



The Torah scholar from Bnei Brak had rented a vacation facility in a moshav near the northern border. Then came the Second Lebanese War, which made it unfeasible to go to a place so near the Hezbollah guns. Even before he consulted an authority on the halachic aspects of asking that the money he had paid in advance — a sum of \$600 — be refunded, he decided to call the observant Jew from whom he had rented the place. That fellow immediately responded to his "Hello" that he is aware of why he is calling and that he need not worry about the money. A couple of days later the entire sum arrived in Bnei Brak, but did not entirely ease the conscience of the renter. He called to offer him a part of the money he had returned and was surprised to hear the reaction. "Do you think I lost out?" said the fellow in the moshav. "Soon after I sent you the refund I succeeded in renting out that facility for double the amount of money we had agreed upon!" "But who would agree to pay such a sum in such troubled times?" he was asked. The answer was that reporters covering the war found this facility ideally located.

[Source: Ohr Somayach Institutions www.ohr.edu . Printed with permission]

**Hints & Answers\* SHMIRAS SHABBOS:** The very last suya in Gemorah Shabbos helps us to solve our question. There, one sage was measuring a barrel on Shabbos. And when inquired why he is allowed to do that, he replied that he was just keeping himself busy. Rashi explains that he was measuring without a need for it - i.e., he was just keeping himself occupied and had no purpose for measuring the barrel. The ruling of this *sugya* is reflected in Shulchan Aruch HaRav 306:19. **ASK AROUND YOUR SHABBOS TABLE:** In the *Sefer HaMitzvos Hakatzar*, the Chofetz Chaim writes: "It is a positive commandment to have a reverent awe of the Beis Hamikdash, as the Scripture says, "and have awe of My sanctuary" (Vayikra 26:2). Now, our synagogues and Torah study halls are called "small sanctuaries," as the Scripture states, "I have been for them as a small sanctuary" (Yechezkel 11:16). We have to be careful in these places from engaging in frivolous laughter, levity, or idle talk. We don't perform any financial calculations there and we don't sleep there. Their holiness is very intense. This mitzvah is in force everywhere (both in Eretz Yisroel and outside), at every time, for both men and women." **RHYME:** "branch". **RIDDLES:** 1. Moshe knew how to make *kelim* that were physical. The Menorah, however, needed to radiate a non-physical light - the light of Hashem's Presence. [based on the explanation of the *Nesivos Shalom*]. 2. The Kiyor [see Mishayos Succah 4:10 with Rav's commentary] 3. The word שָׁכַחְתִּי can be broken into two words: שכַּח תִּי - "He dwelled [for] 410 [years]". Also, rearranging the letters of the word שָׁכַחְתִּי can be formed into two words: שְׁנֵי חָכ - "The second [Temple stood for] 420 [years]". [based on the commentaries of the Ba'al HaTurim] \*Note: The answers are based only on the sources quoted and might not reflect opinions of other halachic authorities. As such, Menucha's answer are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha, but rather as a springboard for discussions, questions to a *moreh hora'ah*.



# Menucha

A Shabbos table companion for the whole family

לע"נ ר' ברוך חיים בן שלמון ז"ל

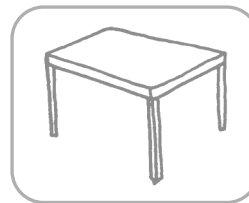
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## Shmiras Shabbos

### Measuring a Table for Fun



**"And you shall make a table of acacia wood, two cubits its length, one cubit its width, and a cubit and a half its height." (Parshas Teruma, Shemos 25:23)**

Abba was giving out candies at the Shabbos table as a reward for answering the questions correctly.

"Ok, now, how about this one," began Abba, "Who knows how long was the *Shulchan* in the Mishkan?"

"Two ammos!" cheerfully screamed out Chaim and a second later caught the candy that Abba threw in his direction.

"I have an idea!" said Aaron, "Let's measure with our elbows and see how many amos is our dinning room table!"

Abba smiled at Aaron and said, "That would be fun to see. But remember, Aaron, we're not allowed to measure on Shabbos, unless it's done for a mitzva."

"Even if we're measuring just for fun?" wondered the youngest son Ephraim.

Abba looked at Ephraim and said, "I see what you're saying...Since there is no purpose for it, maybe such measuring is permitted..."

**Question:** Can the table be measured now?

(The "Hints & Answers" section is on page 4)

#### DEDICATIONS

◆ For *refuah sheleima* to those who need it

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## A Life Lesson from the Parsha

*Speak to the children of Israel and they should take a contribution for My sake...And they should make for Me a sanctuary and I shall dwell among them. -- (Shemos 25:1,8)*

Regarding the construction of the Mishkan, the opening Midrash (Shemos Rabba, 33) on *parsha's* Teruma brings a *mashal* and concludes with the following words: *...So too, said HaKadosh Boruch Hu to Bnei Yisroel: "I gave you the Torah. To separate from it, I cannot. To tell you, "don't take it," I cannot. Therefore, in every place where you will go, make for Me a house where I will live inside of it," as it says: "They should make for Me a sanctuary and I shall dwell among them."*

We can ask on this Midrash: Since the Torah is with us nowadays - in this lower world and, as this Midrash teaches, Hashem needs to be connected to the Torah, where does Hashem dwell now in this world without the presence of the Beis Hamikdash? A commentator on Midrash Rabba, Eitz Yosef asks this question, and he answers that the Western Wall serves as abode for Hashem's Presence nowadays, thereby enabling Him to be connected to His Torah.



## Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

**.וַעֲשׂוּ לִי מִקְדָּשׁ וְשֹׁכְנֵי בְתוּכֶם. - And they shall make for me a sanctuary and I shall live among them.**

As we know, a shul and a beis midrash nowadays has a status of a small sanctuary, as the prophet Ezekiel (11:16) says: **וַאֲהִי לָהֶם לְמִקְדָּשׁ מְעַט ... I have been for them a small sanctuary ...** And Gemorah Megilla (29a) teaches: **וַאֲהִי לָהֶם לְמִקְדָּשׁ מְעַט. אמר רבי יצחק, אלו בתי כנסיות ובתי מדרשות שבבבל. - I have been for them a small sanctuary."** *Rebbi Yitzchok said: these are shuls and Torah study halls that are in Bavel.*

*Ask around your Shabbos table: Which practical, halachic ramifications does this have for us?*

(The "Hints & Answers" section is on page 4)



## Rhymes for Kids



**It's a Kiddush Hashem when I act like a mensch  
like a bright, shiny candle on Menora's \_\_\_\_\_.**

**גַּרְהֵם נְשַׁמַּת אָדָם – A candle of Hashem is a man's soul. [Mishlei 20:27]**

Just like the Menorah radiated the light outwards, so too, the man's job in this world is to spread G-dliness in the world. That's why we are called *mamleches kohanim*. A *kohen's* job is to teach and inspire others. [based on the writings of the Nesivos Shalom]



## Riddles & Trivia



**1.** Chazal tell us that Moshe was so perplexed in understanding how to construct the Menorah, that Hashem had to show an image of the Menorah to Moshe. Why out of all the *kelim*, Menorah was the one that Moshe could not understand how to construct?



**2.** Where are some of the kelim of the Mishkan today? We know that they are buried under the ground, at the place of the Beis Hamikdash. But what vessel of the Beis Hamikdash was buried and un-buried daily at the time when the Beis Hamikdash was standing?



**3.** We know that the 1st Beis HaMikdash stood for 410 years and the 2nd one stood for 420 years. We also know that in contrast to the 2nd Beis HaMikdash, the 1st one had the presence of the Shechina in it. In this week's parsha we have the pinnacle verse: **וַעֲשׂוּ לִי מִקְדָּשׁ וְשֹׁכְנֵי בְתוּכֶם**. Find a hint in the word **וְשֹׁכְנֵי** that Hashem's Presence was in the 1st Beis Hamikdash for 410 years, and that the 2nd Beis Hamikdash lasted for 420 years.

(The "Hints & Answers" section is on page 4)