

תשפ"ד · Bnos 5784

Parshas

Korach

אחינו כל בית ישראל הנתונים בצרה ובשביה העומדים בין בים ובין ביבשה המקום ירחם עליהם ויציאם מצרה לרוחה ומאפלה לאורה ומשעבוד לגאלה השתא בעגלא ובזמן קריב ונאמר אמן:



Story ABOUT FACE

In the Yeshiva of Novardok, where R' Avrohom Yofen (1887-1970) was the Rosh Yeshiva, there were no dormitory facilities for the talmidim. Instead, each student was responsible to find and maintain his own living quarters. Most of the students rented rooms in nearby buildings.

Most of the owners of these buildings were happy to have them as tenants. But there was an exception.

One building, where more than twenty rooms were occupied by talmidim, was owned by a bitter woman who had very little use for yeshiva bachurim. The woman, a widow who lived with her young son, constantly ridiculed and criticized each and every one of the talmidim who rented from her.

At times she created havoc in the building. For example, on one Friday afternoon, she suddenly turned off the water supply. On another, she shut the electricity for no apparent reason. Soon her harassment became too much for the talmidim to tolerate. They realized that even though the building was close to the yeshiva, it simply was not worth the trouble of living there. One by one, they began to seek new quarters. Soon the number of boys in the building dwindled down to a precious few. But the owner did not change her ways. Although her income suffered greatly because of the empty rooms, she continued her harangues.

Within a short time, the remaining boys moved out. All except one – Yosef Geffen. One morning, as Yosef was coming home from shul carrying his tefillin and a sefer, he noticed this nasty woman walking towards him. As soon as she saw him in the distance, she started to yell. “You must be crazy! How can you still stay in my building? You see that all the other boys have moved out – why do you insist on staying? Why not get out just like they did?”

Yosef paused for a moment and then said softly to the woman, “I stay here for your sake. I realize that you live alone, and I fear that one night you might fall or become ill and call out for help, and there would be no one to hear your cries. I understand that when you yell at us you are merely letting out your frustrations about being widowed and struggling to support yourself and your son. I therefore felt that it was proper for me to stay, just in case you might ever need help.”

The woman’s face turned ashen. This was not at all what she had expected to hear. She had imagined that his retort would be a sharp remark. She was so flabbergasted by the unexpected concern that she literally fell to her knees and, looking up at the yeshiva bachur, she pleaded, “Forgive me! Forgive me, young man! It never dawned on me that that was the reason you were staying. How kind and gracious of you.”

The previously harsh-looking woman suddenly looked old, crestfallen and vulnerable. She walked away slowly, immersed in her thoughts. Later in the day she came to Yosef to apologize again. For days afterwards she never said anything but kind words to the bachurim she met. Slowly, word got around that she was no longer as bitter and nasty as she had been, and bachurim started moving in again. Eventually, all the rooms in the building were filled. However, even though Yosef continued to live there, he would always use a side entrance, never once using the building's front door. For if he did, he risked the chance of meeting and inadvertently embarrassing the woman who, every time she would see him, would apologize shamefacedly again and again.

Parsha Quiz

**See how much
you know!**

1. Who was Korach's father?
2. What was his great grandfather's name?
3. What was Korach known for?
4. Did Korach have good intentions?
5. Against whom did Korach argue?
6. Who was with Korach?
7. From which Shevet were Dasan, Aviram and On?
8. How many people favored Korach?
9. Did Moshe want all the Jews to suffer?
10. What happened to Korach and his family?
11. What did Korach's punishment prove?
12. How many died because of the plague?
13. What was supposed to happen to the staff of the tribe appointed by Hashem?
14. What name was written on the staff of Levi?
15. Whose staff blossomed?
16. Where were the staffs placed?
17. From what tribe did the Kohanim come?
18. Who was given Terumah?
19. Who needed a Pidyon?
20. What about a Beheimah Tehorah?
21. How old must a Bechor be to have a Pidyon Haben?
22. For how much does one redeem his first-born son?
23. To whom do the Chozeh and the Shokeh belong?

Recipe

Coffee Slushie

Ingredients:

2 cups brewed coffee (or 2 teaspoons Elite Instant Coffee dissolved in 2 cups hot water), cooled

3/4 cup milk or Gefen Almond Milk

2 tablespoons sugar

Directions:

1. Mix cooled coffee, milk and sugar and mix well. Taste and add additional milk or sugar if needed.
2. Pour into freezer trays and freeze for several hours or overnight.
3. Remove from the freezer to soften 20 minutes before ready to serve.
4. Blend until smooth.
5. Garnish with a dollop of whipped cream and a mini coffee chocolate chip cookie and serve immediately.

Middah of the Week

Ahavas Yisroel

We want to hear from you!!

Questions, comments, or suggestions?
Email us at bnos@agudah.org.
