



A contingent of government officials came to Rimanov to search the city for a suitable storage warehouse for the army's food and supplies. After combing the city, the only place they came up with was the local shul. When the heads of the Kehilla heard, they ran to Rav Mendele of Rimanov to ask him what to do.

One person jumped up and said that as soon as the officials find out that the roof leaks and all their supplies will be ruined, they will not use our shul as a storehouse. Everyone agreed and seemed satisfied with the plan. However, Rav Mendele heard this and said that they are sorely mistaken. "In fact, it is because of the leaky roof that this *g'zeira* befell us," the Rav said, "If we don't take care of our shul and don't treat it with honor, allowing the roof to leak, what do you expect of the non-Jews? Go fix the roof right away and everything will be okay."

They did as they were instructed, and never heard from the officials again.

**Hints & Answers\*** **SHMIRAS SHABBOS:** *Sefer Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa* (16:7) teaches that something that holds the air with a plug can be blown up on Shabbos, as long as it was blown up before Shabbos (and then deflated). **RHYMES:** "tefilla". **RIDDLES:** Rivka ate grapes and other fruits that get a *bracha* of *Borei Peri HaEitz*. Therefore, her after *bracha* for the grapes (*Al HaEitz*) will cover the other fruits as well. Sarah ate grapes and strawberries or similar such fruits that get a *bracha* of *Borei Peri HaAdama*. For the after-brachos, she will need to say *Al HaEitz* for the grapes and *Borei Nefashos* for the other fruits. | \*Note: Menucha's answer are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha, but rather as a springboard for discussions and further study.

## Halacha Challenge



### Blowing Up a Beach Ball



On a Shabbos afternoon, Shmuli was having fun playing Peek-A-Boo with his baby brother, Moishy.

"Shmuli – I need to go to a *shiur*," said Imma, "You are 11 years old. I think you're old enough to babysit your baby

brother."

Shmuli was happy to do it. Five minutes after Shmuli's mother left, the baby started crying. The Peek-A-Boo game was not keeping him happy anymore. Shmuli tried all kinds of tricks, but nothing worked. Then, he saw a deflated beach ball in the toy corner of the living room.

"Great!" exclaimed Shmuli, "The baby will love playing with it. I just need to blow it up."

**Question:** Can Shmuli blow up the beach ball?

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#### DEDICATIONS

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

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## Parsha Pearls

In this week's parsha, regarding the vows, the Torah says, **לֹא יִחַל דְּבָרוֹ** And Rashi comments: "*he should not profane his word; [that is,] he should not make his words mundane.*" The commentators ask why doesn't the verse simply say 'he should not transgress his word'? The Nesivos Shalom (Mattos, "Lo Yachel Devaro") explains that with Rashi's interpretation, the meaning of the verse has a deep meaning. A person's words have *kedusha* and thus, he cannot make them mundane.

But from where did the words receive their *kedusha*? The answer is, from the person's mouth. Nesivos Shalom cites the teachings of Rabbeinu Yona that a mouth of Jew takes a status of a **כלי שרת** (a dedicated vessel used for *avodas Hashem*) when he uses it in an upstanding way. The Nesivos Shalom asks: Why out of all parts of the body the mouth is the part that can have a status of a **כלי שרת**? He gives a remarkable answer:

The *navi* says (Yeshayahu 43:21): **עַם-זֶה יִצְרַתִּי לִי תִהְיֶה לִי יְסֻפְרוּ** (*This nation I created for Myself, [so that] it will tell about My praises*). In other words, says the Nesivos Shalom, the purpose of Bnei Yisroel in the world is to talk about Hashem's praises. Therefore, the mouth is unique and has a potential to become a **כלי** that's dedicated for the sanctified work.



## Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

The laws of *kashering kelim* are taught in this week's parsha.

**Ask Around Your Table:** Although almost all of the laws in the Torah were taught by Moshe Rabbeinu, the laws of *kashering kelim* were not taught by Moshe (they were taught by Elazar Hakohen). Why not?

**Answer:** Rashi comments: "**לפי שבא משה לכלל כעס בא לכלל טעות**" - *Since Moshe entered a state of anger [when he got upset at the generals of the army], he entered a state of making a mistake (and he forgot the laws of kashering kelim).*

So next time you're being pulled to get angry, remember this comment of Rashi and you'll pull back.



## Rhymes for Kids



What is sweeter than vanilla  
My heart's sincere \_\_\_\_\_

Regarding the 1000 troops from each *shevet* that Moshe Rabbeinu needed to send to fight a war against Midian in this week's parsha, Midrash teaches:

"אֶלֶף לַמִּטָּה..." יֵשׁ אוֹמְרִים שְׁנֵי אֲלָפִים מִכָּל שִׁבְט וְשִׁבְט שְׁלַח, וְיֵשׁ אוֹמְרִים שְׁלֹשָׁת אֲלָפִים מִכָּל שִׁבְט וְשִׁבְט: שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר אֲלָף מִשְׁמָרִים אֶת כְּלֵיהֶם...וְשְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר אֲלָף לַתְּפִלָּה. [במדבר רבה, מסות כב, סימן ב]

"One thousand per shevet" Some say that Moshe sent 2000 [troops] from each shevet, while others say that Moshe sent 3000 [troops] from each shevet: [Twelve thousand to battle,] twelve thousand to guard the weapons,...and **twelve thousand for tefilla**. [Bamidbar Rabba, Mattos 22:2]



## Trivia & Riddles



Rivka and Sarah came home from school and sat down at the table for a snack. Their mother put a plate of grapes in front of each girl. Each plate had the same amount of grapes. Each girl ate only from her plate. They ate all of the grapes in 4 minutes and did not say *bracha achrona*. After that, their mother added more fruits to each girl's plate. Although Rivka's fruits were not of the same type as Sarah's, the volume of fruits that each girl received was the same. Each girl ate only from her plate. They ate all of the fruits in 4 minutes. Their mother turned to Rivka and said: "You need to say one bracha for this snack." Then, she turned to Sarah and said: "You need to say two *brachos* for this snack."

Why does Rivka need to say only one bracha, while Sarah needs to say two *brachos*?