



**וְשַׁבְּתָה הָאֲרֶזֶץ שְׁבַת לָהּ** (parshas Behar, Vayikra 25:5). An organization Zo Artzeinu has planted over 60,000 fruit trees in Yitzhar, which overlooks the city of Shechem where Yosef Hatzadik is buried. The man who runs these fields is Ariel ben Sheitreet, and he told the following story to Zo Artzeinu.

*"7 years ago, before Shmittah began, I informed the wine experts – who were helping me harvest the grapes and produce grape juice and wine – that I would not be touching my fields during Shmittah. They told me that this was a death sentence to my young, vineyard. They said that since my vineyard was relatively new, it had to be pruned and well-cared for throughout the year and if not, the young grapevines would simply die. I answered them that I believed in Hashem who promised the vines would be safe and that they would produce 3 times as much produce in the year prior to Shmittah.*

*"These guys had a good laugh and said that it simply wasn't possible. Well, here's what happened. Normally, my vineyard produces 4 tons of grapes each year. In the year prior to Shmittah – with the exact same work on my part – my vineyard produced 14.5 tons of grapes! That is actually even more than 3 times the amount.*

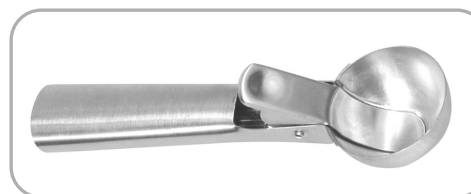
*"I immediately called the wine experts who told me that while they were very impressed, these grapes were undoubtedly of low quality and that I would have to throw them out. Once again, I did not listen to them and, instead of throwing them out, I made them into wine. What was the result? This wine won 1st place and was awarded the gold medal in Israel's national wine competition! By the way, during the entire year of Shmittah I sat and learned in Kollel in the "Od Yosef Chai" Yeshiva of Yitzhar. My vineyard continues to thrive! I am looking forward to this coming Shmittah when I will, once again, sit and study – with no worries at all about my field."*

**Hints & Answers\*** **LAWS of SHABBOS:** *Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa* (10:8) teaches that one may not use an ice cream scooper on Shabbos if his intention is to form the scoops into desired (round) shapes. However, if one's intention is to merely ease the process of taking the ice cream out of its container, than it's allowed to use the ice cream scooper for that purpose. **RHYMES:** "say" | \*Note: The answers are based only on the sources quoted and might not reflect opinions of other halachic sources.



## Shmiras Shabbos

### Returning Melted Ice Cream to the Freezer



"Absolutely!" replied Chaim to Imma who asked him if he was planning to eat ice cream for dessert. "Well in that case, you better eat the chicken that I put on your plate!" said Imma,

"Only those kids who eat chicken will get ice cream." For the love of his mother (and ice cream), Chaim had no choice but to eat up the chicken on his plate.

When the ice cream container was brought to the table, Miriam announced: "I have a surprise!" Everyone looked at her direction and saw an ice cream scooper in her hand. "I bought it on erev Shabbos in that new kitchen supply store that opened up in the shopping center."

"Well it is wonderful that you bought this ice cream scooper, Miriam," said Ephraim, "But can we really use it on Shabbos?!"

"Why not?!" asked Miriam. "Because we'll be forming round shapes from ice cream with that scooper!" came Ephraim's reply.

**Question:** Can they use that ice cream scooper now?

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

◆ Dedicated anonymously for yeshuos and refuos to all Klal Yisroel





## A Life Lesson

### from Sefiras HaOmer

The number of days from the first day of the Omer until (but not including) Lag BaOmer is 32. Number 32 is a numerical value (*gematria*) of the word לב (heart).

The number of days from Lag BaOmer until the last day of the Omer is 17. Number 17 is a numerical value of the word טוב (good).

*HaKadosh Boruch Hu* is hinting to us that the way to prepare for *Matan Torah* is to develop a לב טוב - a good heart!

But what exactly is a “good heart”?

A heart is the place for a person’s emotions and desires. In *sefer Nesivos Olam*, the Maharal explains that a person with a good heart desires that his fellow Jew should be the recipient of טוב (goodness).

Furthermore, the Maharal adds that a person with a לב טוב rejoices when he sees that his fellow Jew received the טוב.

Such a heart is what Hashem wants us to develop during these days of the Omer. Hashem wants every Jew to arrive to Har Sinai of 5784 with a לב טוב. Hence, during these days, use the moments of interactions with your friends and family to develop a לב טוב.



## Rhymes for Kids



ולא תונו איש את־עֲמִיתו... [ויקרא כה:יז]

“*And a man should not oppress his fellow Jew...*” (Vayikra 25:17)

כאן הזהיר על אונאת דברים [פירוש רש"י].

*Here, the Torah cautioned us against hurting each other with words [Rashi’s commentary]*

Here is the true Torah way:  
Hurtful words we cannot \_\_\_!



## Riddles & Trivia



**QUESTION:** In parshas Behar we learn that Shmittah is the 7th year of the 7-year cycle, and Yovel is the 50th year - i.e., the year following the 7 cycles of 7 years. When the final *geula* will come, we will once again observe Yovel. Suppose that the year 3001 (from Creation) was a Yovel year. Shimon was born in 3001 and past away in 3100. During how many Yovel years was Shimon alive?

**ANSWER:** There are two possible answers! There is a dispute whether Yovel is also the 1st year of the next 7-year Shmittah cycle or whether Yovel “resets” the Shmittah cycles (i.e., the 1st year of the next Shmittah cycle starts the year following Yovel). According to the Rambam (Laws of Shmittah 10:7), Yovel resets Shmittah cycles. Hence in our scenario, Yovel was in 3001, 3051, and 3101. As such, Shimon was alive during two Yovel years. According to Tosafos (Rosh Hashana 9a ולאפוקי ד”ה), however, Yovel is also the 1st year of the next 7-year Shmittah cycle. Hence, in our scenario, Yovel was in 3001, 3050, and 3099. As such, Shimon was alive during three Yovel years.