

To be a
חסיד

חוברת הכנה ל"ט כסלו תשע"ו



To be a חסיד

Dear Children,

Ten days until י"ט כסלו, the ראש השנה of חסידות.
We need to start preparing!!!

Here at CYH we have to parts to our הכנה this year:

- 1) Our 10 day הכנה booklet which is created for you to read and discuss around your supper table. There are things for all ages in the booklet. This year we are going to be learning about and from the Alter Rebbe's חסידים. Each day, read the booklet and learn a lesson from one of the חסידים - then do the mission to make sure you have taken the lesson to מעשה בפועל.
- 2) 24 hours - non stop חסידות. Sunday יז כסלו. Sign up and make sure you are a part of it by checking our time sheet. Email us at cyh@shluchim.org to find out how. United as ילדי השלוחים we will make sure that for 24 hours straight, there will be חסידות learnt all over the world!

in your הצחלה רבה and as always keep us posted!

Sara and Chanale of CYH

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My י"ט כסלו הכנה chart

In preparation for י"ט כסלו I have chosen to work on

Check the box for every day that you have put extra effort into working on improving yourself.

Day 1 - י" כסלו

Day 6 - י"ט כסלו

Day 2 - י"א כסלו

Day 7 - י"ז כסלו

Day 3 - י"ב כסלו

Day 8 - י"ח כסלו

Day 4 - י"ג כסלו

Day 9 - י"ח כסלו

Day 5 - י"ד כסלו

Day 10 - י"ט כסלו

'The entire point of חסידות is that man should transform the nature of his character' - The Alter Rebbe

הצלחה רבה!

Day 1: Sunday / י' כסלו

About a חסיד

Welcome

Welcome to day one of this beautiful *הכנה*. Every day we will be learning about and from one of the *חסידים* of the Alter Rebbe. Today we are starting off with a story of the Alter Rebbe.

Before we start this whole *הכנה* we want you to write on these lines. Four of the most important things that you think being a *חסיד* is about.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

The Alter Rebbe once said 'The entire point of *חסידות* is that man should transform the nature of his character' This means that people should find the thing that is most challenging for them, or hard for them and try and change their nature.

A *חסיד* once complained to the Alter Rebbe's grandson the *צמח צדק*. He said 'Rebbe, I don't know what to do!! I don't have any interest and I don't get any pleasure from it either.'

The *צמח צדק* replied "That's fantastic!! You are a lucky man!! But what should I do about that fact that I so enjoy and want to learn?!?"

The *צמח צדק* was explaining to the *חסיד* that it is ok that not everything is easy for him. That is exactly the job of the *חסיד*, to find things that are hard and transform them.

We hope you enjoy learning from all the different *חסידים*.

To be a חסיד

Today's Mission:

Think of one specific thing that you find hard and try to work on it for every day of the *הכנה*. It could be you find it hard to concentrate on davening, to have *כיבוד אב ואם*, to say *קריאת שמע*, to be *צניעות* – there could be so many challenges. Fill it on the chart and check it off daily. You can tell people about it or keep it to yourself. *הצלחה*!

י"א כסלו / Monday Day 2: Monday

About a

חסיד

Reb Moshe Meisels ז"ל

What we know about him:

- Rabbi Moshe Meisels used to be a תלמיד of the Vilna Gaon
- He switched from the מתנגדים to חסידים and became a devoted חסיד of the Alter Rebbe
- He was the Rav of the חסידים in Vilna.
- In 1816 he moved to ארץ ישראל and lived in חברון
- He passed away in 1849

Here is a Hayom Yom about R Moshe Meisels

ר' משה מייזליש סיפר: דער רבי (רבינו הזקן) האט אונז געלערענט, אז דער אלף פון חסידות איז, אויסצוניצען די טבעיות אין עבודה. און ראשית העבודה זאל זיין 'אויסצוניצען די טבע הכחות, ווי למשל די טבע פון מוח שליט על הלב.'

Story of a

חסיד

Once, while Reb Moshe

was sitting in the French war room, Napoleon rushed over to him, put his hand on his heart and said, "You are a spy!" Ordinarily, someone who was accused like that would have sudden heart palpitations. But Reb Moshe's heart rate didn't change, and the charge was dropped. Later, Reb Moshe said, "The alef of Chassidus saved my life." That the heart should rule over the mind. What does this mean? Can you think about it? Your heart might want a lot of candies, your mind will tell you it isn't good for you. Your heart might FEEL very angry about something, your mind can calm you down. Your heart might tell you to talk Loshon Hora, your mind will tell you it isn't the right thing to do.

Can you think of more ideas? The Alpeh of Chassidus that he was referring to was מוח שליט על הלב

To be a

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Today's Mission:

Come up with a scenario at least one paragraph long that could happen in YOUR life when you can use מוח שליט על הלב.

Send us your paragraph to cyh@shluchim.org

י"ה כסלו / Tuesday Day 3: Tuesday

About a חסיד

Reb Shmuel Munkes ז"ל

What we know about him:

- He was also called שמואל קאליסקער
- He lived in a place called Kalisk

Story of a חסיד

Reb Shmuel Munkes was famous for making jokes. If you were just watching you would think he was just a joker who didn't take anything too seriously but his Rebbe, The Alter Rebbe gave him great respect – He knew that really he was a very holy man.

One day he and his friends were sitting around a table farbrenging together when one of the Chassidim a shochet, came in with a dish of cooked meat which he had brought from his house for everyone to enjoy. Reb Shmuel took it and held it firmly under his arm, allowing no one else at the table to touch it. The חסידים asked him to put it down at the table so everyone could enjoy it but Reb Shmuel Munkes said no. He started running around the room with it and the חסידים were chasing him. When he saw they were going to snatch it – he ran to the garbage can and through it straight in!!!!

The other חסידים were shocked by his odd behavior and would have given him a piece of their mind, but at that moment they were interrupted by the arrival of a breathless messenger from the house of the shochet: they were not to eat from that dish! The meat that had been brought by mistake was treif!

The elder Chasidim now turned on Reb Shmuel with a different complaint altogether. "Tell us, our budding young tzadik, since when do you have רוח הקודש???"
Reb Shmuel Munkes explained. "Years ago, during the period when I was preparing myself to enter the Rebbe's study for my first יחידות, I made a החלטה that I would stay away from גשמיות things that I wanted for no reason'

"Today when I took this meat dish in my hands I felt a strong urge to eat it, and that is why I didn't. Then when I saw just how excited all the חסידים were when they looked at it, I threw it out."

To be a חסיד

Today's Mission:

Sometimes we get super super excited about גשמיות things that we don't even need. Let's try use that excitement for things in רוחניות. Can you find a toy or a book in your house that you can donate to someone who needs it or will enjoy it more? A hospital, A pre school or even to a sibling of yours. Send us a picture to cyh@shluchim.org

י"ג כסלו / Wednesday

About a חסיד

Reb Hillel from Paritch ז"ל

What we know about him:

- His real name was Rabbi Hillel Malisov
- Was born in a place called Khometz, Russia
- The צמח צדק said ' Reb Hillel is half a רבי'
- He used to be a חסיד of Rabbi Mordechai of Chernobyl and then became a great חסיד of the Alter Rebbe
- His יארצייט is יא מנחם אב

Story of a חסיד

Rabbi Hillel was always very

careful to daven in the same spot in his Shul every day. He travelled a lot and was still careful that in each city, he would daven in the same spot that he had last davened when he came to that city.

Once when he came into a certain shul on one of his journeys. He realized that they had renovated the shul since he was there last. There was a bookcase that was standing in the place he had used to daven since he was last there on a visit.

The תלמידים who were standing there noticed that Reb Hillel was about to move the bookcase with all of the ספרים on it and then quickly did it for them. Reb Hillel thanked them for allowing him to daven in his 'permanent' place.

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Today's Mission:

Wow! What concentration. Do you have a regular place you daven to help you concentrate? This week try stay in one place when you daven to help you focus. For today, make a bookmark that you can use in your סידור. Try and make it in the shape of a hand with a pointer finger! Send us pictures and you could win a beautiful leather book mark with your name engraved on it. cyh@shluchim.org

Day 5: Thursday י"ג כסלו

About a

חסיד

Reb Binyomin Kletzker ז"ל

What we know about him:

- His real name was Rabbi Binyomin Rabinovitch
- He lived in a place called Sokolov
- He was very wealthy

Story of a

חסיד

Reb Binyomin Kletzker was a lumber merchant.

(In nowadays English that means he sold wood ;!)

One year at the end of the year when he was adding up all of his accounts and how much money he had made that year – he by mistake filled in under the column of TOTAL: אין עוד מלבדו – There is no one else besides Hashem.

Another חסיד heard about what he did and told him off. 'Reb Binyomin, he said, don't you know that there is a time and place for everything?

There is a time to talk and think about חסידות and there is a time and place to be involved in business!!' 'Making פרנסה is also an important part of serving Hashem and you have to take care of that properly!'

Reb Binyomin answered. 'During davening we think it's perfectly natural if your mind wanders off to the market in Leipzig (that was like saying to business matters) so what is so terrible if during business an 'alien thought' about ה comes in to my mind???'

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Today's Mission:

It is true, we need to eat, shop, relax and do things that are not 100% רוחניות but let's try to connect the two. Do you have an idea how? Go on to the website and post your idea and then look back later to see it posted for all Shluchims Children to benefit from!

Day 6: Friday 17th Cheshvan

About a חסיד

Reb Pinchas Reizes ז"ל

What we know about him:

- He was the son of a big מתנגד
- He was one of the main חוזרים of the אלטר רבי, (his task was to repeat by heart the talks of the Alter Rebbe to be written down)
- Also known as Reb Pinchas of Shklov (the city he lived in)
- The מיטלר רבי called him the "פילדמרשל" (highest position in army) of חסידים

Do you know how Reb Pinchas Reitzes became a חסיד?

The Alter Rebbe once came to visit his town. He had a public argument with the heads of the city who didn't like חסידות. After winning the argument Reb Pinchas's mother in law was so impressed with the Alter Rebbe that she promised her son in laws. 'Which ever of you will go and learn from the Alter Rebbe will get all of my belongings'. Reb Pinchas took her up on her offer and went to Lyozna. He received all of her belongings but did not keep them for himself. He went straight back to the Alter Rebbe and gave it all to her. Because it was thanks to his mother in law that he became a חסיד he is named - Reb Pinchas Reizes - after his mother in law who's name was Reiza.

Story of a חסיד

In Lubavitch there was a Jew named Nachum Nachumovitch he was a wagon driver.

He once happened to enter go into shul while Reb Pinchas Reitzes was davening. He just stood there and watched him. He was so inspired from watching him that that he took a סידור, turned the pages and said the ועל חטא, ועבודה, and then bowed down like the men do in shul on יום כיפור when they say עלינו. All of these תפילות are usually only said on יום כיפור usually – but this simple איד got so inspired just from watching R Pinchas Reitzes that he got up to this high level on that regular day.

From that day on he said he didn't want to work together with an animal and instead of being a wagon driver he became a גבאי in shul.

To be a חסיד

Today's Mission:

Wow! THIS is a חסיד someone who people can just look at and get inspired. Today's mission is to learn this יום היום from ח' אייר with your family and email us the translation.

א שליח איז דאך איין זאך מיט דעם משלח, - ע"ד [על דרך] המבואר בענין שהמלאך נקרא בשם ה' ממש. - בשהוא שליח מלמעלה, ומכל שכן נשמות, ומבואר שבנשמות הוא עוד במעלה יתרה.

והנה חסידים זיינען שלוחים פון רבי'ן, פון אלטען רבי'ן, איז אז מ'טוט, איז מען מקושר, איז דאמאלט איז ער אין אלץ מקושר: עס געהט א חסיד, עסט א חסיד, שלאפט א חסיד.

Day 7: Shabbos וסוף 5"6

About a חסיד

Reb Yekusiel Liepler ז"ל

What we know about him:

- He was a chossid of the רבי אלטר , the מיטלר רבי , the צמח צדק and the רבי מהרש!
- The Mittler Rebbe wrote the ספר אמרי בינה just for him , this is one of the deepest teachings of חסידות.
- When in doubt, the Rebbe Maharash used to ask him questions in אמרי בינה

Story of a חסיד

This is something the רבי מהרש

said about Reb Yekusiel , it has a powerful

lesson for us to learn. When Reb Yekusiel first joined Lubavitch he had a real hard time learning. He used to go around the Shul and beg people to teach him חסידות. For him, even to learn a regular פסוק in חומש was very hard. This all changed after he went for a יחידות with the Alter Rebbe. Before going into יחידות the חסידים told him he needs to prepare for it. But Reb Yekusiel wanted so much to have a יחידות that he begged that they should let him in immediately, without a הכנה. The חסידים refused to let him in so he climbed up the wall and jumped into the Alter Rebbe's window that was on the second floor!

From the second he came out of יחידות he was able to learn incredibly well. He even became a חוזר of the Alter Rebbe. This is someone who listened to the מאמרים and then right afterwards would sit and farbreng with everyone about what the Alter Rebbe just said. This required one to understand what the Rebbe taught and be fast at it too! This just shows Reb Yekusiel's deep understanding of חסידות.

To be a חסיד

Today's Mission:

Do you see how much Reb Yekusiel's life changed just from connecting to his Rebbe? From a יחידות ? יחידות is a time when your נשמה is connecting to the רבי נשמה. Today, to help us in our journey of becoming better חסידים, your mission is to do something to strengthen your התקשרות to our רבי. You can come up with any idea you want – or you could go on to www.shluchimkids.org and watch a video of the רבי on the mission's page. You could always do both and as usual let us know what you did at cyh@shluchim.org

Day 8: Sunday י"ז כסלו

About a

חסיד

Reb Yitschok Aizik Homiler ז"ל

What we know about him:

- His real name is Reb Yitzchok Aizik Epstein
- He was a חסיד of the Alter Rebbe, מיטעלער רבי and the צמח צדק
- His father was a big מתנגד that was really upset at his son for becoming a חסיד later on when he came back and did a סיום on שם he made peace with him.
- He was known to be very clean and organized

Story of a

חסיד

The Alter Rebbe gave Reb Aizik a specific instruction that he shouldn't

become a רבי, but rather stay a חסיד. He was such a special person that the Alter Rebbe knew that there might come a day when the חסידים may ask him to become their Rebbe. And indeed when the Mittlerer Rebbe passed away, many years later, many חסידים wanted him to become their Rebbe. They tried really hard to convince him – eventually he listened to them. As he was stepping on to the wagon that was going to take him to Lubavitch to accept this position, he suddenly stopped, he stepped down from the wagon and refused to travel to Lubavitch. He suddenly saw the gates of heaven open before him and he remembered the instruction he had received from the Alter Rebbe, many years earlier.

R. Aizik Homiler related: When I came to Lyozna I met elder chassidim who had been chassidim of the Maggid and of R. Menachem Mendel of Horodok. They used to say: Have affection for a fellow-Jew and G-d will have affection for you; do a kindness for a fellow Jew and G-d will do a kindness for you; befriend a fellow-Jew and G-d will befriend you. (From Rebbe's Hayom yom Cheshvan 27).

To be a

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Today's Mission:

Mission: Make sure you are signed up for 24 hours of learning חסידות. Today together with ילדי השלוחים world wide we are going to make sure that for 24 hours straight there is always someone learning חסידות. Email cyh@shluchim.org to sign up for a slot and to receive the תוכן to learn.

י"ח כסלו Monday Day 9:

About a חסיד

Reb Peretz Chein ז"ל

What we know about him:

- Reb Peretz was the eldest son
- His father came from Scotland to Sklov (Belarus) to learn at the ישיבה of the Alter Rebbe
- Reb Peretz was a חסיד of the Alter Rebbe and the Mittlerer Rebbe

Story of a חסיד

Reb Peretz was sent to become the Rov of the town of Besheknowitz.

Reb Peretz was a little bit nervous because there was a מתנגד there by the name of Reb Aharon who always made problems for the חסידים. He was very clever and every time a new rov would come to the city he would ask them the most difficult questions to stump them. Whatever they would answer he would find proof to say the opposite – him and all his friends would make them feel very silly until they left town.

Reb Peretz told the Mittlerer Rebbe that he was very nervous about going there, the Mittlerer Rebbe said that in שמים it had already been decided that he should be the רב, but Reb Peretz was still nervous. The Rebbe finally told him to go there, "אוף מיינע פלייצע" (on my shoulders). Hearing this, Rabbi Peretz rejoiced and said, "Rebbe, I'm going! If it's on the Rebbe's shoulders, I have nothing to fear."

Rabbi Peretz arrived at Beshenkowitz and became the רב of the community. As he expected Reb Aharon always had a lot of questions for him – but he got them all right. Reb Aharon once sent him a very complicated question about כשרות. Reb Peretz looked at it carefully and said it was כשר. Almost immediately Reb Aharon and all his friends came to argue the opposite. When they really arguing hard one of Reb Aharons friends' said 'really?! What is your proof??'

Reb Peretz pointed towards a packed bookcase and said, "From there." Reb Peretz had meant that, in general, his decision had been based on the ספרים in that bookcase, but one of the חסידים misunderstood what he meant and opened to a ספר he was pointing too. The ספר he chose and the page he opened too was the exact topic that they were discussing!! It said that Reb Peretz was right!!!!

"That's when I saw," said Rabbi Peretz afterwards, "that the Rebbe had indeed taken me on his holy shoulders."

To be a חסיד

Today's Mission:

As Shluchim of the Rebbe we are all on the Rebbes shoulders. Wherever we go we are taking the Rebbe with us. Today think carefully all day, is what I am about to do or say something I would be proud to do with the Rebbe?

Day 10: Tuesday י"ג כסלו

About a
חסיד

For today י"ג כסלו

Let's learn a song the Alter Rebbe himself.

Our Rebbe has said 'To me, This story is what Chabad Lubavitch is all about.

Of course we have to work on ourselves and our personal דבורה - but we must always hear the cry of a child. Shluchim for the past 10 days you have been working on yourself, but we know that ultimately we must interrupt our davening and learning to do everything in our power to help the children crying out. The people who are far away from ארצות ישראל. In the Rebbe's words 'Their תפילות cry out to us and we must have the sensitivity to hear their cries and respond' We must interrupt תפילה and תורה and do everything in our power to sooth these desperate תפילות and put them back in their crib.

*Once when the Miteler Rebbe Dov Ber
Was Learning late in the night
Torah and holiness sang in his heart
Echoing power and might.*

*Down down to the child he came
And lifted it up on his arm
He dried the tears and sang it a song
Guarding the child from harm.*

*Once when the Miteler Rebbe Dov Ber
Was Learning late in the night
Torah and holiness sang in his heart
Filling his eyes with their light.*

*The Alter Rebbe stayed near him
For he knew his son would not hear him
Until he had finished his learning
And then he told him these words.*

*Nearby his baby was sleeping
It woke up suddenly weeping
And crying aloud for its father
But nobody answered its call.*

*Berel my son let me teach you
The cries of a child must reach you
No matter how deep your devotion
No matter how high you may rise.*

*The Rebbe Reb Berl was learning
The Torah within him was burning
The whole world and all of its treasures
Worth less than a dream in the night.*

*The Alter Rebbe was teaching his son
And every other Jew
To help when our children cry out in their need
This is the task we must do.*

*Above Reb Berl his father was up
Learning late in the night
The Alter Rebbe the Manhig Hador
Heard it cry out in fright.*

*The Rebbe's speech must be treasured
His words are counted and measured
His message is lasting and precious
To guide us all through the night.*

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Today's Mission:

Mission: Log on to www.shluchim.org/rally on Tuesday י"ג כסלו. The rallies will be at 1pm EST and 7PM EST. Please make sure that you log in at least an hour before to make sure that all of your technical difficulties can be solved in time. You will need to download sheets for an arts and crafts as well. Email cyh@shluchim.org for any more info.

24 hours חסידות

י"מ בסלו תשע"ד

Make sure you are a part of it!

Email 24tanya@shluchim.org to sign up
for your 20 minutes slot and receive
your learning sheet!

