

Connections

A Project of the Shluchim Office

ROSH CHODESH CHESHVAN
PARSHAS NOACH

Connecting Tzeirei Hashluchim around the World!

VOLUME 1
ISSUE 2



PARSHAS NOACH

In this week's parshah, we read about the Flood and the teivah. The Hebrew word teivah has two meanings. It means "ark," like the ark which Hashem commanded Noach to build, and it also means "word," like the words in our siddur and chumash.

The instructions which Hashem gave Noach about the teivah also teach us about the words of our davening and learning. Hashem tells Noach - bo el hateivah - "Come into the teivah." We can learn from this that when we daven and learn, we shouldn't just hurry through the words. We should "come into the teivah" - put ourselves into the words by putting our minds and hearts into what we are saying.

Hashem also tells Noach - tzohar ta'aseh lateivah - "You should make light for the teivah." Noach built a window which allowed light into the teivah. We must also make sure our teivos - our words of davening and learning - are bright. They should shine with the bright light of our neshamah.

Later, the Torah describes how the teivah floated on the waters. vatorom hateivah - "And the teivah was uplifted." The gushing waters of the Flood are like the busy world around us. When we put ourselves into the words of our davening and learning, those holy words lift us above the world. We start our day with bo el hateivah, putting our minds and hearts into our davening and learning. We make those words shine with the light of our neshamah, and as we concentrate on these holy words, we feel uplifted. We are not bothered by all the things going on in the world around us. Then, we are ready to go about our daily activities, spreading the light of our davening and learning all around. This is what we learn from Hashem's next command to Noach: tzei min hateivah - "Go out from the teivah." Hashem tells Noach "Be fruitful and multiply, rule over the land and conquer it." We too can conquer the world for the Torah, spreading Hashem's holiness in everything we do.

Our Rabbis tell us that Noach's teivah was like the time of Mashiach. When Mashiach comes, lions, tigers, and other wild animals will live together with the sheep and goats, just as they did in Noach's teivah. When Noach left the teivah, his job was to take that spirit with him, and make not only the ark, but the entire world ready for Mashiach.



FROM THE DESK OF... **DR. GETZEL**

HEY KIDS!

WELCOME BACK! IT'S YOUR GOOD OLD FRIEND DR. GETZEL FROM IOWA. REBBETZIN GETZEL AND I ARE STILL RE-CUPERATING FROM OUR BUSY CHODESH TISHREI. FOR ROSH HASHANA WE BAKED 23 HONEY CAKES BUT WERE ONLY ABLE TO SERVE 18 AND THREE QUARTERS BECAUSE YANKELE, MIRELE BOTH ATE THREE AND A HALF HONEY CAKES AND OUR NEIGHBOR'S BABY NIBBLED ON THE OTHER THREE QUARTERS OF THE CAKE. FOR SUKKOS WE HAD A BEAUTIFUL SUKKAH THAT COULD FIT MANY GUESTS AND WE SHOOK LULAV AND ESROG WITH 48 PEOPLE! I FIGURED THE MORE HONEY CAKE I EAT, THE MORE SWEET MY YEAR WILL BE, SO I ATE 4 CAKES! AFTER THE THREE DAY YOM TOV WAS OVER, I DECIDED I NEEDED TO DO SOME EXERCISE AFTER EATING ALL THOSE DELICIOUS FOODS THAT REBBETZIN GETZEL MADE, SO I RAN AROUND TOWN LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO GIVE OUR LEFTOVER YOM TOV FOOD. I EVEN INVITED THOSE PEOPLE TO COME EAT BY US NEXT SHABBOS!

WELL ON MONDAY I GOT WOKEN UP REALLY EARLY BY YANKELE AND MIRELE CALLING ME THAT THEY ARE SO EXCITED TO START SCHOOL AGAIN! THE ENTIRE SUNDAY THEY WERE BUSY PREPARING THEIR NOTEBOOKS AND PENCILS, BACKPACKS AND UNIFORMS ALL FOR THEIR FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL! YUPS... THAT'S IT BOYS AND GIRLS... IT'S BACK TO SCHEDULE! BACK TO WAKING UP IN THE MORNING, SAYING MODEH ANI, BROCHOS, EATING BREAKFAST, SAYING PEREK MEM ALEF OF TANYA, DAVENING WITH A LOT OF KAVANAH, GOING TO SCHOOL, LEARNING WITH A LOT OF CHAYUS,, RECESS, LUNCH,, PLAYING WITH FRIENDS, GOING HOME, EATING SUPPER. AND AFTER A FULL WEEK COMES THE MOST FAVORITE PART-FRIDAY WHEN WE GET THE CONNECTIONS!

OH MY! WHAT'S THAT NOISE I HEAR OUTSIDE? IT'S THUNDERING AND LIGHTENING! WOW! HASHEM REALLY LISTENS TO OUR TEFILOS! WE JUST STARTED SAYING "MASHIV HARUACH UMORID HAGESHEM" IN SHEMONEH ESREI AND HASHEM IS ALREADY BRINGING US RAIN! I HAVE TO RUN OUT AND BUY REBBETZIN AND MYSELF AN UMBRELLA! MAY HASHEM ANSWER OUR TEFILOS AND BRING MOSHIACH NOW!

Dr. Getzel

Tzemach Weg, age 8
Tulsa, Oklahoma

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The place
Where Young Shluchim
talk about their
Shlichus...

Have you ever seen Hashem answer your prayers right away? Well we here in Tulsa saw a tremendous response to the davening of Shemini Atzeres. That's the day we say "T'filas Geshem" the special t'filla for rain...

Thankfully there had been no rain any day of Sukkos so we were able to be comfortable the whole time. We were expecting a pretty big crowd for Hakofos on the night of Simchas Torah... but that was before we saw the power of our t'filas Geshem. To make a long story shorter, about an hour before Hakofos it started to pour so hard that the streets were flooding! Our backyard looked more like a lake than a yard. We named it Lake Lubavitch. Over six inches of rain fell in one and half hours. That was enough to cover some of the goyeshe pick-up trucks.

Many of the people we were expecting were afraid to go out for Hakofos. But let me tell you about what happened to the brave people who did come. Boy did they have a blast! When we finally had a minyan, we davened Ma'ariv and then the kiddush started. My mother made so many good things that you could hardly see the table under all that stuff. I spend a lot of time at the kiddush making sure that everyone said L'chaim a few times and hoping more people would still come. Finally one more came!

For the Atoch Horayso's everyone was honored with saying p'sukim including me and my brothers. When they announced "next posuk Shluchim!" we all joined in. The visiting bochorim made sure that the grown-ups said l'chaim's with their psukim.

When we started the Hakofos it was really fraylech. We sang the nigunim that are sung at the Rebbe's Hakofos and some other ones too. By the time we got to the later hakofos it was time to start the "kooles" where EVERYONE has to make a "tumble sauce". The kids took great pleasure in helping the 78 year old man with his "koola". I think the man liked it too. Anyway it was a great start to "a frayleche yohr" and I hope yours was too.

We'll see you at the Rebbe's hakofos when Moshiach comes!

Avreml Caroline, age 10 Key Biscayne, Florida



As many Shluchim in small communities can attest, it is very difficult to get a minyan during the week. So on Simchas Torah with nine people waiting at home my father and I went out for a walk all around the island in search of a minyan. We finally found someone who said he might be able to come in an hour which didn't really help, so we went home and started Hakafof. Then I walked the man who said "maybe in an hour!"

I Hope you enjoyed my story!

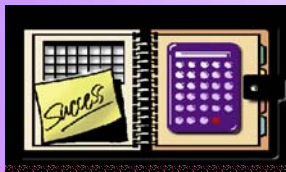
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BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME, AGE AND LOCATION!

CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



POCKET CALENDAR

This week are finishing off the holiday-packed month of Tishrei and moving on to the month of Cheshvan.

Rosh Chodesh is on Friday and Shabbos.

Rosh Chodesh Checklist:

I remembered to say Ya'aleh V'Yavoh in Shemoneh Esrei and in bentsching during both days of Rosh Chodesh.

I remembered to say Hallel after Shemoneh Esrei.

I remembered to daven Musaf. (Friday)

I remembered to add in the extra davening for Rosh Chodesh during Musaf (Shabbos)

I remembered to say Borchi Nafshi on page 79 after the Shir Shel Yom.

I didn't sew or do any Laundry.



CHODESH CHESHVAN

-CHESHVAN ALWAYS HAS A TWO-DAY ROSH CHODESH, THE SECOND OF WHICH, THE FIRST OF THE NEW MONTH, ALWAYS FALLS ON A MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY OR SHABBOS.

-SHLOMO HAMELECH COMPLETED THE SEVEN-YEAR BUILDING OF THE BAIS HAMIKDOSH DURING CHESHVAN AND THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN A FESTIVAL. THOUGH ALL OF BNEI YISROEL WAITED FOR HASHEM'S COMMAND CONCERNING THIS DEDICATION, HASHEM WAITED UNTIL THE NEXT TISHREI (11 MONTHS LATER) BEFORE HE FINALLY COMMANDED THE DEDICATION.



Mitzvah Mission:

-We can learn from this week's Parsha the great Mitzvah of Ahavas Yisroel. Because the people in Noach's generation did not have Ahavas Yisroel, they were violent and robbed from each other, Hashem decided to bring the Mabul. Let us do the opposite of Noach's generation, have Ahavas Yisroel and Hashem will surely bring Moshiach!

-We just had a month of Tishrei packed with Yomim Tovim. There was so much happening that we can take a lesson from!

Write a short paragraph of what lessons or inspirations can we take with us from Chodesh Tishrei and carry it with us to the entire year and e-mail it us at cyh@shluchim.org. Your essay can be published in our future "Connections"!