

AT THE ARTSCROLL SHABBOS TABLE

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פרשת בא
ו' שבט תשפ"ג
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RABBI YITZCHOK
HISIGER, EDITOR

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WEEKLY INSPIRATION AND INSIGHT ADAPTED FROM CLASSIC ARTSCROLL TITLES

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

PARASHAH

EVERY SINGLE CHILD

Rav Yaakov Bender On Chumash 2

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה בְּנַעֲרֵינוּ וּבְזִקְנֵינוּ גֵלְדָּהּ בְּבָנֵינוּ וּבְבָנוֹתֵינוּ בְּצֹאֲנֵנוּ וּבְבָקָרֵנוּ גֵלְדָּהּ כִּי חָג ה' לָנוּ.
Moshe said, "With our youth and with our elders we will go, with our sons and with our daughters; with our flocks and with our cattle we will go, for it is a festival of Hashem for us" (10:9).

Moshe Rabbeinu made a request. "We have to go to the *midbar* and worship our Creator." He told Pharaoh who would be going. Pharaoh refused. "Not so. Let the men go now," he said. "Why do you need the children?"

They had a fundamental disagreement here, one that Moshe Rabbeinu ended up winning. What was the root of Moshe's argument?

Rav Eizik Ausband, in his *sefer Lekach Daas*, has a beautiful explanation of what Moshe was conveying to Pharaoh.

Sometimes parents call the school requesting permission for their child to miss class since there's a family wedding. Maybe they have to travel out of town, or the child has to be at the *simchah* early. But the child isn't getting married. Why must he be there?

Because it's a family wedding, the parents explain, and when a young boy or girl has an older sibling getting married, that child is integral to the *simchah*. At each and every *simchah*, there are the *baalei simchah*, the people for whom the celebration is so personal that they are completely immersed in it.

For us, explained Rav Eizik, *avodas Hashem*, going to be *mekabel* the Torah, is "*lanu*," it's personal. It's a family *sim-*

chah. Every single child needs to be there.



Rav Eizik Ausband

IT BELONGS TO ALL OF US.



Rav Shlomo Freifeld

When they were building the original *beis medrash* of Yeshivah Shor Yoshuv, Rav Shlomo Freifeld wanted there to be steps ascending to the *bimah*. Someone pointed out that this would encourage children to run up and down, playing games in a holy place.

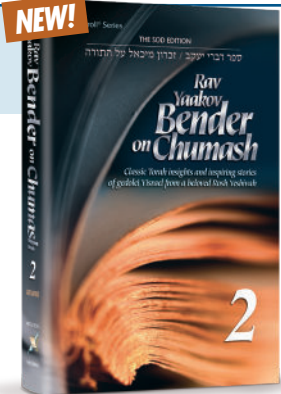
"Good," said Rav Shlomo. "That's what I want. *Kinderlach* should want to come to *shul*, even if it's only to have fun. In time, they will see their fathers *davening*, they will feel the *kedushah*, and it will already be part of them because they feel at home in the *shul*!"

Lanu!

Until this time, we live up to Moshe Rabbeinu's claim. *Yamim Tovim*, especially the *Yom Tov* celebrating Yetzias Mitzrayim and our becoming the *am hanivchar*, belong to all of us, and we will give our hearts and souls to make sure our children experience it too.

Because it's *lanu* — it belongs to all of us! 🇺🇸

NEW!



MESORAH HERITAGE FOUNDATION

CHINUCH

FOCUSING ON THE POSITIVE

Rav Elya Meir Sorotzkin
by Avrohom Birnbaum



A *rebbe* once felt compelled to highlight shortcomings in a particular *talmid* that he felt required addressing. He approached the *rosh yeshivah*, Rav Elya Meir Sorotzkin, and said, “Dovid has such and such an issue that must be worked on.”

A short while later, the *rebbe* heard that the *rosh yeshivah* had been shattered by this piece of information. What was the reason for his devastation? Rav Elya Meir held that the first thing a *rebbe* must do is to find and seek out the good qualities in each *talmid*.

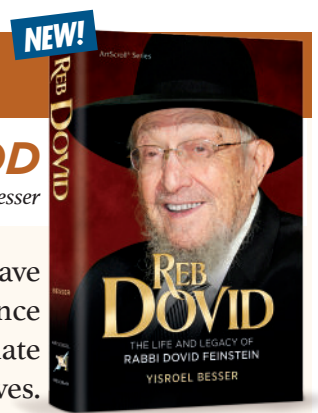
“One must imagine that he has the best *bachurim* in the world in his *yeshivah*,” Rav Elya Meir would say. “Only once that idea is completely etched into your psyche, and you really feel in your very innards that this *bachur* is going to truly *shteig* this year, then you can start focusing on the issues that need work. If you do that prematurely, it is terrible! Every *rebbe* must truly ‘hold of’ his *talmid* and view each one with tremendous *tov ayin* (positivity). Only with that underlying premise will he be successful.”

This concept was sacrosanct for Rav Elya Meir and extended beyond his *talmidim* to the *rebbeim* who comprised his staff. When the *rosh yeshivah* would test each *shiur* at the end of a *zeman*, he would consistently show his genuine amazement at the ability of the *rebbeim* to inculcate so many foundations of learning into their *talmidim*. 📖

SENSITIVITY

PARNASSAH WITH KAVOD

Reb Dovid by Yisroel Besser



A close *talmid* of Rav Dovid Feinstein was making a wedding in a Brooklyn hall, a venue that drew many *tzedakah* collectors. The manager suggested that since the stream of collectors often interrupted the wedding itself and prevented the guests from enjoying the *simchah*, it would be worthwhile to give them money in advance and ask them not to come into the hall.



Rav Dovid Feinstein

The *baal simchah* was not sure that this was the correct approach, and he asked Rav Dovid how to proceed.

“How much would you pay each collector?” Rav Dovid asked.

“The manager suggested that if I would give each one \$50, they would not come in,” the *baal simchah* replied.

Rav Dovid looked at him. “Tell me, what do you think the collectors themselves would prefer, your \$50 or the chance to work the room and try their luck?”

The *baal simchah* considered the question and said that he imagined that they would

rather have the chance to circulate themselves.

“So then let them do it,” Rav Dovid said. “Let them in.”

Then the *rosh yeshivah* smiled. “And you won’t lose any friends,” he added.



Rav Dovid, who collected millions of dollars and distributed large personal sums to *tzedakah*, once shared his perspective on finance by quoting the words of *Bircas HaMazon* to his close

friend, Stuart Rosenblum.

“*HaRachaman, Hu yefarnezeinu b’chavod*, May the Merciful One provide our livelihood with honor.”

“Stuart,” the *rosh yeshivah* said, “you see here what is best for a person - to have *parnassah* with *kavod*. What does *kavod* mean? For a Jew, it means being able to meet his own obligations and being able to help others. It means the honor of not having to ask others for help and the honor of giving. That’s what a *Yid* needs.” 📖

“THAT’S WHAT A YID NEEDS.”

THIS WEEK’S DAF YOMI SCHEDULE:

JAN-FEB / שבט

SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
28	1 29	2 30	3 31	4 1	5 2	6 3
Nazir 5	Nazir 6	Nazir 7	Nazir 8	Nazir 9	Nazir 10	Nazir 11

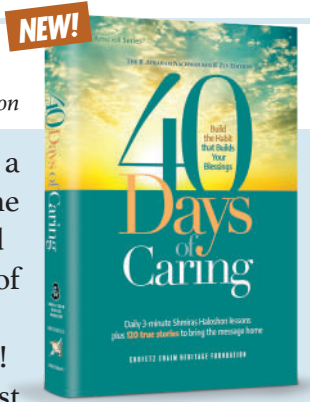
THIS WEEK’S MISHNAH YOMI SCHEDULE:

JAN-FEB / שבט

SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
28	1 29	2 30	3 31	4 1	5 2	6 3
Eruvin 1:5-6	Eruvin 1:7-8	Eruvin 1:9-10	Eruvin 2:1-2	Eruvin 2:3-4	Eruvin 2:5-6	Eruvin 3:1-2

TICKETS TO ETERNITY

40 Days of Caring The Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation



The wind cut through the night air in icy gusts. Snowbanks were piled high everywhere. And yet, the street was lined with parked cars, evidence that many people had braved a Monsey winter storm to come out that evening. Unfortunately, some of the cars were parked on the wrong side of the street, as their drivers failed to notice the small “No Parking” sign obscured by the dark night.

The men had gathered in the well-lit house in honor of Rav Yitzchak Dov Koppelman, *rosh yeshivah* of Yeshivas Lucerne in Switzerland. The revered Torah scholar was in Monsey to re-connect with his *talmidim* and raise funds for his *yeshivah*.

Rav Koppelman’s fiery words mesmerized his audience. The host of the meeting, Rabbi Friedman, a former *talmid* of the *yeshivah*, was thrilled. To think he had merited the privilege of hosting Rav Koppelman in his own home!

His rapt attention was disrupted by a flashing light in the street outside his house. Rabbi Friedman slipped out the door into the frigid wind to see a policeman approaching the line of parked cars with ticket-book in hand. Rabbi Friedman ran over to the officer.

“Please,” he begged, “a scholar came from Switzerland and is addressing his former students in my

house. He’ll be finished speaking in just a few minutes. I beg you, don’t ticket these cars; my guests will be leaving very soon.”

“I’ll give them five minutes,” the policeman said tersely, and returned to the warmth of his cruiser.

Rabbi Friedman was loathe to disturb the gathering, but how would his guests feel when they left the inspirational event only to find hefty parking tickets on their cars? A quick glance at the faces around the room, though, and he knew there was no way he could interrupt.



Rav Yitzchak Dov Koppelman

“DON’T WORRY ABOUT IT—I’M PAYING!”

When the *rosh yeshivah* finished his discourse, his former students lined up to spend a few personal moments with him. Meanwhile, Rabbi Friedman raced out the front door, hoping that the policeman had been merciful.

His hopes were dashed when he saw the tickets protruding from the windshields of all the cars lined up on the street. As he glumly turned to go back into the house, Rabbi Friedman heard the crunch of boots on snow.

A figure emerged from what seemed like nowhere.

With a quick step he approached the line of cars.

Whoosh!

The first ticket was snatched from the windshield that held it. Then the second, the third, the fourth... the man plucked the parking ticket from every windshield. Rabbi Friedman watched open-mouthed as the anonymous figure gathered up all the tickets.

The stranger suddenly noticed Rabbi Friedman. Taken by surprise, he hesitated for a moment before breaking out in a small smile.

“After they extended themselves to come out in this weather to support Torah,” the man said quietly, “they shouldn’t have to regret it. Don’t worry about it—I’m paying!” And with those words he vanished into the night.

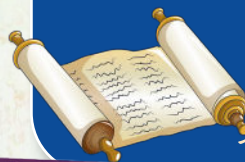
His hopes were dashed when he saw the tickets protruding from the windshields of all the cars lined up on the street.

Not everyone has the means to pay a slew of parking tickets for others. However, anyone who puts himself in another Jew’s shoes—the essence of *ahavas Yisrael*—has the means, right inside himself, of seeing the opportunities in front of him for unique, simple, anonymous acts of caring.

This week’s Yerushalmi Yomi schedule:

JAN-FEB / שבת

SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
28 Berachos 76	29 Berachos 77	30 Berachos 78	31 Berachos 79	1 Berachos 80	2 Berachos 81	3 Berachos 82



Parashah for Children

פרשת בא

Makkas Bechoros — Plague of the Firstborn

The Last Warning

Suddenly something happened to Moshe that had never happened before. Hashem spoke to him while he was standing in front of Pharaoh in the throne room! Moshe told Hashem's message to Pharaoh. "Hashem says: 'I will go through Egypt about midnight and every firstborn will die. From the firstborn of Pharaoh, the most important firstborn in the land, to the least important, the firstborn of servants and prisoners. All of them will die, and so will the firstborn animals. The sounds of so many people screaming and crying over their dead relatives will be very loud. It will be a sound that was never heard

before in Egypt, and will never be heard again.'"

In a loud voice, so everyone there would hear him, Moshe said, "You were right when you told me not to come here anymore. Because the next time we meet, it won't be here — you will come to me!"

Moshe then said, "This officer and this minister and everyone who lives in the palace will come with you and bow down to me and beg us to leave."

By this time all the Egyptian people, and even Pharaoh's ministers, realized that Moshe was a great man. They showed him respect and honor.

Revolution!

Word got out that the firstborn were going to die in the next makkah. Who was the most upset about the news? The firstborn people, of course! They didn't want to die. They spoke to their parents and spoke to Pharaoh. "Let the Jews go!" they said. "We want to live!"

But no one listened. Those who were not firstborn didn't care. They weren't going to die. Having no choice, the firstborn picked up their weapons and declared war against Pharaoh and his armies. In this battle thousands of Egyptians were killed even before Makkas Bechoros happened!

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THE WEEKLY QUESTION

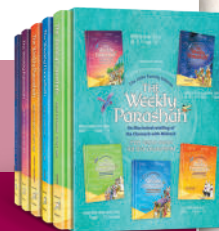
Question for Bo:

How many days before leaving Mitzrayim did the Bnei Yisrael receive the mitzvah of Rosh Chodesh?

Kids, please ask your parents to email the answer to 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 Vayechi question is: MORDECHAI YOFFE, Lakewood, NJ

The question was: Where do the words of "Hamalach hagoel osi mikol ra" come from?
The answer is: These words come from the blessing that Yaakov gave his grandsons.



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