

Vaeira / ואֵירָא

Hashem, Our Savior

By: Aharon Spetner
Illustrations by: M. Weinreb

Toras Avigdor Junior

Adapted from the teachings
of Rav Avigdor Miller z"l

Yitzy hobbled on his crutches into the doctor's office with his father and younger sister. Finally, he was going to get the cast taken off of his leg! He couldn't stand how much it itched, and most of all, he hated not being able to walk or run around with his friends.

"Totty," asked little Yaeli fearfully, as they entered the waiting room. "Am I going to get a shot?"

"No, Yaeli," smiled Totty. "We're not here for you. Yitzy is the one with an appointment."

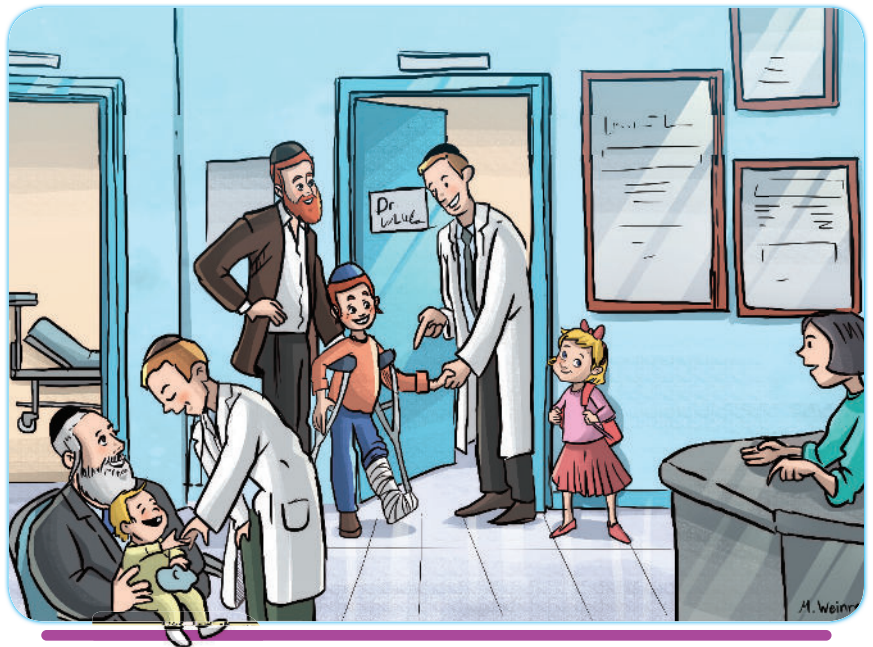
Relieved, Yaeli looked up at her older brother. "Don't worry Yitzy," she said compassionately. "It only hurts for a little bit."

"I'm not getting a shot, Yaeli," Yitzy said with a grin. "I'm here to get the cast taken off of my leg."

"What? No!" Little Yaeli said. "You need to keep it until I learn how to write, so I can sign my name on it!"

"Yaeli," said Totty, laughing. "Do you really think that's fair to make Yitzy keep his cast on until you learn to write? Here, come and look at the books they have here and I'll read you a story."

A few minutes later, a nurse appeared in the waiting room. "Greenbaum, Yitzy!" she called. "Doctor Caufi will see you now."



For sponsorship opportunities
please call: 732.844.3670

Yitzy quickly stood up on his crutches and hobbled over to the doctor's room, followed by Totty and little Yaeli.

"Hi Yitzy," the doctor said with a smile. "Are you ready to get rid of your cast?"

"Ready?" replied Yitzy. "I'm ready to rip it off with my teeth!"

"Hmmm, I'm not a dentist, but I don't think that would be a good idea," said the doctor, still smiling.

"So how do you remove it?" asked Yitzy. "Do you dissolve it with hydrochloric acid? Do you insert tiny explosives in it and detonate them?"

"Hmmm, those are interesting options," the doctor said thoughtfully. "But I think it might be safer if we do it the traditional way with this circular saw." The doctor picked up a small saw and held it out for Yitzy to see.

"A saw???" Yitzy exclaimed. "That's safer???"

"Well yes," the doctor explained. "It's a lot easier to control a small saw than it is to mess around with dangerous corrosive acid or explosives. Here, let me show you."

Yitzy heard a whirring noise coming from the saw and before he knew it, the doctor had cut through the outer layer of the cast and it fell off his leg onto the floor with a **CLUNK**.

"Wow, I want a saw like that!" Yitzy said excitedly.

"We'll see, Yitzy," replied Totty.

"So maybe?" asked Yitzy hopefully.

"We'll see," Totty repeated firmly. "For now, let's see you try to walk."

Yitzy stood up and gingerly took a step with his newly-mended leg.

"I can walk!" Yitzy said excitedly. "And I can jump too!" he shouted as he started to dance around the room. Turning to the doctor, he added "thank you so much Dr. Caufi!" and headed out of the room with Totty and little Yaeli.

"I can't tell you how exciting this is!" Yitzy said as they drove home. "I'm so glad to be rid of that itchy cast. I sure learned the lesson Hashem taught me about not doing dangerous things like climbing up the side of the house to get my frisbee off of the roof."

"I think there might be another lesson here as well," Totty said. "You know, in this week's parsha when Moshe Rabbeinu says he will daven to Hashem to stop Makas Barad, 'וְהַבָּרָד לֹא יִהְיֶה עוֹד, לְמַעַן תִּדְרַע כִּי לֹא הָאָרֶץ יְהוָה' - and the barad will be no more, in order that you should know that the land belongs to Hashem'. Rav Avigdor Miller explains that the Torah is teaching us that not only when Hashem punishes us is there a lesson to be learned, but also when the punishment goes away, that is also from Hashem."

"Oh my!" Yitzy exclaimed as he thought about what Totty had just said. "I recognized that my leg broke because of Hashem, and I even thanked the doctor for removing the cast. But I completely forgot that the same way Hashem broke my leg, He is also the one Who healed it and caused the cast to be removed. Thank you, Hashem!"

"You know, Yitzy," Totty said as he pulled the car into the driveway. "I am so thankful to Hashem for giving me such an incredible son who is always looking to see Hashem in everything."

Takeaway:

We should take some time every day to thank Hashem, not just for all the good that He gives us, but also for Healing us and saving us from the trouble we were in.



To listen on the phone, Dial:

USA: 718-289-0899 | UK: 0333-015-0752 | Israel: 079-704-0089 | Canada: 438-771-0452