into maintaining a happy, if somewhat chaotic, household. So the homework got dirty? Mrs. Rubin was grateful that it got done!

The teacher obviously thought he was offering good counsel. But his approach would have been different had he continued on back



"Before delivering a rebuke to anyone, we must pause long enough to try, as Hillel advised, 'to stand in his place.'"

Hashem the perfect offering of our hearts, our most sincere and ardent tefillos. One who rationalizes, "I'm not the type to daven like that. I'm no tzaddik," misses his chance to experience, even continued on back



Sponsored anonymously as a zechus Refuah Sheleimah for Dov ben Leah

Inner Excellence

Outside-In

Rivka had to admit it. When the baby woke up in the morning, at the cheery hour of 6 a.m., she was not feeling very maternal. She would sluggishly scuff her way into the baby's room, lift her like a bag of potatoes, sling her over her shoulder and take her to the kitchen for her cereal. On top of tired, Rivka felt guilty. A baby should see a smile first thing in the morning, she thought. A baby should hear a happy voice.

Finally, guilt overcame fatigue. The next morning, when the plaintive sounds of "Mama, Mama" emanated from the baby's room, Rivka decided to pretend, for the baby's sake, that this was fun. "Good morn-

ing, my Chayala!" she said sweetly, her lips positioned into an approximation of a smile. She lifted the baby tenderly and narrated to her, "We're going to have some cereal. Delicious cereal, come with Mommy!" Her inner voice was still crying, "Sleep! Sleep," but that voice was being muffled by the new, happy Mom. Soon, her fatigue was forgotten, and her baby's smiles were turning Rivka's act into reality.

Can a person change his inner attitude by changing his outer actions? The Torah says, definitively, "yes." If one truly wants a positive attitude toward something, but the feeling won't come, he can and should pretend. "If a person's desire ... is not strong enough, he should

"Can a person change his inner attitude by changing his outer actions?"

temporarily, what that kind of devotion feels like. If he drops his preconceptions, opens his heart and lets the tefillah flow, he will give Hashem a perfect offering, and walk away with a touch of holiness that will elevate his life.

To Do: Think of an attitude you would like to change, and apply Rabbi Luzzato's advice.
Adapted from "Success," by Rabbi Moshe Gans, with permission from Mesorah Publications

Perfection
continued from front

temporarily, what that kind of devotion feels like. If he drops his preconceptions, opens his heart and lets the tefillah flow, he will give Hashem a perfect offering, and walk away with a touch of holiness that will elevate his life.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

Why do people "hold back" in prayer?

Adapted from "What's Wrong With Being Human," by Rabbi Yisroel Miller, with permission from Mesorah Publications

Cause To Pause
continued from front

considered the words of Hillel: "Don't judge your friend until you reach his place." In fact, you can never really "reach his place," because you can never live through the experiences that brought him to that place. Yet Hillel doesn't tell us to remain silent when we should speak. He simply gives us cause to pause—and think hard—before we utter a word of rebuke.

—CCHF

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Life's Lessons

All I Ask

The word most often used to describe the Torah of Rav Aharon Kotler, zt"l, the Rosh Yeshiva of Bais Medrash Gevoha in Lakewood, is "bren," a burning desire to learn Torah and serve Hashem. Just how deep that desire ran was illustrated in the following episode.

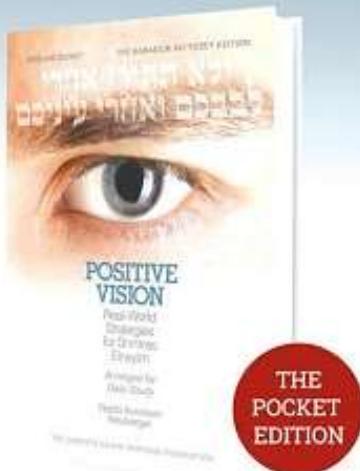
In 1956, Rav Aharon was in Jerusalem for an Agudas Yisrael convention. He had agreed to officiate at the wedding of a former student who was living in the city. The wedding was held at a hall near what was then the Jordanian border. As the guests began washing for the seudah, Jordanian artillery began to boom. Everyone ducked for cover and began what they assumed might be their final prayers.

"Tatte, Ich vill Dir noch badinen," Rav Aharon pleaded. "Father, I want to serve you yet longer!" No other desire—not to enjoy more of life, not to the desire to be spared pain—superseded this one overriding desire to keep serving Hashem.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

What would you have said to Hashem in these circumstances?

Adapted from an article in Yated Neeman, March 12, 1999, with permission from the publisher

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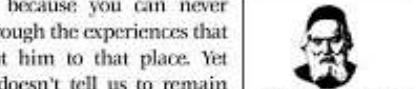
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