



SHABBOS MENU

PART OF THE CCHF SHABBOS TABLE MACHSOM L'FI PROGRAM • SHABBOS PARSHAS VAYISHLACH 5784 • ISSUE 367

YOU'RE SO KIND

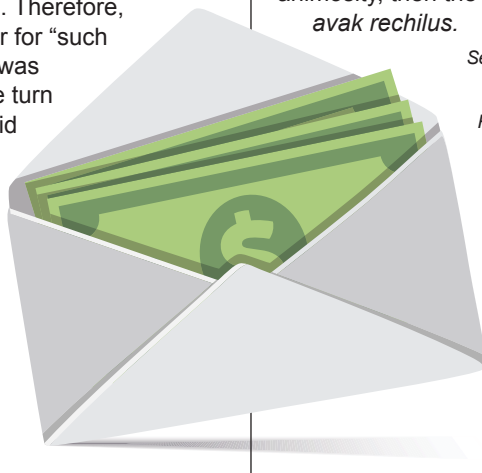
You might think everyone would love hearing "thank you." But what if the giver didn't want to give the gift?

T H E

DILEMMA

The Berenstein family was wealthy, but that didn't make Esther Berenstein any more comfortable about giving away money. Therefore her husband, Yaakov, quietly took care of all the *tzedakah* and the financial help the couple gave their married children. When their son Tzvi had his first baby, a girl, Yaakov gave them a large check to cover the expenses of the *kiddush*.

Tzvi's wife, Daniella, was not yet aware of her mother-in-law's money quirks. Therefore, when she warmly thanked her for "such a very generous check," she was surprised to see Esther's face turn tense, rather than pleased. Did Daniella err in telling Esther about the money?



T H E

HALACHAH

Because people have differing attitudes about giving loans, gifts and *tzedakah*, the Chofetz Chaim advises against mentioning such things to a person's spouse or business partner. If the information arouses animosity, then the report is *avak rechilus*.

*Sefer Chofetz
Chaim,
Hilchos
Rechilus 8:2*

Reviewed by Rabbi Moshe Mordechai Lowy. For discussion only; actual halachic decisions should be made by a *rav* or halachic expert on a case-by-case basis.



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**FOR QUESTIONS AND
COMMENTS, EMAIL**

Shabbosmenu@cchfglobal.org

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one is

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with the

precious
quality of peace."

*- Sefer Shmiras HaLoshon,
Shaar HaZechirah ch. 1*

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MALKA BREINDEL A" H BAS SHMUEL FISHEL YLCH" T

AN EMERGENCY DECISION

The famed *posek*, Rabbi Yisroel Belsky, *zt"l*, had suffered a life-threatening crisis. His esophagus had ruptured, and a debate whirled around him in his hospital room. He needed immediate surgery, but who would perform it?

Mrs. Tamar Rechnitz, Rav Belsky's daughter and the wife of R' Shlomo Yehuda Rechnitz, CCHF's Chairman of the Board, was strongly advised by a medical referral expert to transfer Rabbi Belsky to a top Manhattan hospital. There, a surgeon with expertise in the necessary procedure stood ready to operate immediately.

However, when Mrs. Rechnitz spoke to her father about the transfer, he flatly refused to go.

"The surgeon in this hospital has already been told that he will be performing the surgery," the Rav explained. "If I transfer, he will be embarrassed. He'll think, 'The Rabbi didn't have confidence in me.'" Rabbi Belsky was not willing to be the cause of the surgeon's humiliation.



sage advice

MAYBE HE'S THE ONE!

The owner of Nuts and Berries, a new kosher vegetarian restaurant, heard from reliable sources that one of the city's most popular event planners was going to make a surprise undercover visit to his restaurant. "Make a good impression," the source advised. "This guy can send gazillions of dollars your way."

"What does he look like?" asked Yoni, the restaurant owner.

"Well, he's got dark brown hair, brown eyes, a short brown beard, and glasses. He wears a black jacket, black pants, and a black hat."

Yoni gave his employees the message. "If you see a guy that looks like this," he said, "treat him like gold! Give him a good table away from the kitchen. Make sure you serve his food piping hot. Check in on him during the meal once or twice to make sure he has what he needs."

We can imagine that dozens of customers got the royal treatment at Nuts and Berries that week, because dozens fit the description. Everyone knows how to treat another person when he thinks that other person is important.

This, says the *Erech Apayim*, can teach us how to treat every Jew. We know that the world stands on the merit of 36 hidden *tzaddikim*. We also know that their identity is hidden from us.

The reason it is hidden, he says, is that Hashem wants us to realize that anyone we meet might be one of those 36. Therefore, we always need to look past the exterior and ponder the holiness of the *neshamah* within. It might not be one of the 36, but it's surely priceless.

Dvar Torah heard from Rabbi Yitzchok Fingerer, on a CCHF Upwards presentation.

TALK ABOUT IT

Do you treat "important people" differently from "regular people"? How can you increase the respect which you regard regular people?

The Torah teaches that it is better to leap into a furnace than to embarrass another person. Rabbi Belsky lived up to that teaching, putting his life on the line to avoid shaming the doctor. But for us, it doesn't usually take heroism to hold back a comment. All it takes is a moment of thought and a drop of self-control.

TALK ABOUT IT

How can you avoid accidentally embarrassing someone when it might not occur to you that what you are about to do or say will be hurtful?

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