



tidbits

my father, R' Meir Zlotowitz zt'l, made sure his family was up to date on
from the mundane, to the ordinary, to the 'thanks for reminding me!'

November 9th, 2018 | Parshas Toldos



Reminders



The first opportunity for Kiddush Levanah is this Sunday evening, November 11th. The final opportunity is on Thursday, November 22nd at 9:46 PM.

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Menachos 91.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents, and Rabbi to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to do the same.

ter at Be'er Sheva • Esav marries at the age of forty • Yitzchak wishes to bless his son, Esav • Rivkah commands Yaakov to seize the blessings • Esav is bitterly disappointed and vows to kill Yaakov • Rivkah sends Yaakov to stay with her brother Lavan • Yitzchok exhorts him not to marry Canaanite women • Esav marries Yishmael's daughter in addition to his other wives •

already 60 and had many accomplishments, including passing the test of the Akeida. This would seem to be another reason why Hashem would answer Yitzchak's tefillos first. Why was this not mentioned as a reason Hashem responded to only Yitzchak's tefillos?

The Brisker Rav explains that Rivkah faced many tribulations growing up in the home of Besuel and Lavan, yet she did not succumb to the negative influences and grew into a tzadeikes. The heights to which she reached despite the environment she grew up in brought her to a level similar to that of Yitzchak Avinu. Therefore, it was only because Yitzchak was a tzaddik who was the child of a tzaddik that his tefillos had a greater impact.

We see from here the greatness of one who overcomes obstacles in his environment that could have impeded his growth. One who does this, can rise to the level of people older, and seemingly more accomplished than him.

Next on the Calendar



Chanukah begins on Sunday evening, December 2nd.

Parshah in a Paragraph



TOLDOS: Yitzchak and Rivkah pray for children • Yaakov and Esav are born • Esav sells his birthright for lentil beans • Hashem commands Yitzchak not to leave E"Y • Yitzchok settles in Gerar • Fearing their safety, Yitzchak claims Rivkah as his sister • Avimelech realizes their relationship and assures their protection • Yitzchak prospers and the envious Avimelech sends him away • Avimelech's men claim Yitzchok's wells • Avimelech comes to make a treaty • Yitzchak's men find wa-



For the Shabbos Table

"Va'ye'tar Yitzchak laShem... va'yei'aseir lo Hashem, vatahar Rivkah ishto"

"Yitzchak pleaded with Hashem for a child...Hashem accepted his tefillos, and his wife Rivkah conceived." (Bereishis 25:21)

Rashi brings the Midrash which notes that although they both davened for a child, the passuk implies that the tefillos of Yitzchok were answered and not those of Rivkah's. Although both Yitzchak and Rivkah were both great in their righteousness, Yitzchak was the son of Avraham who was a great man, and Rivkah was the daughter of Lavan, a wicked man. Thus Yitzchak's prayers had more of an effect.

The Brisker Rav concludes from this Midrash that this was the only substantial difference between Yitzchak and Rivkah's prayers. However, Rivkah was only 13 years old at this point, whereas Yitzchak was

Current Projects



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