

# The Spring Hill Times Times of Mashiach

## ומלאה הארץ - דעה את ד'!

לע"נ אבי מורי ר' שלמה זלמן בן ר' ישעיה זצ"ל ולזכות רפואה שלמה אברהם דוד בן רבקה בתוך שאר חולי ישראל

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# Spreading Hashem's Goodness all Around the World!

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בן ר' ישעיה זצ"ל



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אך במקום גדולתו שם אתה מוצא את גרעונו הכספי, כאשר הוצאותיו עולים מדי חודש בחדשו ושבבת בשבתו – ואין לו אפשרות לכסות את עצמו – שהרי אין בו שום פרסומת – כי כל כולו נתיסד ללא השפעות חיצוניות, ע"כ אחלה נא פני אחי ורעי לעמוד לימין העוסקים והמסייעים בדבר זה – כדי שיוכלו להמשיך ביתר שאת וביתר עז – לפרסם בגאון בעוז ותעצומות את דבר ה' – ולמצוא גדולה ייחשב לכל התומכים – ויזכו לברכה המשולשת בני חיי ומזונא רויחי להם וכל אשר להם.

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Amount per serving	% Daily Value	Amount per serving	% Daily Value
<u>Love For Hashem 20,000g</u>	<u>1%</u>	<u>Ads on Shabbos 0g</u>	<u>100%</u>
<u>Thinking about Hashem 40,000g</u>	<u>12%</u>	<u>Feeling Proud to Be a Yid 90,000g</u>	<u>22%</u>
<u>Upsetting News 0g</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>Talking about Hashem's Greatness 300g</u>	<u>.500%</u>
<u>Blameful News 0g</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>Making Serving Hashem Exciting 80,000g</u>	<u>30%</u>
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### THE HIDDEN ENVELOPE

Editor's note: This unbelievable story happened to me and is 100% accurate and true.

On Monday Parshas Behar, 12 Iyur, I had a bill to pay for the Spring Hill Times. It was for \$3,650. I took the money out of my savings to cover the bill. I said to myself that Hashem will pay me back.

On Thursday night I came home and opened the mailbox. In it was a check from New York State.

My wife runs a legal daycare and the State gave us a bonus grant. The check was more than double of what I paid for the Spring Hill Times.

The next morning I woke up with a message on my phone from my brother who lives in Kiryat Sefer.

He bought a desk for his ten-year-old son. His son wanted to put a picture of a Gadol on the desk.

My brother had in his storage a picture of Rav Malkiel Kotler Shlita that was mine from when I lived in Eretz Yisrael.

The frame was the type that hangs on the wall. His son wanted the picture to stand on his desk. So he took the picture out of the frame and lo and behold between the picture and the back of the frame was an envelope that had inside it \$6000! It had my Israeli phone numbers on it.

What happened was that my father zatzal sent me about 14/15 years ago \$6000. I was afraid of ganavim so I hid the envelope in that picture frame.

Apparently, I had completely forgotten about it.

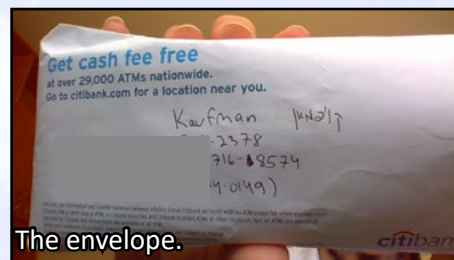
When I moved back to the USA, I left many things in the apartment in Eretz Yisrael. My brother took those things to his storage in Kiryat Sefer.

At one point he almost gave the picture away as he had no idea that there was money inside!

Hashem knew back then that in about ten/eleven years time I was



The picture



The envelope.



6000 written in my father's handwriting

going to start a newspaper called the Spring Hill Times. And that in 15 years time, on Monday Parshas Behar, 5784, I would give \$3650 for the Spring Hill Times, which is lelu nishmas my father. So he made it that my father would send me \$6000 that would be put away for the 15 years and be miraculously found the same week on Erev Shabbos Parshas Behar 5784 to pay me back for what I had given leiluy nishmaso!!!

All together, within five days I received back more than four times of what I spent!!!

!!!דברי נפלאותך - אשיחה

P.S. I was telling over this amazing story to a fellow mispalel at Kehillas Spring Hill, right before Mincha Erev Shabbos. As I was telling him the story, I noticed that he had a credit card in his shirt pocket. He had totally forgotten about it and would have not had noticed it until after Shabbos had come in. Baruch Hashe, b'zechus saying over the Chesed Hashem he was saved from having muktzah in his pocket and from potentially needing to shake out his credit card in a public unprotected area...

### THE LEAST EXPENSIVE AND THE MOST CONVENIENT

Reb Chaim Meir Phillip from Yerushalayim relates:

My firstborn was a boy, and he was followed by many girls. My house was filled with blessing, and I thanked Hashem with all my heart for the valuable gifts of good, healthy children. At the same time, I wanted another son. Among the segulos I did, I davened at the kever of Rabi Shimon bar Yochai in Meron and promised that I would take my son to Meron for his chalachah.

And indeed, chasdei Hashem ki lo samnu, a son was born to us. Our joy was very great, and the time came to fulfill my promise and take the child up to Meron. Although he was born in Tammuz, we asked our Rebbe and he told us that we could give him his haircut on Lag Ba'omer.

We were filled with joy. Fifteen years after the previous chalachah in our family, we were zocheh to go to Meron with our son and celebrate with him on Lag Ba'omer. That year Lag Ba'omer came out on a Thursday, and I joyfully informed my family that in honor of this great, rare simchah, we would travel to Meron for Lag Ba'omer and stay until after Shabbos.

I am not a wealthy man. Renting an apartment in Meron for Lag Ba'omer

is very expensive – way out of my budget, but I davened to Hakadosh Baruch Hu and asked Him to help me. He is the Owner of everything, including the apartments in Meron. I got hold of a list of apartments and guest houses for rent in Meron, but I did not call any of them. First, I worked really hard on my bitachon in the Kol Yachol – that I would find an apartment that would suit me. "Please, Hashem," I asked again and again, "please get us to Meron in the most convenient and least expensive way."

At the beginning of the week of Lag Ba'omer, my family asked me what was happening. We needed to know which apartment we'd be staying in. Suddenly, I had an idea that we might be able



to rent an apartment that someone else was renting only for the day of Lag Ba'omer, someone who would be leaving at the end of the day, and then I would be able to rent the apartment from the night following Lag Ba'omer until after Shabbos. In that case, the chances of finding an apartment for a lower price was a definite possibility.

I looked at the list and thought, *Where is there a chance of finding a cheaper apartment? In the middle of Kfar Meron, near Rabi Shimon, or at the edge of the Kfar? At the edge, right?* I went to the end of the list, but then I stopped myself and said, "Where is your bitachon? Why are you being small-minded and choosing one from the end of the list? Ha-Yad Hashem tiktzar? He can give you the best apartment at the best price." I went back to the beginning of the list and made one call, then another, then a third. On the third call, the owner of the apartment responded with exactly what I wanted to hear – and more. "Yes, yes, someone from abroad is coming only for the day

of Lag Ba'omer and leaving in the evening. You can come Lag Ba'omer in the afternoon and put your suitcases in the storage room near the apartment. Since you're coming for Friday-Shabbos, after Lag Ba'omer, you'll get the apartment for the regular price. How much? Altogether 2,000 shekels."

That was the beginning of our exciting experience. True, 2,000 shekels is not a small sum, and I would have to figure out how to get hold of it, but bearing in mind that we had waited fifteen years for this event, I would make the effort, with Hashem's help.

The next stage was the trip. A large family, lots of baggage, this was no simple feat. It seemed I would have to order a van to take us to Meron, but it would not be allowed up the mountain, and we would have to shlep all our suitcases and small children on our own. I worried about this. I wanted VIP service for a regular price or less. I gave tzedakah and asked Hashem, using the same words I'd used before: "Please, Hashem, get us to Meron in the most convenient and least expensive way."

As hishtadlus, I called a company that provides travel services for a regular price. They had a prearranged parking spot, along with a shuttle that would bring passengers from the parking lot to the mountain. They told me to come to the station and do what everyone does – no advance reservations. How would we manage with all the suitcases and the food for Friday and Shabbos? They had no answer

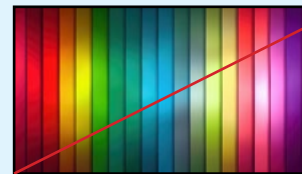


**WHEN YOU SEE ANOTHER YID:**

**Ignore how long his beard is!**



**Ignore the color of his jacket!**



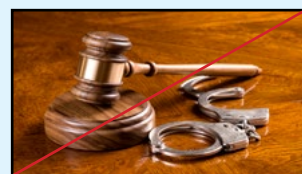
**Ignore the size of his wallet!**



**Ignore which leader he follows!**



**Don't accuse! Don't judge! Don't convict!**



for me, but we gave tzedakah and set out on our way.

By tzedakah, I mean literally pennies. And that's what I gave each time, all the way to Meron.

We arrived at the bus stop with the entire family, and there was a large van that did not belong to the company. The driver was a handicapped woman who was looking for a family of mostly women and girls to come with her and pay for her gas.

Our family fit the bill perfectly. The cost of gas alone was even less than the cost of travel by public transportation. There was ample room for all the suitcases, and we set out on our way. "I don't have a license to get up the mountain," the driver said, "but I have a handicapped card, so I hope we'll be okay."

The trip went smoothly. The driver asked if she could make a stop at the kever of Rabi Meir Baal Hanes, and this was a wonderful opportunity for us to daven "Elaka d'Meir aneini." The tziyun was empty; only our family was there, and davening there was very emotional for us.

As we drove on, we started passing through the roadblocks on the way up to Meron. "Daven, daven," the driver encouraged us all. She told us to say the passuk:

ואת האנשים -אשר פתח הבית הבו  
בספורים...וילאו למצוא- הפתח

At every checkpoint, the policemen saw she was a handicapped driver and they let her pass through, but at the seventh one the officer took too much of an interest. He asked to see her license and then told her, "Go to Ezer Mizion."

The driver didn't give up. She made a U-turn and went in the direction of Meron again. The entire time, she encouraged us to daven and to say segulos. I gave tzedakah, and this time the officer was busy with a phone call, and the young policeman who was with him allowed us through.

At the last blockade they stopped us

again, but the driver told the policeman, "I am a handicapped woman. I'm going up to daven by Rabi Shimon. Give me your name and I'll daven for you!"

He gave her his name and his mother's name, and he let her through.

I knew this was not the wisdom of the driver, nor was it my wisdom. All this hatzlachah was the mercy of Hakadosh Baruch Hu.

On the mountain, the driver drove us right up to the entrance of the apartment we would start renting that evening, and were already allowed to place our luggage there.

We arrived at 3:30 p.m. The entire mountain was like a huge bonfire. Excited dancing in honor of the holy Tanna Rabi Shimon filled the streets and the area of the tziyun. At this stage people were no longer only in the tziyun itself; the dancing was all around. We cut our son's hair with great emotion, and my family had an excellent, comfortable view of the scene.

It was a very moving scene. My young son was given the appearance of a Yid – two peyos and a kippah, his face shining with overwhelming thanks to Hashem. Tefillah, tefillah, and more tefillah.

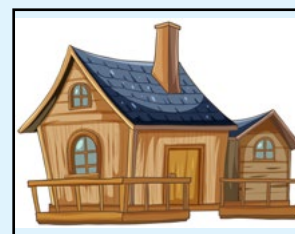
Do I need to tell you what was going on there in Meron? Anyone who has been there knows. It's a simchah that comes from the world of neshamos, from the heichalos of song and teshuvah, tears of thanksgiving and prayer. We submerged ourselves there in the Gan Eden of Meron, all comfortably and calmly. We were in no hurry and had no worries, because we were staying on the mountain-top for Shabbos kodesh.

On Motzaei Shabbos, still on a high from the experience, we



**WHEN YOU SEE ANOTHER YID:**

**Remember that he is part of your family!**

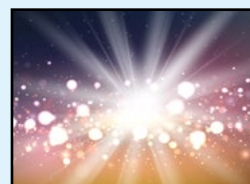


**Notice his smile!**

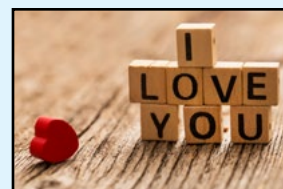


**SEE BEYOND THE SURFACE!**

**See his holy Chelek Elokaï m'ma'al- his glowing Neshama!**



**Accept him and love him to pieces!**



wanted to get back home to Yerushalayim. We weren't the only ones who were stuck there. Many families came to the stop. On every bus that passed, the passengers converged and rushed in to take the seats inside. I didn't feel that I could push. Here too I asked Hashem with almost the same words: "Please help me get home in the most convenient and least expensive way." I went over to the person in charge and asked him how many busses were supposed to be coming.

"It doesn't matter how many busses; no one will be stranded at this stop. Everyone is going to get home. I'll order a bus to come here even if there's only one person left!"

I told my family, "We're not going to push. We'll wait patiently and go calmly onto the last bus, im yirtzeh Hashem!"

Indeed, it didn't happen immediately, but it was worth the wait. We went like royalty onto the last bus and spread ourselves over the seats, and when I wanted to pay, I found

that the bus had no machine that takes payment. It was impossible to validate. And when you can't, the law says you don't have to pay. "The least expensive and the most convenient."

In honor of the simchah my father-in-law gave me \$200. My father also gave us a nice sum as a form of participation in the big day. When we got home after this special event, we felt as though something truly unusual had occurred, a hug from Shamayim. We saw how Hashem watched over us with special hashgachah pratis and took us all the way to Meron and back in the most incredible way. We are so grateful, and I, with my small head, could not hold back from making an accounting and checking how much the whole thing cost us.

Nu, how much? I counted the money I received from my father and from my father-in-law, calculated the expenses I had, and discovered that everything worked out exactly.

No plusses or minuses, but one big, precise zero.

The least expensive and the most

convenient. [Hashgacha Pratis Newsletter]

**What A Nation!**



Rabbi Horowitz\* from Yerushalayim and his family were all ready to go to his parents for Shabbos. It was pretty close to Shabbos, the family was ready in the car when he turned it on to drive and it would not start! A Yid, who didn't know Rabbi Horowitz, was driving by and saw he was having car issues. He stopped, jumped out of his car and told him he could have his car for Shabbos since he didn't need it!

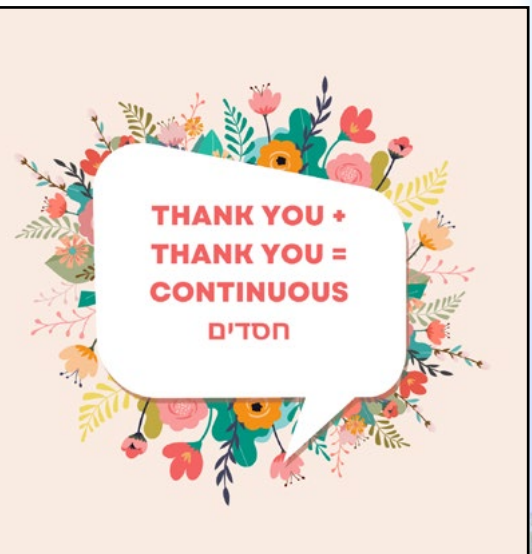
Mi K'amcha Yisroel!!!

When Rabbi Horowitz came home and unpacked the car and was ready to drive it back to the anonymous benefactor, his neighbor who watched the scene of the Yid offering him his car on Friday, transpire, went to Rabbi Horowitz and offered to drive the car to return it to the stranger's house!! (From a reader who heard it from Rabbi Horowitz)



**Call in to the Spring Hill Times and leave us your Emuna Bitachon/Hashgacha Pratis or any good news story. 24/6 answering machine 385-381-0977 Email: thespringhilltimes@gmail.com**

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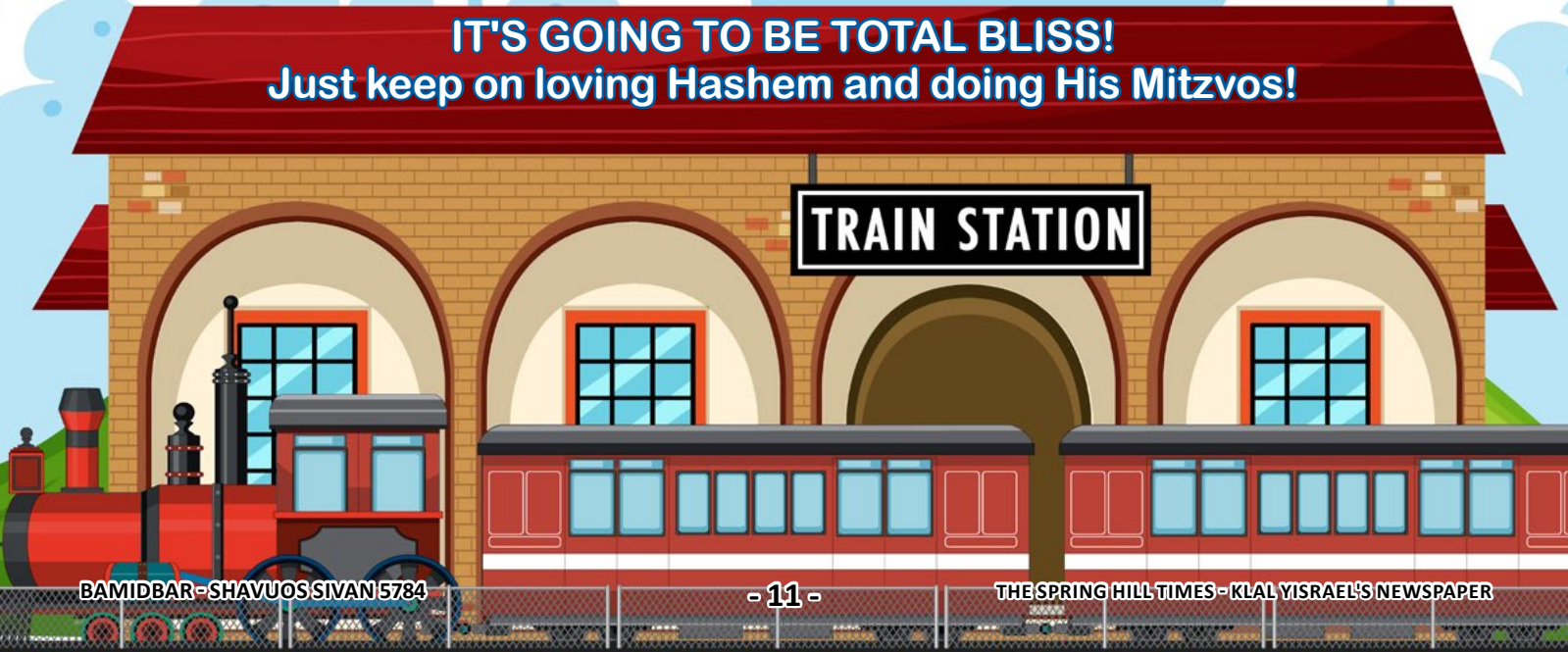
זכות רפואה שלימה: ינתן בראיטה

# Ride the Train!

You are speeding towards a most fabulous destination!

IT'S GOING TO BE TOTAL BLISS!  
Just keep on loving Hashem and doing His Mitzvos!

TRAIN STATION





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Thank You Hashem for Sofrim! They meticulously write for us all our Sifrei Torah, Tefillin, and Mezuzos that we need!



5  
Weekly



Thank You's

By: R' Simcha Elefant - Yerusha-

Thank You Hashem for Challah! Such special delicious bread for Shabbos!



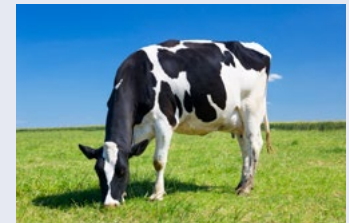
Thank You Hashem for Paper Goods! We can easily dispose of our eating utensils when finished!



Thank You Hashem for Garbage Cans! We can have garbage in an enclosed and orderly place!



You needed to milk the cow and make the cheese yourself... If you didn't have time to make it you didn't have cheesecake.



&

WANT CHEESECAKE FOR SHAVUOS?



Just go to your local grocery and buy all the ingredients. Have no time to make a cheesecake? Just choose from the tens of different types of delicious cheesecakes that in the store! Thank You, Hashem! We love You, Hashem!



# A LIFE WITH BITACHON ON THE PARSHA



**Rabbi Zevy Golombeck**

יִפְרֶשֶׁת בַּמְדַּבֵּר  
וּמֵטָה בְּנִימִין וְכוּ' וְצַבְאוֹ וּפְקוּדֵיהֶם חֲמִשָּׁה וְשִׁלְשִׁים אֶלֶף וְאַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת: דָּגַל מַחֲנֵה דָן וְכוּ'  
וְצַבְאוֹ וּפְקוּדֵיהֶם שְׁנַיִם וְשִׁשִּׁים אֶלֶף וְשֶׁבַע מֵאוֹת  
(בַּמְדַּבֵּר ב: כ"ב-כ"ו)

If you look at these pesukim you'll notice how שבט דן had almost twice the amount of descendants as שבט בנימין. This seems very interesting, if we keep in mind that Binyomin started off with ten children and Dan had just one child, as the פסוק says וּבְנֵי דָן חֹשִׁים . Many commentaries add that חֹשִׁים means to say, that it wasn't a healthy child, in more than one way. And now, a few generations down, we see that Dan had multiplied so much faster than everyone else. Despite starting off with just one child, and Binyomin with ten, Dan still outnumbered Binyomin by a very large margin. It seems that there was something special and unique going on behind the scenes by שבט דן , that gave them an edge, and an extra סייעתא

דשמיא.

Perhaps we can say that the secret to their success lies in פרשת ויחי by Birachs Yaakov.

The Torah concludes the ברכה of Dan with the words 'לישועתך קייתי ה'. These are words that express a constant yearning and connection to the עולם של עולם. It seems like Dan had a very strong focus on turning to Hashem, for everything they needed, whether big or small. They put Hashem, into the picture, at every moment, no matter when and where.

Because of this mindset, when Dan had just one unhealthy child, instead of feeling like he hasn't seen success, in raising a beautiful family and getting down about it, Dan wasn't impressed and took his "familiar route". He just kept on Davening for success in continuing the shasheles hadoros in Klal Yisroel, and to raise a beautiful Yiddishe family. He knew that although he doesn't see the results right away, he is planting seeds for later. Because there is no Tefila that ever goes to waste, and even if things don't look bright today, tomorrow will be brighter than ever. Dan knew this and he continued davening with the same belief in his Tefilos. Even though, at the time, it seemed like it was going nowhere, he still kept going at it with Bitachon in the power of his Tefilos.

And yes, now let's look at what those Tefilos did. Look what an army he implanted in those Tefilos, that came to fruition only centuries later. This was perhaps why we see such a tremendous growth in Dan. Tefila is more powerful and above nature, and it goes against all odds.

*Rabbi Chizkiyahu Mishkovski shlit"א, a highly respected mashgiach in Eretz Yisroel, and a very close Talmid of Harav Ahron Leib Shteinman Zt"ל, related the following story, which he witnessed firsthand. There was a Yeshiva of Baalei Teshuva, where boys grew in their Yiddishkeit. Many of these boys never opened a Chumash in their lives before enrolling in the Yeshiva. But their thirst for growth, from when they stepped through the door of the Beis Medrish, was an inspiring sight to see. Especially for the staff of the yeshiva, who were working tirelessly, day and night, to help these young men get injected with the beauty of the Torah. As you can expect, for many boys, the transition to Torah learning was a big struggle, and it would take them quite a while, until they started making big strides. Others would get a grasp on Gemara studies more rapidly.*

*However there was one boy that stood out. Idan, had returned to Yiddishkeit just two and a half years ago, and was now making a Siyum Hashas! This was an incredible feat, that took the Yeshiva by storm. It was so beyond nature that a boy climbed the ladder, to such a high peak, in such a short time. Their amazement only grew, when less than a year and a half later, this boy was mesayeim Shas for the third time! People realized that this boy was special. His clarity in the sugyos, quick head, hasmada and commitment to learning was unmatched, by anyone else in the entire Yeshiva.*

*One of his Rabbeim decided that there must be something special, which is causing the tremendous success, that this boy has experienced, since he has joined the Yeshiva. After doing some research the following was revealed. This boy's grandmother was a very religious woman. She was a big Tzadeikis, and worked very hard to raise good, Torahdike children. However, one of her children, had very difficult setbacks in his life as a teenager. No one was able to get in touch with his soul. Unfortunately with time he started turning against his religion. However, no matter how far he was straying away, his mother kept pouring out her heart. Her Tehilim, was stained through and through, with her "varme trerin", her tears.*

*At a certain point, this young man made the decision to marry into a completely secular family, that had nothing to do with religion, and in which the bar mitzva party was the goodbye party to religion. As you can imagine, the mother was devastated and shaken up to the core. But at the same time she still would not give up, and continued to Daven and pray every day, like never before.*

*People started telling her to accept the reality, say gam zu letova and move on. But she would always have the same response. "Hashem is collecting every tear and every word of my tefilos, and it will have an effect down the road. I may not see it now, but it will come." With this Emuna peshuta she continued putting all her kochos, emotions, and heart, into her davening. We don't have to add, but just in case you didn't get it, the boy that returned to his roots, was the grandson of this woman. Boy did this Rebbi understand why this boy was standing out. He was in a different league and in a different world than everyone else. He was coming from the world of 'לישועתך קייתי ה'. That world has different rules and laws of nature.*

Taking the lesson:

So often in life, we daven and hope, but don't see any results. Deep inside we may wonder, does our tefilos have much of a power after all? Let's remember that Tefila can literally turn things around in a way above the laws of nature, like we see by Dan. If we use the tool of Tefila, and we believe in its power, we will always know that we can turn things around completely. And even if we don't see the turnaround on the spot, it will most certainly yield an outcome down the road. The seeds can be planted today, for a bright tomorrow. Let's make sure to plant them as much as possible. 'לישועתך קייתי ה' and then again and again. Don't ever let go of these words; 'לישועתך קייתי ה'! Taken from a Life with Bitachon.

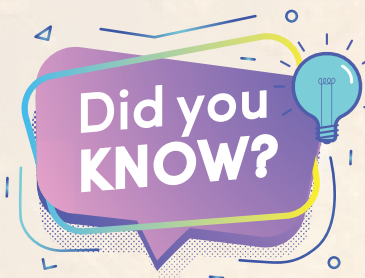
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**KEEP YOUR PROPERTY PEST FREE!**

**SAY "NO" TO LASHON HARA!**



**By: Rabbi Zevy Golombeck**

**D**id you know that R' Yehuda Mandel said that he made a study, he took two plants, and the one that they spoke positively to, grew beautiful and magnificent, and the other one, that they spoke negatively, shriveled away and died 1-2-3!

I mentioned this on my hotline, and someone told me that tried it, and they saw that it was exactly that way! Why did Hashem make the world like that? To teach you that when you speak positive words, it has an affect! When you speak positively about someone, whether or not they know it, automatically it will change them!

Many times when a person looks down at somebody and criticizes, "Why are you doing this, why are you doing that," this negative speech brings out the worst in them! If you really care and want them to improve, you have to speak positively about them! You

have to say, "Wow, you're doing amazing!"

Start with yourself, as R' Yehuda Mandel says, Chayecha Kodmin! You have to say about yourself, "Wow, I went to davening today, wow, I did a mitzva!" The more you compliment yourself, the more you're going to grow! You always have to focus on being positive.

The gemara in Nidda 30b, if people tell you you're a tzaddik, don't believe them. The Alter of Navardok said that this doesn't apply nowadays. It used to be that it would make someone a ba'al gaava, which would bring out many bad mid-dos, but by us, we suffer from low self-esteem, so to the contrary, when you don't hold of yourself, when you perceive yourself as a nothing, you become a nothing, so you have to go to the opposite extreme and say, "I'm amazing, I'm gevaldig!"

## Gold Mines

*Based on the teachings of Rav Yehudah Mandel*

**By: R' Baruch Rosenstock**

**W**e have to always hope for the days of Moshiach when we'll be zoicha see open hisgaalus hashchinah. In the meantime, however, we need to cherish our present situation in golus. We hope for a better future but at the same time we are sameach b'chelko with our present situation. A person needs to know how to balance these two different approaches of bitachon in every area in life. Golus is ir-

replaceable; the challenges, pain, and tumuah are all opportunities to overcome and grow. When Moshiach doesn't come when you thought it would, don't get depressed.

R' Mandel remembers R' Nosson Wachtfogel over 30 years ago, going around all excitedly with a card from R' Yaakov Yosef Herman (All for the Boss) that Moshiach is going to come that year. That year came and went and nothing happened. R' Nosson didn't look upset, to the contrary, he was full of simcha as he usually was. R' Nosson knew how to be metzapeh. He was mekayim the mitzvah of tzipisa l'yeshua, but he understood that the results are not his department.



# MAZEL TOV!

**Mazal Tov to R' Moshe Hirschberg and family (East 9th St. Lakewood, NJ) on the birth of baby twins!!**

**Mazal Tov to R' Moshe Metzger and family (Lakewood, New Jersey) on the birth of a new baby girl!**

**Mazal Tov to Rav and Rebbetzin Zvi Nussbaum (Chestnut Ridge, NY) on the engagement of their daughter Chava Gittel to Yehoshua Krancer son of Rabbi and Mrs. Don Krancer!**

**Mazal Tov to R' Leib Wicentowsky and family (Lakewood, New Jersey) on the birth of a new baby boy!**

**Mazal tov to R' Avraham Leib Berenson and family (Lakewood, NJ) on the birth of a new baby boy!**

**Mazal Tov to Rabbi and Mrs. Yoni Sarf (Far Rockaway, NY) on the Bar Mitzvah of their dear son Yisrael Meir!**



By: Rabbi Eliezer M. Niehaus

This column is part of the "ASHER TO THE YATZAR" initiative. If you would like to receive the monthly leaflet, please email [ashertotheyatzar@gmail.com](mailto:ashertotheyatzar@gmail.com). I would really appreciate it if you accept upon yourself *bl"n* to say Asher Yatzar for one week, from a card or poster as a *zechus* for a *refuah sheleimah* for my daughter **Esther bas Sara Miriam**, at least once a day.

### Lessons in the Hospital

On Erev Shabbos Parshas Emor, my daughter was admitted to the hospital due to complications from the treatment she is undergoing. I do hope that long before you read this article she will be all better and back home. I would like to share with you some stories that happened while I was in the hospital and were a big *chizuk* for me.

I was sitting next to a person and I showed him the specially designed Asher Yatzar signs that we had printed as a *zechus* for a *refuah sheleimah* for my daughter. His eyes lit up and he told me that until recently he had taken the words "אם יפתח אחד מהם או יסתם אחד מהם אי אפשר להתקיים ולעמוד לפניך" for granted. When we eat and drink, we don't give too much thought to what happens next. The food gets digested and the waste waits patiently until we have a convenient time and place to use the facilities. Then he concluded, "I am now with a sick person here in the hospital who unfortunately doesn't have that pleasure. Now I see how difficult life becomes if one of the holes opens or closes. Since then, these words have taken on a new meaning for me, and I appreciate the fact that I can eat and drink with peace of mind!" If we bear this in mind, we will be overcome with joy each time we eat or use the facilities.

The next story happened with my daughter. Even after being in the hospital for several days, the doctors were still totally at loss as to why she was experiencing certain pains and other complications, and it was quite worrisome. Then suddenly, the symptoms got even worse! After a long and scary day, we decided to call Rav Yehuda Mandel shlit"a for some *chizuk* and *berachos*. We had called him many times since the beginning of this story, and he always cheered us up. We spoke for a while and he told me that our job is to speak positive, think positive, and know that in one second Hashem can turn everything around and she will be all better. "Forget about the doctors and what they say!" I am sure many of you are familiar with Rav Mandel's uplifting *mehalech*, and can imagine how by the end of the conversation I was smiling from ear to ear. Then he said: "As we are talking and being *mechazek* in *bitachon*, I feel that things are getting better – you will see!" His words gave me a calm feeling knowing that we are in Hashem's hands and that He is taking care of us.

An hour later my wife called from the hospital to say that things were still not stable, and that she had tried asking the doctor to do a certain test immediately which may show what is going on, but for some reason, he was in no rush to do it. It could wait until the morning, he kept saying. It was like talking to the wall! I told my wife not to worry, we have done everything we can, including speaking to *askanim*, and now it is time to turn to the Real Doctor and He will take care of us. In the morning a new doctor came and had the test done immediately, which was the beginning of the turn around. The test indeed showed what was the issue and the doctor told us how they were treating it. What was fascinating was that it turns out that for some unknown reason, they had already begun giving that treatment the day before, and within a few hours, she was doing much better! Meaning, the human doctors didn't want to help us, which was fine, because The Real Doctor had already prescribed the treatment before the test was even performed! This gave us *chizuk* that soon we will be *zoche* to see her recover completely, Bezras Hashem!

Rabbi Niehaus is the author of "Oasis: Experience the Paradise of Shabbos" and "Heavenwords: Elevate your Tefillah and Yourself". He is the Rosh Kollel of Kollel Zichron Aharon Yaakov in Kiryat Sefer and is a rebbi in Yeshivas Beis Dovid and Yeshivas Imrei Binah in Yerushalayim.

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# FUN PAGE

## DID YOU KNOW?

The sense of smell that Hashem gave us is very special. Without it, food would taste bland! Try it out! Pinch your nose and then eat something. It won't taste so good. Also, without your sense of smell, you would not be able to smell if something is burning. Thank you Hashem for our sense of smell!

Can you spot the odd one out?



### *Parshas Bamidbar Review:*

In parshas Bamidbar, there was a census - count - of all the men who could be part of the army of ages 20-60. Shevet Levi was counted separately because they couldn't go out to fight, they were busy with the service of the Mishkan.

### *Parshas Bamidbar in Numbers:*

159 pesukim, 1,823 words, 7,393 letters

1-What does the word Bamidbar mean?

4-What do we celebrate on Shavuos?

2-How many sons did Levi have and what were their names?

5-Why do we eat dairy on Shavuos?

3. Why were the people counted?

6-Which megillah do we read on Shavuos?

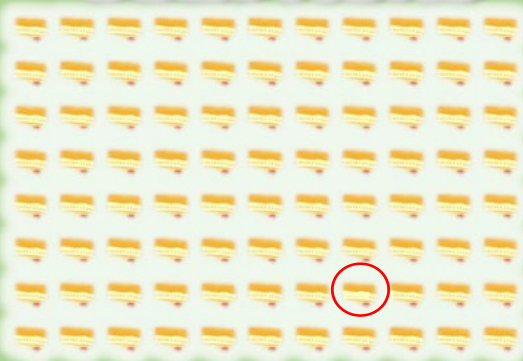
### STORY - PART 1

There was once a yeshivah bochur in Eretz Yisroel who hitched a ride in a taxi. The bochur was very engrossed in thought, thinking about the sugya he had learned in yeshivah that day. So engrossed was he, that when the taxi driver stopped to let him off, he forgot to pay! The taxi driver, a completely non-religious man, also realised after the bochur got out of the car, that he had not paid, but by then the bochur was far away, so decided to let it go. The bochur, after a short while, realised that he did not pay and started running after the taxi!

Stories to Inspire

To Be Continued...

### SOLUTIONS



2-Gershon Kohas and Merari

5-One opinion is -  
When Bnei Yisroel received the torah, they learnt the laws of shechitah. But until they were fluent in these halachos they had no choice but to eat milchigs.

6-Megilas Rus

1-In the desert

3. To see how many were fit for the army (Rash-bam)  
4-The giving of the Torah



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# *Real Living*

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# The Woodville Mitzvah Boys Club

Shoshana Raizel Kaufman

Episode 2

**G**edalya skipped happily down the sidewalk. He was walking with his friends Chesky and Mordy. He became friends with them on Lag Baomer. On his face was a huge smile; what a huge mitzvah he would be getting!

It all started when Chesky thought of a brilliant idea. "You know the nursing home Pleasant Spring?" He asked. "The one we visit sometimes on Shabbos? Why don't we go and cheer the people up on Shavuos?" "GENIUS!" I yelled, "What a great idea!" "Let's bring them cheesecake and flowers." Mendy added, getting caught up in the spirit. "That will really cheer them up!"

We quickly ran home and shared the news with our families.

"What a great idea!" Totty exclaimed. "It will really make the older people very happy!" Chesky and Mendy's parent's both enthusiastically agreed. The next day was a week before Shavuos. We all met in Chesky's basement. "I can go to Blossoms and pick up some bouquets of flowers," Mendy said.

Blossoms was the biggest flower shop in the small town of Woodville, and the name was very fitting. The man who owned the store was Yechiel Blossom. He combined flowers and his name and opened a flower shop!

"I have an even better idea," Chesky said. "Let's all go together." We all agreed. It was a beautiful day out; a pleasant 68 degrees. We walked all

the way there enjoying the sun. We made our way into the store.

Blossoms was a quiet, pleasant store, with shelves and shelves of flowers. Yechiel greeted us with a smile right away. "Picking up flowers for Shavuos?" he asked. We quickly told him our idea. "What a nice idea!" He exclaimed. "Since you're doing a mitzvah, I'll give you the flowers 50% off!" We picked the flowers that we wanted, and went on our way.

Chesky's mother made a delicious and healthy blueberry cheesecake for us to bring to the nursing home. Yum... We could hardly hold ourselves back from tasting it.

It was Shavuos day and we were getting ready to go to the nursing home. We walked there and

went inside. "Hi!" We greeted the doorman. "We came to visit the patients." "Oh how nice!" He said. "Come right in!"

We made our way to our friend Mr. Katz on the first floor, room 13. "Gut Yom Tov!" He said. "What a pleasure to see you!" "Gut Yom Tov Mr. Katz!" We replied. We gave him flowers and cheesecake and shmoozed for a little bit.

After we visited some other patients, we saw a new name on a door. "Who is this?" We asked a nurse who was passing by. "Oh, it's a new old man. Even though this is a Jewish nursing home, he isn't frum. He is friendly though. You can visit him." We knocked on the door.

To be continued BE"H

## Illuminating Words of Chazal

*"Everything about Hashem, His Torah and His world is supposed to bring out positive emotions and help us have a healthy relationship with Hashem." Rav Yehuda Mandel*

**Q. We hear all the time on 'A Life with Bitachon' that the main thing that counts is how hard we try. Hashem doesn't look at outcomes and accomplishments.**

**We have in the Torah 613 Mitzvos. All the mitzvos have rules and details that one needs to do in order to fulfill them. If someone for example puts on tefillin but not knowingly it's missing a letter, the mitzvah is invalid, no matter how much he wanted and tried to fulfill the mitzvah. If the main thing that Hashem looks for is our heart and how hard we try, how come we never find that we are yotzei mitzvos with trying. Why is fulfilling mitzvos dependent many times on dry actions (and many times on tiny details) and not on what's going on in a person's heart or how hard he tries?**

**A:** As R' Avigdor Miller says, Chovos Halevavos is called Chovos Halevavos, the Duties of the Heart, not the Duties of the Actions, to teach you that that's where avodas Hashem lies. It's all about the heart. That's where it starts and that's where it ends. It's all about your ratzon.

The Gemara says in Sanhedrin, Rachmana liba ba'i. Hashem wants to see your heart. Chazal say in the gemara in Brachos, echad hamarba v'echad hamam'it bilvad sheyichaven libo l'Shamayim. Whether you do a lot, whether you do a little, Hashem doesn't care about results, Hashem doesn't care about outcomes. Hashem doesn't care about what you did. The important thing is that you wanted, that you cared.

The gemara says in Brachos that if you wanted to do a mitzvah and you didn't, you get s'char as if you did it. R' Yehuda Mandel says from his Rebbeim that you have to chazer this gemara your whole life and say over, "I wanted to do a

mitzvah, so it's as if I did." This way, every time a person tried to do a mitzvah and it didn't work out, he wouldn't feel bad. The Yaaras Devash adds, that if you wanted to do a mitzvah and you didn't, you even get more s'char than if you actually did it! Because if you do the mitzva, you get a sipuk, a kavod, a gaavah, but here it's b'shleimusah. So you see the importance that everything is about the lev and lev even gives you more than the maaseh.

The ikar avodas Hashem has to be in the lev. The ikar has to be in the ratzon. And we all know that it's all about the lev and the ratzon. There's the famous story that there was a yid that was listening to the drasha of a Rav and he spoke about bringing a korban mincha, shtei halechem, to the Beis HaMikdash. So every morning he would bring the shtei halechem to the aron hakodesh, he thought that was good enough. The gabbai would come and he would see two challos left every Shabbos



and he would take them. Finally, one day the Rav found out what the yid was doing, and he yelled at him to stop. That night the Rav had a dream that Hashem said you're chayav misah, you're going to die, because you took away the biggest nachas ruach from me since the Beis Hamikdash. So you see a yid did an act with nothing real to it, and still the Rav was chayav misah because the ratzon was so great; it's the biggest nachas more than any other nachas.

And there's another story how somebody didn't know how to daven and he stood in the back of the shul and he just said alef, beis, gimmel, daled and he said, Hashem, You rearrange the words. And Hashem said I never had so much nachas, it sounded like the Levi'im singing in the Beis Hamikdash. So we see from here that Hashem cares about the ratzon more than the maaseh. It can be a maaseh shtus, there can be nothing to the maaseh, but with pure ratzon, it goes in Shamayim to the furthest extent.

That's the hakdama. The hakdama is that yiddishkeit is about ratzon, it's about lev, it's about machshava, it's about wanting, it's about caring, it's about trying.

Now that we shtelled avek the yesod of yiddishkeit, why does yiddishkeit put so much stress on maaseh? And the answer is that the point of maaseh, the reason why there are so many details and so many halachos, is not that that's what our focus should be on, but it makes it that now we'll have more to learn about devar Hashem, it makes us think more about Hashem. The more mitzvos there are, the more details, R' Avigdor Miller says, "u'vchol mitzvosecha emunah" – all mitzvos are there to bring to emunah which means mitvos get you to think about Hashem. If there's a thousand details, you wake up in the morning and you think, *I have to tie which shoe? Oh, Hashem wants me to tie this one. Oh, I have to put on this sleeve first. Oh, Hashem wants me to do that.* All these details are just a heicha timtzah, a means, to get you to think about Hashem. All the details, not that that's what your focus should be on, not that that's the ikar, but rather it's a heicha timtzah to

“

*All mitzvos are there to bring to emunah which means mitvos get you to think about Hashem.*

”

make you think about Hashem every step of your life because that's what brings true Simcha. That's what brings true enjoyment, to connect to Hashem. Hashem's the Source of Simcha, the more you think about Him, the closer you're going to get to Hashem, the more dveikus and more Simcha you'll have. And therefore details are not for you to get nerven, worried, stressed and daagos and make it complicated. Rather, it's exactly the opposite! Now you'll have to think about Hashem more. Oh, so Hashem wants me to do the mitzvah this way, and that way, wow, Hashem wants me to do this. And then you say, wow, Hashem... So all day what are you thinking about? Hashem! And yidden who are thinking about Hashem, they're the happy people. People who don't have mitzvos, they're not thinking about Hashem. They're thinking about themselves, kochi v'otzem yadi, they're depressed. R' Avigdor Miller said he interviewed many non-Jews, and they were all depressed, they weren't happy because they don't have any tachlis. They weren't living for any purpose. So what

are they living for? If you're not living for anything, you get depressed, your life is meaningless. So all these halachos are just a heicha timtza to bring dveikus to Hashem.

And that's why the Maharsha says in Makkos that Chabakuk said it was too hard to focus on every single last detail of all the taryag mitzvos and to put all your chumros and all your hiddurim on all taryag mitzvos. In his generation it was way too complicated for the yidden to continue to do that. So they narrowed it down to which mitzvah? To the mitzvah of Tzaddik be'emunaso yichye.

The Maharsha explains, what's the p'shat? Because really all mitzvos are just to bring to that. It's not humanly possible for us to be able to focus on all the chumros and kavanos and every detail of every mitzva, so we have to just focus more on the yesod, on the foundation, of emunah and bitachon. We see all mitzvos are just a heicha timtzah to bring to emunah and bitachon.

## Our Readers Share



Editor's Note: Some of these stories are from

### THANK YOU HASHEM!

My 7-year-old son wanted to thank Hashem for something. He realized what a chessed of Hashem it is that the food cooks but the pot doesn't burn because if everything would be flammable then we wouldn't be able to cook anything. So we're thanking Hashem for that. Thank you for the beautiful publication.

- A Reader

### HASHEM SENDS SPACE!

We live in Yerushalayim and I decided to invite my newly married son and his wife for Shabbos. My other son, who has a few kids, also decided they wanted to come. My son who's away in Yeshiva also called me and said that he had an off-shabbos and that he would be coming home. At this point we realized that we didn't have enough room to host everyone ourselves and we really needed to find an empty apartment nearby that we could use to host everybody. We hung up signs, but nobody called us. I sang Hakol Yachol for ten minutes, and then I accepted the situation. My son and all his kids would have to sleep in one room, my other son and his wife in the next, and my other son would have to sleep on the couch.

I was on the phone with my daughter on Erev Shabbos and someone else called.

This past

#### Attention Readers!

Didn't see the story you called or sent in? Don't worry, BE"H your story will be printed in the paper.

Please keep you stories coming!

You are inspiring the entire Jewish Nation!

Please note: The recording time on our machine (385-381-0977) has a limit of 3 minutes, so if your message is longer than 3 minutes just call back and finish your story.

I answered, and she asked if I still need an apartment. We fit just right! I'm calling to say ein od Milvado!

- A Reader from Yerushalayim

### HASHEM LOVES EVERY YID!

I heard from R' Shimshon Pincus a very inspiring thought that I wanted to share. He quoted the Pasuk that says, "Just like the distance between the sky and the Earth, so too the distance between My thoughts and your thoughts." R' Shimshon explains that the nature of human beings is to be attracted to greatness. If they see a person who is powerful or famous, they want to be connected to them. With Hashem, it's the opposite. It says, "tefila l'ani ki yaatof." Hashem rests His shechina on the downtrodden and the nebach. This was very inspiring for me.

- A Reader

### APPRECIATING BRACHOS!

Thank you so much for all the chizuk, we pass on the Spring Hill Times to many other people who might not have read it yet and we all gain so much from it. I wanted to share a thought I had this week. Our family has a "minhag" that for dessert on shabbos we always serve a few different things, one of each bracha, so that we should be able to make as many brachos as possible. That's our official dessert. It's exciting for the kids and even for the adults. We tell the children how we're creating malachim, and how it's so special. Even my son who's not three yet looks forward to the brachos.

week I had a thought that someone who isn't alive anymore would be willing to do anything to have such a tremendous zechus of making a bracha. Baruch Hashem, we're alive, and we're zoche to the huge zchus of making brachos. A person who's not alive can't do this tremendous mitzva. We can make bracha after bracha, week after week. We should all be zoche to the excitement of making brachos and to be able to make many more brachos.

- Mrs. Gelbfish from Yerushalayim

### THANK YOU HASHEM!

On Shabbos I was holding a tissue in one hand and my really expensive diamond gold Bas Mitzva ring that I got from my grandmother in the other hand. Instead of throwing out the tissue I by accident threw out my ring into the big stuffed garbage can and watched it fall to the bottom. I put on gloves and tried looking through the dirty garbage for my ring. After a minute I gave up and asked my father what to do. He said you can't search through the garbage for it on Shabbos and that I should wait till Shabbos is over and try to get it then.

After Shabbos I took out the garbage and tried pouring it into another garbage, hoping to spot the ring. It wasn't working, so I said "Hakol Yachol", was mechazek myself in Emunah, and committed to sending in my story to The Spring Hill Times.

B"H, I found it a minute later. Thank You Hashem and thank you Spring Hill Times!

-A Reader, Far Rockaway, NY



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*Hashem is Wonderful!*

*Life is Wonderful!*

*Klal Yisrael is Wonderful!*



**R**av Yisroel Brog shared that an old friend of his named Yitzzy\* from the Lower East Side left his Tefilin in his car and an אינו יהודי Ganav stole them. Yitzzy put signs up all over Williamsburg, which borders Manhattan, asking anyone who is approached by an אינו יהודי selling stolen Tefilin to please purchase them at any price, posting his phone number along with a promise of complete reimbursement.

Despite the extremely unlikely chance of ever seeing his precious Tefilin again, Yitzzy davened to Hashem with his full heart and trusted that Hashem would help him.

A week later, a storekeeper called Yitzzy. "I found your Tefilin, and just purchased them from the Ganav himself. Please come at once to my store in Williamsburg."

Yitzzy arrived at the store and asked the storekeeper how much money he paid the Ganav for the Tefilin, expecting it to be a very large sum of money.

The storekeeper replied, "It only cost me five dollars! At first, the Ganav walked into my store and showed me this 'Jewish item' and offered to sell it to me for eighty-five dollars. I said 'Sure! Just can I please try them on first?' I then tried on the Tefilin, putting on the Shel Yad and then the Shel Rosh. I then asked the Ganav, 'They fit perfectly on my left hand and on my head, but where is the one for the other hand! It's not worth eighty-five

dollars since one hand is missing!' The Ganav's face turned beet red, and he said, 'Just pay me five dollars and take it!' I handed the Ganav a five dollar bill and he ran out of my store faster than a deer, afraid I would figure out that he was selling stolen merchandise and call the police."

This story teaches us a few valuable lessons.

Firstly, that Hashem loves us, listens to our Tefilos, and can turn around a situation that appears hopeless and lost.

Secondly, we learn to appreciate the priceless and infinite value of our Mitzvos. The Ganav in the story had no idea how valuable his stolen Tefilin were, and he therefore traded them for very little, when in fact they were extremely expensive and precious. Let us learn from this Ganav to properly value every word of our Torah, Tefila and seemingly small acts of Chesed that we do.

When we learn even ONE WORD of Torah, we are literally building worlds and we receive the credit of all 613 Mitzvos, because the Torah is עץ חיים The Tree Of Life, Life in this World, and Life in Olam Haba.

When we Daven to Hashem, our Tefilos go straight up to Hashem's Crown נבינול and are cherished and treasured by Hashem beyond all understanding.

Our 'small acts' of Chesed are priceless and very desirable to Hashem beyond comprehension.

Hashem is so happy with our sincere efforts, regardless of outcomes or accomplishments!

Hashem Loves Us!

Hashem Loves You Hotline'  
267-833-0596