A Holy Sefer

Rav Eliyahu Chaim Meisel, z"tl was the Rav of Lodz and one of the gedolei hador in the second half of the nineteenth century. In addition to his greatness in Torah, he was a known ba'al chessed. He spent much effort easing the plight of those who were less fortunate. It was common at those times that poor Jewish children were taken and conscripted into the Russian army, but this never happened under his jurisdiction.

Once, Rav Meisel met with Rav Chaim Ozer, z"tl, and Rav Meisel praised the sefer Achiezer which R' Chaim Ozer had recently published. R' Chaim Ozer asked R' Meisel, "When will we see a sefer from you?" Rav Meisel responded by emptying his pockets of little folded pieces of paper. They were promissory notes from loans he had signed to enable him to aid widows and orphans. He said, "This is my sefer. I am so busy with problems of this nature that I don't have the time to complete a sefer." Rav Chaim Ozer responded, "My sefer pales in comparison to your sefer."

Hints & Answers* HALACHA CHALLENGE: It is permissible to put up on Shabbos a temporary vertical mechitza (but not a temporary roof), as long as it is not "mechitza materes" (i.e., in general, it's not permitted to put up a mechitza which halachically permits/allows a person to perform a specific action. For details of these laws, see Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa 24:24-44) RHYME: "see" RIDDLE: It was a כלי חרס (a clay vessel) that was completely sealed (צמיד פחיל) and was being used as a cover of a grave (גולל). Only at the time when the vessel was acting as a גולל did it contaminate others. [see Mishnayos Ohalos 15:9]

. | *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.

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Menucha

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Halacha Challenge



Making a Tent out of Bunk Bed



"Imma, you look tired," said her oldest daughter Rina on a Shabbos afternoon, "Why don't you go rest? I'll watch on the little kids."

"Oh, that's so sweet! Thank you so much, Rina," replied Imma.

After Imma went to rest, Rina started to think how she should entertain the

kids. Then, an idea came to her mind.

"Let's build a tent from our bunk bed!" she proposed to the kids.

"Yeah! Let's do that!" shouted back her siblings.

So Rina took a big blanket and started thinking of how to build her first "wall". But then she paused and wondered, "Wait a minute! Am I allowed to do this on Shabbos?"

Question: Can Rina build the tent?

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



♦ Dedicated anonymously for yeshuos and refuos to all Klal Yisroel

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Parsha Pearls

ויִדַבֶּר ה' אֵל מֹשֶׁה וְאֵל אַהֶּרֹן וַיִצְוָּם אֵל בְּנִי יִשְׂרָאֵל ...

And Hashem spoke to Moshe and to Aaron and He commanded them regarding the Children of Israel ...(Shemos 6:13)

Based on the words of the Midrash, Rashi comments: צום עליהם להנהיגם - Hashem commanded [Moshe & Aaron] regarding them [the Bnei Yisroel] to lead them gently and to be patient with them.

Is this verse simply telling us how Moshe and Aaron were suppose to lead Klal Yisroel? Of course, the message is much broader. The Torah is revealing to us what is a expected of someone in a leadership role.

Often, many of us find ourselves in some type of leadership role, be it a parent, a teacher, a Rebbe, etc. The Torah is teaching us here, that it's upon us to lead with a gentle spirit and with patience.



Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

... וַאֲנִי עֲרַל שְׂפָתֵים (שמות ו:יב)

Ask around your Shabbos table: For what reason did Hashem make Moshe Rabbeinu have a speech impediment?

An Answer: One beautiful answer is given by the Ran (*Drashos Haran*, drasha 3). If Moshe would have eloquent vocal abilities, then when he would teach Torah to Klal Yisroel, they would have attributed the sweetness that they felt in that Torah to Moshe's voice. Hashem purposely did not give Moshe good vocal abilities, so that those who listened to Moshe's Torah would undoubtfully know that the sweetness that they felt in that Torah was just from the Torah itself.



Rhymes for Kids



Hashem said to Moshe, "Say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and stretch forth your hand over the waters of Egypt ..." (Shemos 7:19)

Not through Moshe the first three makes came to be.
A great lesson on being grateful from it you shall ____.

"Since the Nile protected Moshe when he was cast into it, it therefore was not smitten by him, neither with blood nor with frogs, but was smitten by Aaron." [Rashi's commentary to Shemos 7:19]



Parsha Riddles



One day, Simcha was taking a walk in a filed in Mitzrayim, contemplating how severe was the *tummah* there. His Rebbe was walking next to him. "No wonder why we've descended to the 49th level of *tummah* here!" complained Simcha.

Suddenly, Simcha saw a beautiful vessel on the ground. Simcha picked it up and looked at it. Then, he passed it to his Rebbe. The Rebbe held the vessel in his hands and marveled its beauty.

"Rebbe?! Are we now *tammeh* because we touched that vessel?!" asked Simcha

"Well actually, you are, but I am not!" answered Rebbe. [Neither Simcha nor his Rebbe were wearing gloves]

"And even though you became *tammeh*, the water inside this vessel did not," added Rebbe.

Can you explain why Simcha became tammeh after touching that vessel?