

# AT THE ARTSCROLL SHABBOS TABLE

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RABBI YITZCHOK HISIGER, EDITOR  
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MRS. AVIVA KOHN

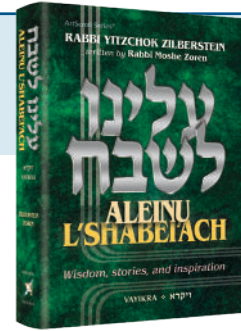
WEEKLY INSPIRATION AND INSIGHT ADAPTED FROM CLASSIC ARTSCROLL TITLES

DEDICATED BY MENACHEM AND BINAH BRAUNSTEIN AND FAMILY  
L'ILLUI NISHMAS RAV MOSHE BEN RAV YISSOCHOR BERISH AND MARAS YENTA BAS YISROEL CHAIM

## PARASHAH

### GESHMAK TZU ZEIN AH YID

*Aleinu L'Shabei'ach* by Rav Yitzchok Zilberstein,  
written by Rabbi Moshe Zoren



אָמַר אֶל הַכֹּהֲנִים.

*Say to the Kohanim ... and tell them (21:1).*

Rashi quotes the Talmud's teaching (*Yevamos* 114a) that the reason the Torah uses the redundant wording of *Say to the Kohanim* followed by *and tell them* is to caution adults with regard to minors — "*le-hazhir gedolim al haketanim.*"

The commandment that follows these words is directed at the entire Jewish people. If so, in what way do the words *Say to the Kohanim ... and tell them* allude to minors?

One possible answer is that the word "*le-hazhir*" — generally understood as "to warn" — can be understood in the alternate sense of *zohar*, radiance. If so, the repetitive terminology in this verse comes to teach that it is a parent's obligation to instill the radiant feeling in his children that there is no greater joy than that of keeping the *mitzvos*.

This is a fundamental principle of *chinuch*.

Parents who merely tell their children to keep Torah and *mitzvos* will not necessarily succeed in raising Torah-observant children. Only when the children sense that their parents genuinely love and cherish Torah and *mitzvos* will their parents' words have an effect on them.

Even if children see their parents demon-

strating great self-sacrifice in order to keep *Shabbos*, *kashrus* and the like, and even if the parents repeatedly tell their

children that a Jew's mission in life is to remain faithful to the Torah even in times of challenge, that is not enough to imbue the children with a deep desire to keep Torah and *mitzvos*. It is quite possible that the children will say, "Our parents were strong and were able to withstand these trials, but we are too weak to overcome our *yeitzer hara.*" They may then use this excuse to rationalize their neglect of their spiritual obligations.

Parents have to show their children that the challenges they face in their *mitzvah* observance do not pose any tri-

al or difficulty to them whatsoever! They have to demonstrate that Torah and *mitzvos* are so precious and beloved to them that there can never even be a question of whether or not to observe the *mitzvos*.

Only in this way can parents impart to the next generation the fierce love and loyalty to Torah that will propel them to keep the *mitzvos* joyously throughout their lives. 📖



Rav Yitzchok Zilberstein

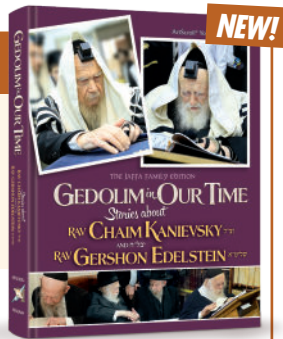
## A PARENT'S OBLIGATION IS TO INSTILL THE RADIANT FEELING IN HIS CHILDREN.

ARTSCROLLS  
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

## HUMILITY

### GOOD THINKING

*Gedolim in Our Times – Stories About Rav Chaim Kanievsky zt”l and Rav Gershon Edelstein shlit”a adapted by Libby Lazewnik*



*A student related:*

I remember once, when Rav Gershon Edelstein was young, the Ponovezher Rav, Rav Yosef Shlomo Kahaneman zt”l, asked him, “Why don’t you want to publish your original Torah thoughts in a book? Your *sevaros* (thoughts, proofs) are logical and will certainly help other people who can learn from them.”

Then he added, “You were blessed with a logical mind. You can help other *bnei Torah* with your ideas.”

Rav Gershon modestly replied, “When I am older, my thoughts will be even more logical than they are today. Therefore, it would be a good idea for me to wait instead of publishing them when I’m young.”

“Hmm,” the Ponovezher Rav remarked. “That is a logical thought, too!” 📖

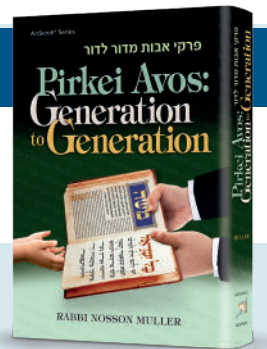


Rav Gershon Edelstein

## PIRKEI AVOS

### SON OF HASHEM

*Pirkei Avos: Generation To Generation*  
By Rabbi Nosson Muller



חֲבִיבֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁנִּקְרְאוּ  
בְּנֵי לְמֻקְדָּם.

*Beloved are the people Yisrael, for they are described as children of the Omnipresent (Avos 3:18).*

This segment of the *Mishnah* discusses the special and exclusive love Hashem has toward us as His children. The loving title of “children” is something only we as a nation have merited. Accordingly, when the *Mishnah* continues and says that we have been graced with “*chibah yeseirah* — an extra expression of love,” it can be understood to mean that we were apprised of our high stature and unique title.

Rav explains that these words can also be referring to the other nations of the world and how they, too, know how special and elevated we are.

Rav Yaakov Meir Shechter relates that an elderly *Yerushalmi*

*Yid* whose son was involved in politics and shared warm relationships with many heads of state once told him the following: “A friend of my son rushed over to me one day in *shul* and excitedly showed me a picture that was printed in that morning’s newspaper of my son in conversation with the president of the United States. ‘Isn’t this a *nachas* for you?’ he asked me breathlessly. I looked him in the eye and said, ‘Why are you showing me this picture? It means nothing to me! You know who you should show it to? To the president’s father! He should get *nachas* to see how his son is conversing with a son of Hashem!’”

Imagine what better parents, teachers, friends, and colleagues we would be if we regarded every Jew we encountered this way... 📖

**“YOU KNOW WHO YOU SHOULD SHOW IT TO? TO THE PRESIDENT’S FATHER!”**

## CHINUCH

### GOOD COP, BAD COP

*Yedidi – Rabbi Shmuel Berkovicz, whose warmth and caring inspired people to strive for greatness by Rabbi Yechiel Spero*

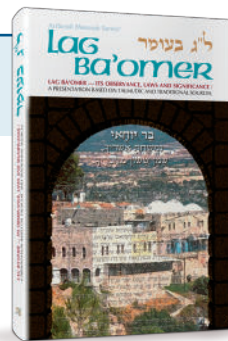


“I fondly remember my first year in Yeshiva Ktana of Passaic,” shared a fourth-grade *rebbe*. “One boy needed admonishment — to say the least. When the *menahel*, Rabbi Shmuel Berkovicz, spoke to him, he started telling him how we have to change his class or perhaps even put him in a lower grade.

“Then something amazing happened. Rabbi Berkovicz motioned to me that I should argue with him to show that I want the boy in my class, and so I did.

“He explained to me afterward that as a *menahel*, he can ‘give it to the boy,’ but as a *rebbe*, the main ingredient is the *kesher*, and when I defended the boy, I was building an everlasting relationship. That’s a true *mechanech!*”

With a brilliant understanding of children. 📖



The day of *Lag Ba'omer* is auspicious for healing of the soul and the spirit (*Orah V'Simchah*, p. 20). Rav Yonasan Eibenschutz wrote:

*The day of Lag Ba'omer is the hilula of Rav Shimon bar Yochai. He died on that day and in Heaven there was joyous celebration... It is fitting for everyone who possesses awe of G-d in his heart to repent on that day, for the merit of Rav Shimon bar Yochai will assist those who come to purify themselves. [And certainly] one should not waste his day with vanities of the world...*

A number of medieval commentators wrote that this day is auspicious for being granted the blessing of children. Some advise the couple to vow that if a son will be born to them, he will

be named "Shimon" after Rav Shimon bar Yochai, or that the child's *upsherin* (first haircut) will take place in Meron at the *kever* of Rav Shimon. There are other *segulos* (auspicious omens) related to this as well.

The letters of *Meron* are an acronym for *Melech Rofei Ne'eman V'rachaman, the King, Who is a faithful and compassionate healer*, a hint to the healing powers of *Lag Ba'omer* in merit of Rav Shimon bar Yochai who is buried in Meron (*Hilula D'Rashbi* citing *Lechem Shlomo*). Therefore, one should pray on this day with added intensity that the sick be cured of their illnesses and

that the barren be granted children.

It was on the eighteenth of *Iyar*, the day on which *Lag Ba'omer* falls, that the *mann* began to fall from Heaven during the Jews' sojourn in the Wilderness. It was then that a flow of spiritual and material blessing was initiated, for that generation and for their posterity. Every year on *Lag Ba'omer*, this aura of blessing is manifest, making the day a most auspicious time to pray that one be granted needs of both body and spirit (*Rav Yaakov of Huseyatim*).



Rav Yaakov Meir Shechter

**EVERY YEAR ON LAG BA'OMER, THIS AURA OF BLESSING IS MANIFEST.**

### *The Forgotten Promise*

In *V'Nichtav BaSefer*, Rav Yaakov Meir Shechter relates the following:

In the Old City complex of Battei Machseh, where Rav Shechter lived as a boy, resided an outstanding *Sefardic* scholar named Chacham Shaul Sharbani. Chacham Shaul once related that when he was a young man, he and a friend received notices from the ruling Turkish government that they had been drafted to serve in the Turkish Army. It was well known that for a religious Jew to serve in the Turkish Army meant being exposed to serious physical and spiritual dangers.

Thus, anyone who received the dreaded notice did everything in his power to free himself from service. Shaul and his friend devised a plan which stood a fair chance of accomplishing this goal. They both vowed that if Hashem would help them succeed, they would express their gratitude by traveling to Meron to pray at the *kever* of Rav Shimon bar Yochai. The plan worked and they were both exempted from army duty. Shaul Sharbani wasted no time in fulfilling his promise, which involved a week-long journey by donkey or camel. He arrived safely in Meron and poured out his heart in prayer of thanksgiving.

His friend, however, did not join him. For whatever reason, he never made the trip to Meron. Unfortunately, the friend later received a second draft notice. Chacham Shaul was never again asked to serve.

In recounting this episode, Rav Schechter writes: "Both when praying in times of distress and when expressing thanksgiving to G-d for one's successes, a person must always remember that all his efforts and successes are only through the kindness of G-d who had mercy upon him and rescued him. Only then can one's successes endure." 📖

### THIS WEEK'S DAF YOMI SCHEDULE:

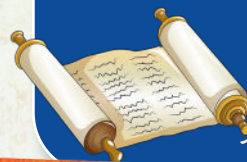
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SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
14 י"ד	15 ט"ו	16 ט"ז	17 י"ח	18 י"ט	19 י"א	20 י"ב
Yevamos 68	Yevamos 69	Yevamos 70	Yevamos 71	Yevamos 72	Yevamos 73	Yevamos 74

### THIS WEEK'S MISHNAH YOMI SCHEDULE:

MAY / אייר

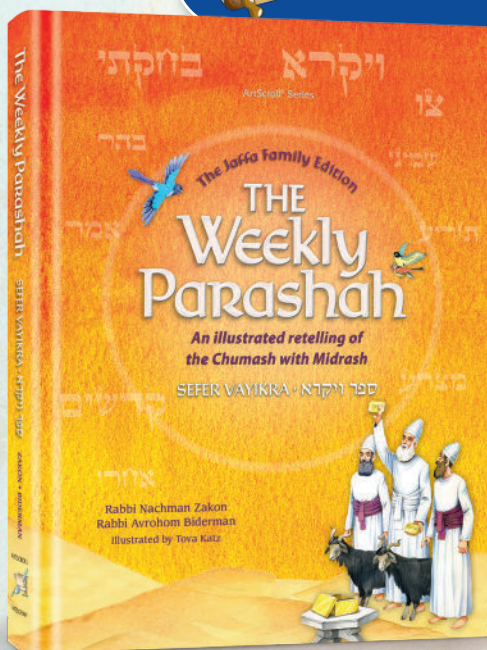
SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
14 י"ד	15 ט"ו	16 ט"ז	17 י"ח	18 י"ט	19 י"א	20 י"ב
Sheviis 3:7-8	Sheviis 3:9-10	Sheviis 4:1-2	Sheviis 4:3-4	Sheviis 4:5-6	Sheviis 4:7-8	Sheviis 4:9-10



# Parashah for Children

## פרשת אמור

### Kohanim Who Can't Fly



**K**ohanim don't walk through cemeteries. If they have to go to a cemetery, they stay in the middle of the wide paved roads, so they are not near the graves.



Kohanim are usually buried at the edges of a cemetery or in graves

next to a wide road, so relatives who are Kohanim who come to visit will be able to see the gravestone when they pray.

There was a time when Kohanim in Eretz Yisrael had a big problem flying out of the country.

What does being a Kohen have to do with flying in an airplane?

A lot!

In 2001, it was discovered that many flights leaving Eretz Yisrael flew over a Jewish cemetery on their way out of the country! Most halachic authorities say that Kohanim are not allowed to fly over a Jewish cemetery. Because of that, Kohanim couldn't leave Eretz Yisrael unless they traveled by car or bus to Jordan and took flights from there.

Finally, the flight plans of the Israeli planes were changed not to go over the cemetery, so Kohanim could fly again!



**WIN A \$36 ARTSCROLL GIFT CARD!**

## THE WEEKLY QUESTION

Question for Parashas Emor:

**How many mumim are there that prevent a kohein from performing the avodah?**

Kids, please ask your parents to email the answer to [shabbosquestion@artscroll.com](mailto:shabbosquestion@artscroll.com) by this Wednesday to be entered into a weekly raffle to win a \$36 ARTSCROLL GIFT CARD! Be sure to include your full name, city, and contact info. Names of winners will appear in a future edition. HINT: The answer can be found in *The Jaffa Family Edition Weekly Parashah*.

**The winner of the Pesach question is: SHOLOM YOSEF RUMSTEIN, Brooklyn, NY**

The question was: *What belongs to you, but your friends use it more?*  
The answer is: *Your name!*

