



“Rather you shall go to my land and to my birthplace, and you shall take a wife for my son, for Yitzchak.” (Parshas Chayei Sarah, Bereishis 24:4)

The 24-year old boy studying in a yeshiva in Israel was anxious to get started on shidduchim since almost everyone of his peers was already married. His only obstacle was an older brother back in the States who was still unmarried. His high hopes for a breakthrough in the situation through a shidduch in which his brother was involved were dashed when a call came from home that once again nothing had come of this attempt to find a marriage partner. He then began to seriously consider passing up his brother despite the pain this might cause him. When he finally decided to do so he phoned his parents to inform them.

His father’s reaction was to inquire whether he had asked a Rosh Yeshiva’s advice on the matter. Although he was absolutely confident that he would receive confirmation of his decision, he consented to immediately seek his advice. Since his own Rosh Yeshiva was officiating at a wedding out of town and he was anxious to fulfill his promise to his father, he decided to consult the head of a yeshiva not far away from his own.

After hearing his situation the Rosh Yeshiva said it was permissible for him to pass up his brother but also asked him for some details about that brother’s personality and what type of girl he was looking for. Upon hearing his description the Rosh Yeshiva told him that he knew a family in the States whose daughter would be an ideal match and gave him their telephone number...The happy ending was that the older brother became engaged to that girl and our hero’s problem was solved by heeding his father’s advice to seek advice.

[Source: Ohr Somayach Institutions www.ohr.edu . Printed with permission]

Hints & Answers* **HALACHA CHALLENGE** Mishna Berura (262:5) teaches: If it is within the person’s means, it’s proper to have a special tallis for Shabbos. **RHYMES:** “above”. **RIDDLES & TRIVIA** ”ויהיו חיי שרה” - *Peirush Da’as Zekenim* points out that the *gematria* of the first word of the *parsha*—ויהיו—equals to 37, hinting that Sarah *Imeinu’s* life (חיי שרה) was only 37 years. | *Note: Menucha’s answer are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha, but rather as a springboard for discussions & further study.



Menucha

A Shabbos table companion for the whole family

לענין ר' ברוך חיים בן שלמון ז"ל

בס"ד

Volume 14, Issue 5

Chayei Sarah

5785

Halacha Challenge



“Rather, you must go to my native land, to my birthplace and obtain a wife for my son Yitzchok.” [Bereishis 24:4]

“Mazal Tov! Mazal Tov!” Aaron and Rivky, the newly married couple, heard from their hosts and friends as they were leaving the Sheva Brachos. It was a Thursday

evening. As they were driving home, Aaron realized that tomorrow is Shabbos. “Rivky, I don’t have a tallis!” said Aaron worriedly.

“What do you mean?! I gave you a tallis as a present on the day of our wedding,” she replied.

“Right. But I don’t have a special tallis for Shabbos!” he explained.

“Why do you need one?!” wondered Rivky

“What do you mean? Just like I have a special suit and a hat for Shabbos I need a special tallis for Shabbos,” said Aaron

“Hmm...I see what you mean, but I don’t think it’s necessary because *lekavod Shabbos* we only need to put on nice clothing. And tallis is not clothing.” reasoned Rivky.

Question: Who is right—the *chasan* or the *kallah*?

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

DEDICATIONS

◆ Dedicated anonymously for *yeshuos* and *refuos* to all Klal Yisroel





Parsha Pearls

“And it will be, [that] the maiden to whom I will say, 'Lower your pitcher and I will drink,' and she will say, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels,' **her have You designated** for Your servant, for Yitzchok, and through her may I know that You have performed loving kindness with my master.” - Bereishis 24:14

On the words “her have You designated” *Rashi* comments: “She is worthy of him, for she will perform acts of kindness, and she is fit to enter the house of Avraham.”

Midrash Rabba (59:4) brings the following story: “When Rav Shmuel bar Rav Yitzchok—who would dance with three branches—passed away, winds and hurricanes came out and uprooted all fine trees of Eretz Yisroel.

“Why did this happen? Because he would take branches from them and would walk in front of a bride [juggling with the branches in order to bring gladness to the newly married bride]. And Rabbanan would say, “Why is he doing that? Why is he disgracing the Torah? Rav Zeira would say to them, “Leave him alone. He knows what’s he is doing.”

“After his passing, people went out to accord him honor by taking part in his funeral. [At the funeral procession] a branch of fire descended from above and took the form of a myrtle branch and made a separation between his bier and the public.

“People said, “See how this elder who would stand and exert himself [to bring joy to others by juggling branches] is now honored by his branch [of the Heavenly fire] standing in front of him!”

This Midrash demonstrates that a person whose life is a pursuit of doing kindness to others is so great in Hashem’s eyes, that Hashem is ready to bring fire from Heaven to honor such person.



Rhymes for Kids



“*Rivka is worthy of Yitzchok, for she will perform acts of kindness, and she is fit to enter the family of Avraham.*” - Rashi’s commentary to Bereishis 24:14

When *chessed* I do with much simcha and love,
Much *nachas* I bring to my Father _____



Trivia & Riddles



Peirush Da’as Zekenim writes that even though the verse says that Sarah Immeinu lived for 127 years, she began her true life at the age of 90, when she gave birth to her son Yitzchok. *Da’as Zekenim* says that the hint to it is in the first 3 words of the parsha (“ויהיו חיי שרה”). Can you figure out how that is hinted in those words?

? DID YOU KNOW THAT ?

You probably know that a Rivka happily agreed to do an act of kindness for Eliezer and she gave him water to drink from her jug. **But did you know** that when she told him that she will give him to drink, she addressed him in a very honorable way, saying, “Drink my master”? The Torah is teaching us here that we should treat the recipients of our kindness with honor.