



One day, Rav Yehonasan Eibshitz was walking to Shul when the powerful ruler of the region, with whom he had often conversed, met him in the street. The ruler had great respect for the brilliant mind of Rav Yehonasan. Upon seeing Rav Yehonasan, the ruler asked him where he was going. Rav Yehonasan replied that he didn't know. Assuming he didn't hear the simple question, the ruler asked again. Once again Rav Yehonasan answered that he didn't know.

The ruler, thinking he was joking around, got very angry with Rav Yehonasan and threatened to throw him in jail if he continued to play games with him. Rav Yehonasan apologized deeply for the ruler's impression that he was making fun of him, but nevertheless told the ruler that he didn't know. Infuriated, the ruler immediately summoned his guards and Rav Yehonasan was taken to jail.

The next morning the ruler came to visit Rav Yehonasan in jail and said to him, "Rav Yehonasan, I don't understand you. You are an intelligent, upstanding, and honest person and I am certain you were not on the way to any illegal activity. Why would you make a laughing stock out of me and have yourself sent to jail rather than telling me where you were going?"

Rav Yehonasan replied: "My presence in this jail is precisely the reason why I couldn't tell you where I was going. I set out for the morning services in the local synagogue, but, I ended up in jail. I can only tell you where I am intending to go, but as to where I am really going, only the Master of the Universe knows. Apparently, He had other plans for me."

Credit: Revach L'neshama

Hints & Answers* **HALACHA CHALLENGE:** In *siman* 257:2 the Shulchan Aruch writes the following halacha: *It is prohibited to insulate on Shabbos a pot that contains even fully cooked food in it. And this prohibition applies even when a person is insulating the pot with something that does not add heat.* **RHYME:** "need" **RIDDLE:** **1.** Lot. [Our *mesorah* teaches that Lot was saved in the merit of keeping a secret in Egypt that Sarah was Avraham's wife.] **2.** In Avraham's prayer to save the 5 cities of Sodom and Amora (see Rashi to Bereishis 18:32) . | *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, further study, and questions to a *posek*, etc.



Halacha Challenge



Insulating a Pot



On a Shabbos morning, Miriam walked inside the kitchen and noticed that it looked unusually dark there. She walked over to the Shabbos plata and discovered that the plata was off. "Oh no! The electricity went out during the night," sighed Miriam.

"Well, at least, this pot of cholent is still hot," said Miriam as she touched the wall of the pot that was standing on the plata. "But by the time we sit down to eat Shabbos lunch, it will be cold. How do I save it?" she asked herself. After thinking for a moment, she came up with a solution: "I think if I wrap the pot with towels, the cholent will still be warm for the *seuda*."

When she brought the towels into the kitchen and started wrapping the pot with them, her brother Aaron noticed what she was doing and said, "Wait! I am not sure if you're allowed to wrap that pot with towels."

"What's the problem, Aaron? Since the cholent is fully cooked, why would there be any issues of wrapping this pot with towels?" asked Miriam.

Question: May Miriam wrap the pot with the towels?

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

DEDICATIONS

◆ Dedicated anonymously for *yeshuos* and *refuos* to all Klal Yisroel





Parsha Pearls

It's peculiar why in this week's parsha, the Torah expresses Hashem's revelation to Avraham Avinu as *And Hashem appeared to him* (Avraham's name is not mentioned), yet in parshas Lech Lecha, it's expressed as *And Hashem appeared to Avram*, (Avraham's name is mentioned).

The Kli Yakar (on the 1st verse in our parsha) addresses this point and says that the revelation in our parsha came after Avraham had a *bris mila*, which granted him the ability to receive the Divine Presence.

In parshas, Lech Lecha, however (before he had a *bris mila*), Avraham's name, namely his function in the world is what gave him the merit to receive the Divine Presence. Rashi explains that the name אַבְרָם stands for "אב ארם" (the father of the people of Aram), which relates, says the Kli Yakar, to Avraham's function to bring people closer to HaKadosh Boruch Hu (As Rashi writes that the verse "And the souls that they made in Charan" is referring to the people that Avraham and Sarah would bring under the wings of the *Shechinah* (Divine Presence).)

Thus we see from here the enormous merit of *kiruv*! It alone can give a person who is doing *kiruv*, the ability to receive the Divine Presence.



Rhymes for Kids



Bikur Cholim is a precious mitzva indged
To be concerned for others is what I really ____!

"And Hashem appeared to him: to visit the sick. Said Rabbi Chama the son of Chanina: It was the third day from his bris mila, and the Holy One, blessed be He, came and inquired about his welfare." (Peirush Rashi to Bereishis 18:1)

Great is the mitzva of visiting the sick because Hashem Himself demonstrated its fulfillment.



Parsha Riddle



1. Keeping a secret in last week's parsha, saved my life in this week's parsha! Who am I?
2. Where in this week's parsha are women counted as part of a minyan?!

? DID YOU KNOW THAT ?

You probably know that a person should have a *makom kavua* for tefilla. **But did you know** that Avraham Avinu is the one who taught us about it? *Chazal* teach that we learn it from this verse: "And Avraham went early in the morning to **the place** where he stood in front of Hashem." [Bereishis 19:27]