

Just a Story



It was a known fact that the Maharshal (Rav Shlomo Luria d. 1574) appointed someone to be his agent to give him rebuke if he did even the slightest wrongdoing.

Once, the Maharshal was deeply involved in an intricate Tosfos and he lost all track of time, and consequently, was late for Mincha. The Maharshal expected to be rebuked strongly for his tardiness, but to his amazement, his ‘agent of rebuke’ didn’t utter a word about it.

The Maharshal questioned his agent, “Didn’t I appoint you to rebuke me for any wrongdoing? Why didn’t you say anything when I was late for Mincha?”

The agent responded, “In normal circumstances, I certainly would have rebuked you for this. However, when you were walking to the Bais Midrash, you were accompanied by two men who were surrounded by an aura of great *kedusha*, and I was afraid to approach you.”

The Maharshal responded, “These two men were the Rabbeinu Yitzchok and Rabbeinu Tam, the Ba’alei Tosfos whose words I struggled so hard to understand.”

Credit: Revach L'neshama

Hints & Answers* **SHABBOS SHAILA:** *Sefer Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa* (28:92) writes: “It is permitted to learn [Torah topics] on Shabbos that one needs to know for after Shabbos. And one does not violate through this the prohibition of preparing on Shabbos for a weekday.” **RHYME:** “start” **RIDDLE:** The four directions of the world. Each one is mentioned in Lech Lecha (13:14). In the Tanach, we find that the north has one name - Tzafon, while the other three directions have two names: west: *ma’arav* & *yam*; east: *mizrach* & *kedem*; south: *darom* & *negev*. | *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.



Menucha

A Shabbos table companion
for the whole family

לע"נ ר' ברוך חיים בן שלמון ז"ל

בס"ד

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Lech Lecha

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Shabbos Shaila

Studying for a Test on Shabbos



“Where are you going, Rivky?” asked her sister Miriam on a Shabbos afternoon.

“I am going to my friend, Chana,” answered Rivky.

“But why are you bringing a Chumash with you?!” asked Miriam.

“Because we have a Chumash test on Sunday. And I want to study for the test together with Chana,” explained Rivky.

“But it’s Shabbos today! How can you study for a test now?!” asked Miriam.

“But it’s Torah. What? I can’t learn Torah on Shabbos?!” asked Rivky.

Question: Can Rivky study for a Chumash test today?

(The “Hints & Answers” section is on page 4)

DEDICATIONS

◆ Dedicated anonymously for yeshuos and refuos to all Klal Yisroel

Special thanks to the
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Haftorah Pearls

In this week's Haftorah portion we read a powerful line from Yishayahu's prophecy (40:31):

וְקוֹי ה' יְחַלִּיפוּ כַח גְּעֻלוֹ אֶבֶר כְּנֹשָׁרִים יְרוּצוּ וְלֹא יִיגְעוּ יִלְכוּ וְלֹא יִיָּעֲפוּ.

But those who put their hope in Hashem shall renew [their] strength, they will grow wings like eagles; they shall run and not weary, they shall walk and not tire.

The classic *peirush* Metzudas David writes the following explanation on the first part of this verse: "Those who put their hope in Hashem, renew their strength at all times." Hence from this verse, we learn an important fundamental life lesson: When you don't give up hope and look forward to Hashem's help, you always get new strength from Above that enables you to keep going forward!



Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל־אַבְרָם לְדָ-לָךְ ... אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲרָאָךְ.

Hashem said to Avram: "For your own benefit, go...to the land that I will show you." -- Bereishis 12:1

Ask around your Shabbos table: Our mesorah teaches us that the 10 tests that Avraham Avinu passed gave the strength to his offsprings - Klal Yisroel - to pass similar tests and challenges in the future. לָךְ-לָךְ was one of Avraham Avinu's tests. What strength did it give to his children?

An Answer: Avraham Avinu heeded to Hashem's mitzva of "לָךְ לָךְ", picked up and went to the Land. That action, teaches Rav Chaim Volozhiner, created a unique, spiritual strength which Avraham Avinu passed down to his children - the strength to make *Aliya* to Eretz Yisroel, while leaving behind all that is so comfortable and familiar in *chutz la'Aretz*.



Rhymes for Kids



Love for Eretz Yisroel Hashem planted in Avraham's heart.
Now that I know this, it gives my day a good, fresh _____.

"He did not reveal the Land to him immediately, in order to make it dear in his eyes..." (Peirush Rashi to Bereishis 12:1). We inherited the love for Eretz Yisroel from Avraham Avinu.



Parsha Riddle



"...raise your eyes and look...". Four of us are found in this verse that in parshas Lech Lecha you will see. Three of us have 2 names in the Torah. But one of us has only one name. What are we?



DID YOU KNOW THAT



You probably know that there are five letters מ-נ-צ-פ-ך that have two ways of being written—one way in the middle or the beginning of the word and one way at the end of a word. **But did you know** that the Midrash Yalkut Shimoni (Lech Lecha), quoting Pirkei D'Rebbi Eliezer, teaches that these 5 "double letters" point to 5 redemptions - and for each *geula* the verse doubles the letter of that *geula*. Here are the 5 redemptions that the Midrash list, each one corresponding to its letter of מ-נ-צ-פ-ך:

The *geula* of Avraham Avinu: "לך לך"

The *geula* of Yitzchik Avinu: "לך מעמנו כי עצמת ממנו מאד"

The *geula* of Yakov Avinu: "הצילני נא"

Yetzias Mitzrayim : "פקד פקדתי"

The Final Geula: "הנה איש צמח שמו ומתחתיו יצמח ובנה את היכל ה'"