



Rav Yitzchak Elchonon Spector was the Rav in the city of Kovna and because of this he was called the Kovna Rav. One time, Rav Yitzchak Elchonon was in a room, helping two men who were having an argument. At the same time, Rav was waiting to hear if his talmid Yaacov would have to go to the Russian army.

Suddenly, the Rav heard a knock on the door. "Come in, please," he said. A talmid came in and said, "Rabbi, we just found out that Yaacov does not have to go in the army!" Rav was thrilled and replied, "Such good news! Thank you for telling me." A few minutes later another boy came in and said "Rabbi, Yaacov does not have to go to the army." Rav Yitzchak Elchonon did not want to tell him that he already knew, because he wanted the boy to be happy, so he said, "Boruch Hashem! What good news! Thank you for telling me."

For the next 30 minutes it happened again and again. Each time Rav Yitzchak Elchonon interrupted himself to show how happy he was even though he already heard the news. [Source: The Daily Vort]

**Hints & Answers\* HALACHA CHALLENGE:** The following conditions are needed in order to allow returning a pot back on the *blech* or electric *plata* after removing it from there on Shabbos. (1) The food needs to be fully cooked; (2) the food needs to be still warm; (3) the person needs to have the intention to put the pot back on the blech/electric *plata* before removing it from there; (4) the person who removed the pot from the blech/electric plate needs to hold on to the pot the entire time until he puts it back on the blech/electric plate. Having said that, Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa (1:21) teaches that in a situation where a substantial need arises, it is permissible to be lenient and return the pot on the on a blech or electric *plata* even if a person let go of the pot after putting it on a counter. **RHYME:** "dear"  
**PARSHA RIDDLE:** Chevron and Yitzhar (Bamidbar 3:19) | \*Menucha answers are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha.

# Menucha

A Shabbos table companion  
for the whole family

לע"נ ר' ברוך חיים בן שלמון ז"ל

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## Halacha Challenge

### Chazara: "Still in His Hand"



On a Friday night, Mrs. Cohen took the pot of *cholunt* off the electric *plata* and placed it on a dry spot of the kitchen counter. She was holding on to the handle of the pot, because she wanted to put it back on the *plata* after taking some of the *cholunt* from it.

After a few moments, she got distracted by her 2-year-old son and let go of the handle unintentionally.

"Oh no! What are we going to eat on Shabbos lunch if I don't put the pot back on the *plata*?" she asked herself. "I was going to serve this *cholunt* as our main course tomorrow!"

Overseeing this, her daughter Miriam said, "Imma - I think you can put the pot back on the plata, because you really meant to hold on to the pot the whole time."

Her sister Rivky on the other hand said, "Sorry Miriam, but I disagree. It does not depend on what a person meant to do! If one let's go of the pot, it's over! We'll have eat cold *cholunt* tomorrow."

**Question:** Who is right Miriam or Rivki?

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

Dedicated anonymously for yeshuos and refuos to all Klal Yisroel





## Parsha Pearls

The last verse in sefer Vayikra says, **אֱלֹהֵי הַמִּצְוֹת**. The first verse in sefer Bamidbar says, **וַיְדַבֵּר ה' אֶל-מֹשֶׁה בְּמִדְבַר סִינַי**.

Based on the Midrash Rabba (Bamidbar 1:7), the Ba'al HaTurim writes that through the connection of these verses, the Torah is teaching us a major life lesson: **אם אין אדם משים עצמו כמדבר אינו יכול לידע תורה ומצות** - "If a person does not make himself like a **desert**, he will not be able to know **Torah** and **mitzvos**."

The question that remains for us to answer is: "What does it mean to make yourself like a desert"?!



## Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

**Ask around your Shabbos table:** Since we already have the Torah, what should we be excited about as we count the Omer in our approach to Shavuos?

**One of many answers:** Because on Shavuos we re-live the incredible experience of Matan Torah (see Nesiovs Shalom, Shavuos, 1)



## Rhymes for Kids



A question you can ask that's, in fact, really nice:  
"Why Hashem counts us so many times?"

Rashi gives an answer that's simple and clear:

To our Abba in Shamayim we are very \_\_\_\_.

*מתוך חיבתן לפניו מונה אותם כל שעה - Because they are dear to Him, He counts them all the time* [Rashi's commentary to the 1st verse of Sefer.]



## Parsha Riddle



Although Eretz Yisroel is not mentioned in this week's parsha, you can find names of two cities of Eretz Yisroel in this week's parsha! What are they?



## DID YOU KNOW THAT ?



**You probably know** that it is important to start preparing for Shavuos even now. **But did you know** that one place where you can start this preparation is by *Bircas HaTorah* that you say each morning? The way to prepare for Shavuos is to say *Bircas HaTorah* with joy! In fact, it's a halacha! The Mishna Berura (47:2) writes:

*ויברך אותה בשמחה גדולה -- "And one should make [the blessing on the Torah in the morning] with great joy."*