

Just a Story



Once, R' Shlomo Zalman's sister came to his house to ask about a certain bachur who was suggested as prospective match for her daughter. When she first entered the house, there were a few people waiting to speak to R' Shlomo Zalman. She waited until they left, and finally she was alone with R' Shlomo Zalman and his Rebbitzin. She asked him about the bachur, and he answered, "He's a fine boy."

When R' Shlomo Zalman's sister was about to leave, he asked her if she was planning on visiting their sister in Sharei Chesed before she went home and she answered in the affirmative. Later, when she left the house of their sister, she found R' Shlomo Zalman waiting outside. He approached her and said, "Regarding the bachur, you should know that you should only ask about others in privacy." "But who was there?" she said. "The Rebbitzin was there," he said, "and she doesn't need to hear loshon hara." Then he told her, "Don't follow through with this shidduch. He's not for your daughter."

R' Shlomo Zalman felt responsible to convey the proper information to his sister, but he was so sensitive to his rebbitzin's feelings that he didn't even want to ask her to leave the room. Instead, he used his precious time to meet his sister in another location, saving his wife from hearing loshon hara and from being insulted!

Source: The Man of Truth and Peace. Special thanks to Revach L'Neshama for the translation.

Hints & Answers* **SHMIRAS SHABBOS:** *Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa* (28:85) teaches: "If Tisha B'Av falls on a Sunday, it is permitted to eat and drink extra at *Sholosh Seudos*, even if his intention in doing that is to make it easier for him to fast. However, he should not say that he is eating for that purpose." **RIDDLES:** Shimon is a father of a new baby boy. The boy had the *bris* done today (on a "pushed off" 9th of Av). After midday, the baby's father and mother, the *mohel* and a *sandek* are allowed to eat! See *Shulchan Aruch* 559:9. | *Note: answer are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha, but rather as a springboard for discussions, further study, and questions to a *posek*, etc.

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Menucha

A Shabbos table companion
for the whole family

לענין ר' ברוך חיים בן שלמון ז"ל

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Halacha Challenge

Eat Green Grapes to Easy the Fast



On a Shabbos afternoon, the day before the fast day, 12 year-old Miriam was a bit nervous about the upcoming fast. Then, she remembered the words of her camp counselor: "If you eat green grapes on the day before the fast day, you will have a much easier time fasting!"

"Hmm...Do we have any green grapes?" she asked herself on the way to the fridge. When she open the refrigerator's

door, she exclaimed, "What a *Hashgacha Pratis*! We have green grapes! Hashem loves me!"

In a couple of minutes, she was sitting on a couch with a bowl of grapes in her left hand. But as she picked up the first grape to eat, she thought to herself, "Wait a minute! I don't really like green grapes. And I am only eating them to make my fasting easier. Would doing this be considered as *hachana* (preparing on Shabbos for a weekday) and therefore, would be prohibited?"

Question: Can Miriam eat those green grapes now just so that she can have an easier fast day tomorrow?

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

DEDICATIONS

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

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THIS PUBLICATION REQUIRES GENIZA



Parsha Pearls

אלה הדברים אשר דבר משה אל כל ישראל... ובין תפל ולבן... דברים א:

These are the words that Moshe spoke to all of Yisroel...and between Tofel and white... -- Devorim 1:1

Rashi tells us that the first verse of this week's parsha lists through hints the rebuking words that Moshe Rabbeinu told to Klal Yisroel. Regarding the words "between Tofel and white" Rashi (quoting the words of Chazal) writes: הוכיחן על הדברים שתפלו על המן שהוא לבן - *He rebuked them for complaining about the mann that was white.*

What lesson can we learn from this? Don't complain about your food! The food that's on your plate, although it is not "the *mann*", it is "a *mann*" - it is the food that HaKadosh Baruch Hu gave you. Appreciate it. Appreciate Hashem's love for you that is manifested in your food's color, texture, taste and nutritional value.



Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

Ask around your Shabbos table: What do you think is the main thing that prevents the Beis Hamikdash from being rebuilt!?

Answer: In his book, *Kuntres Ahavas Yisroel*, the Chofetz Chaim tells us:

ואין אנו מתבוננים על עיקר העיכוב של בנין בית המקדש [היינו שנאת חינו]

...Yet we are not thinking in depth about the main cause that prevents the rebuilding of the Beis Hamikdash [i.e., the שנאת חינו (baseless hatred)]

One way to stop hating a person, teaches the Chofetz Chaim, is to realize that the person is beloved to Hashem, as many verses testify about the love that Hashem has for Bnei Yisroel. Therefore, a person should tell himself, "How can I hate someone who is a beloved of Hashem?!"



Parsha Trivia & Riddles



Sunday. Tisha B'Av. Everyone is fasting. Shimon, however, is eating and enjoying a delicious roll. Shimon is Jewish and Torah observant. He is awake, and fully aware of everything, including the fact that today is a fast day. Shimon is not in danger and is perfectly healthy.

Why is Shimon not fasting!?

? DID YOU KNOW THAT ?

בעבר הירדן בארץ מואב הואיל משה באר את-התורה הזאת לאמר.

On that side of the Jordan, in the land of Moab, Moshe explained this Torah, saying, (Devorim 1:5)

You probably know that Rashi comments on this verse and says:

Moshe explained it to them in seventy languages.

But did you know that the reason why Moshe had to do that, as explained by some commentaries on the Chumash, was in order to bring *kedusha* into other languages as well, so that when a Jew will learn Torah in a foreign language, his learning will have *kedusha* of Torah!