

Connections



A Project of the Shluchim Office



PARSHAS VAYEITZEI
VAV KISLEV 5765

Connecting Tzeirei Hashluchim around the World!

VOLUME 1
ISSUE 7



PARSHAS VAYEITZEI

It had been a wonderful weekend. Shmuli had spent a great deal of time with his cousin Mendy, and they both loved every minute of it. Shmuli lives in Brooklyn. Mendy's family is on shlichus in California. The two cousins had not seen each other for a long time. So when Mendy's father brought him to Crown Heights for the Shluchim Convention, they had a lot to talk about. The Convention was over all too soon. As Shmuli helped Mendy take his bags out to the car, he said: "I'm really sorry you're leaving. It's too bad you don't live right next door to us."

"I had a great time here, Shmuli. I'll miss you, but I don't feel sorry, and you shouldn't either," said Mendy.

"Don't you wish you didn't live so far away?" asked Shmuli.

"Actually, no," replied Mendy. "I feel very lucky to be on shlichus. I'm very proud of all the things my Tatle and Mommy do, and they allow me to help, too. They tell me that I'm a junior shliach. If I lived in Crown Heights, I'd have to wait until I was older before I could go out on shlichus."

If Mendy's parents had heard this conversation they would have been just as proud of Mendy as he was of them! He was following the example of Yaakov Avinu, which we read in this week's parshah, Vayitzei. Yaakov left the city of Beer Sheva and traveled to Charan. He left Eretz Yisrael, where his righteous parents Yitzchak and Rivkah lived, and journeyed far away, to a country he had never seen before. He was going to live among people who were very different from him, in a place that did not have the holiness of Eretz Yisrael.

Do you think that Yaakov Avinu journeyed to Charan just because he was running away from Esav? Obviously, there's a more important reason! HaShem would certainly have protected Yaakov from Esav anywhere in the world. For example, Yaakov spent many years studying in the Yeshivah of Shem and Ever, without having to worry about Esav. Yaakov journeyed to Charan because he had a job to carry out, and he was ready to do it. He was willing to move away from his home and to teach people about HaShem. He would set a personal example of how a person should live and behave. Yaakov went to Charan on shlichus. Actually, we are all on shlichus. A Jewish neshamah is pure. It is a part of HaShem. What is it doing in this world where HaShem is hidden? Our neshamos have a job to perform. We have been sent on shlichus to make this world a dwelling place for HaShem, and to prepare it for the coming of Mashiach.

Please Tell Me What the Rebbe Says, (Adapted from Sichos Shabbos Parshas Vayitzei, 5752)



"Connections" Newsletter
 Editor in Chief:
 Chana S. Newfield
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Part of me is an ocean, the rest of me is the name of a month.
 Who are we?

Please send your answers to connections@shluchim.org

*The answer to last week's brain buster is Fichol
 Congratulations to Chaya Jaffe, 10 from Brisbane, Australia for solving the brain buster.*

We are so happy with all the responses we are getting to the brain busters. Unfortunately, we are not able to print all of your names. Please continue sending your feedback and responses as we will make a gorel each week and pick one winner.



FROM THE DESK OF... DR. GETZEL

Hello to all of you—kids of Shluchim. It was great seeing the junior Shluchim boys at the Shluchim convention in Kislev, and I can't wait to see the girls at the women's convention in Shevat. I don't know if the boys saw me, I'm kind of hard to spot. Maybe the girls will be able to find me. I was very busy doing the important work of seeing. I saw camper Chaim from the Tzeirei Hashluchim camp cheering with a lot of chayas. I saw camper Dovid davenning in 770 with a lot of kavannah. All the boys looked like they had such a good time!

I'm a professional at Seeing; my name is Dr. Getzel and I'm pretty famous. It took me many years to learn how to see properly. I went to many universities and institutions until I became an official expert at seeing.

I know you think that that's a silly thing to say because everyone knows how to see. But it's not so simple. I have an important job of teaching people how to see; I make lots of creative glasses which help people see correctly. You should come visit my office in Iowa amongst the cornfields and cows. I sell glasses for looking **up** at people, rather than looking **down** at them. I also have glasses that improve people's **inlook** or **outlook**. There are many tricks to seeing and my favorite customers are kids, because they are experts at learning seeing tricks.

I came to the Shluchim convention to teach looking tricks, and I have to tell you that some of the Shluchim have a super outlook; they are experts at seeing even though they didn't come to Dr. Getzel's office in Iowa between the cornfields and cows.

They taught me how to make a new kind of lens called the COL; it means Chassidic Outlook Lens, it is a clear and beautiful lens. I can't wait to sell those lenses; I know that people are going to love them. But first, I need you to help me. In order to make the COL lens the Shluchim told me about, I need to understand: How does a chossid look at the world differently than other kids? Please send me your answers. I'll be back next week to tell you my many seeing tricks, but for now start practicing. See ya',

Dr. Getzel

KIDS SPEAK

WHERE YOUNG SHLUCHIM TALK ABOUT THEIR SHLICHUS

Meir SHEMTOV, age 12

Montevideo, Uruguay

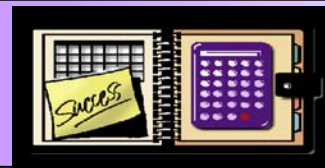
My father wanted to rent a bar one Friday night and leave a kiddush cup there. The bar tender was surprised at this *strange* request and asked my father why he wanted to do such a thing. My father explained that he wanted to make Kiddush for the local teenagers. The bar tender agreed to the plan. My father went to the bar at 1:00 am Friday night. He approached a guy and asked him if he was Jewish. The guy said, "of course!" My father then asked him if he wanted to make kiddush and he said, "yes, sure!" After he drank the Kiddush, he told my father, "If my parents knew that I made kiddush in a bar instead of dancing like a "meshugene" they would faint!

Hey kids, send us a short paragraph about your shlichus and we will publish it in our future "connections"!

Please include your name, age, and location.

E-mail us at: connections@shluchim.org

***PLEASE NOTE:
OUR NEW CONNECTIONS E-MAIL ADDRESS IS:
connections@shluchim.org
Can't wait to hear from you!**



POCKET CALENDAR

BAIS KISLEV

On this day the sefarim and the writings collected by the Rabbeim, which were wrongfully removed, were returned to their rightful place—to the Rebbe’s library in 770.

GIMMEL KISLEV

On this day was the Tno'im of the Rebbe with Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka.

HAY KISLEV

On this day, the Tzemach Tzedek married Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka. The Tzemach Tzedek was the grandson of the Alter Rebbe and Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka was the daughter of the Miteler Rebbe.



יעקב's DREAM

In his dream, יעקב saw four מלאכים going up and down a ladder. Each מלאך corresponded to one of the four גליות (exiles) of the Jewish people. The first מלאך went up and down 70 steps. This was the מלאך of בבל that ruled over the Jewish people for 70 years. Next, the מלאך of מדין went up and down 52 steps; then the מלאך of יון went up and down 180 steps. מדין ruled over the Jewish people for 52 years and יון for 180 years. But the מלאך of גלות אדום - our present גלות - went up and יעקב did not see it come down. He asked 'ה, "Will the גאולה ever come?" 'ה answered, "The last גלות will be very long, but don't worry. I, Myself, will bring him—the מלאך down!"

(Midrash Tanchuma)

ARE YOU A PARSHA EXPERT?

QUESTION: After Yaakov took his brother's Eisav's brochos from Yitzchok Avinu (his father), Eisav wanted to kill him. Rivka advised Yaakov to run away to her brother Lavan's house in Charan. On the way, Yaakov stopped on a mountain to rest.

The פסוק says:

"He took from the stones of the place and he placed them around (under) his head." פסוק י"א

Rashi says that Yaakov wanted to protect himself from wild animals. Why did he only protect his head and not the rest of his body?

ANSWER: From Yaakov's actions, a very important lesson can be learned. Yaakov spent all his years studying Torah in the home of Yitzchak and in the Beis Midrash of Shem and Eiver. Now he had to give up some of his study of Torah - רוחניות, and be busy with גשמיותדיקע things.

Yaakov knew that in the גשמיותדיקע world, there are many forces that make a person stay away from learning Torah and doing Mitzvos. Therefore, Yaakov made a great effort to protect his "head," to prevent any negative influences from interfering with his yiddishkeit.

(excerpts from Vedibarta Bam)

QUESTION: Who established the 3 תפילות that we daven each day, שחרית, מנחה, and מעריב?

ANSWER: Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi said: Our אבות instituted the three daily תפילות. Avraham instituted the תפילה of שחרית as it says "וישכם בבוקר", יצחק instituted the תפילה of מנחה as it says "ויצא יצחק לשוח בשדה", and יעקב instituted the תפילה of מעריב as it says, "ויפגע במקום".

(Midrash Rabbah)



Stories of our Rabbeim

The Mittlerer Rebbe

This coming Monday, the ninth of Kislev (Nov. 22), is the birthday and yahrtzeit of Rabbi Dov Ber, the second Rebbe of Chabad-Lubavitch, known as the Mittlerer (or "intermediate") Rebbe. The following day, the 10th of Kislev, is the day on which the Mittlerer Rebbe was redeemed from imprisonment (in 5587/1826).

In 5576/1816, The Mittlerer Rebbe, Reb Dov Ber, established a settlement of Chabad chasidim in Israel, in the holy city of Chevron. He encouraged the chasidim already living in other parts of Israel to resettle in Chevron. In addition, his own daughter and son-in-law moved with their family to Chevron from Russia.

There is a famous story about the Mittlerer Rebbe told by the Previous Rebbe and often related by the Rebbe: The Mittlerer Rebbe was known for his unusual power of concentration. When he was busy studying Torah or davening, he did not hear or see a thing around him. Once, when The Mittlerer Rebbe, Rabbi Dov Ber, was studying, his baby sleeping in a nearby cot fell out of his cradle and began to cry. The Mittlerer Rebbe did not hear the baby's cries and continued learning. But the baby's grandfather, the Alter Rebbe, who was in his room on an upper floor and was also learning at that time, did hear the baby's cries. He interrupted his studies, went downstairs, picked up the baby, comforted him, and put it back in its cradle. Still, the baby's father did not hear or see what went on around him. Later on, the Alter Rebbe told his son: "No matter how important the thing is in which a Jew is busy with, one must always hear the cry of a child."

This story is applicable to parents, teachers and even children. We must always hear the cry of a child, whether a child in years or knowledge. Even when we are involved in important things, we must not neglect or ignore the cry of the child.

About the Mittlerer Rebbe it was said that he was so involved in Chasidus that, "if his finger would have been cut, it would have bled Chasidus instead of blood!"

When the Mittlerer Rebbe was arrested by the Czarist government (in 1826), the doctor, who was an important specialist, acknowledged that Chasidus was the Mittlerer Rebbe's very essence and life. The doctor told the Russian authorities that they must allow the Mittlerer Rebbe to give talks on Chasidus to his chasidim, explaining, "Just as you provide food for prisoners to ensure their existence, so, too, you must allow him to teach Chasidus. His very life depends on it." They agreed to let fifty chasidim enter his prison room twice a week to listen to a ma'amor. But the Mittlerer Rebbe was not only concerned about the *ruchniusdike* life of his fellow Jews, he also worked to better their situation *b'gashmius* as well. He encouraged thousands of Jews, both his chasidim and others, to settle on the land as farmers so that they would not have to be at the mercy of the anti-Semitic landowners or peasants. In 1815, The Mittlerer Rebbe established twenty-two Jewish farm settlements on land near the town of Cherson, which he had convinced the government to give for this purpose. Many of his chasidim, however, did not want to move so far away from their Rebbe. Because of this, the Mittlerer Rebbe traveled to many places to teach Chasidus to his Chasidim.



Hey Boys! I want to know all about the Kinnus Hashluchim in Crown Heights! Send me report about the Kinnus and we will publish it in our next newsletter! connections@shluchim.org.

Dr. Getzel

The מיטעלער רבי

Level 2: Ages 8-12

Kids! Fill out the answers to the questions about the מיטעלער רבי below, and fax it to the Shluchim Office at (718) 221-0985 no later than Wednesday, November 24, י"א כסלו. We will א"א be making a raffle from the correct answers and mailing prizes to the winners!

1. What day and year was the מיטעלער רבי born? _____
2. What year did the מיטעלער רבי get married? _____
3. What month and year did the מיטעלער רבי become Rebbe? _____
4. What day did the מיטעלער רבי move to Lubavitch? _____
5. What day and year did the מיטעלער רבי pass away? _____
6. Where was the מיטעלער רבי buried? _____
7. How many daughters did the מיטעלער רבי have? _____
8. Name 3 ספרים that the מיטעלער רבי wrote
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
9. Who were the מיטעלער רבי's parents? _____ and _____.
10. Who was the wife of the מיטעלער רבי? _____

(Look in the front pages of a *Yiddish Hayom Yom* for some answers!)

Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **e-mail:** _____

Good Luck!

The מיטעלער רבי

Level 1: Ages 5-7

Kids! Fill out the answers to the questions about the מיטעלער רבי below, and fax it to the Shluchim Office at (718) 221-0985 no later than Wednesday, November 24, א"א כסלו. We will be making a raffle from the correct answers and mailing prizes to the winners!

1. What was the מיטעלער רבי's name? _____.
2. Who was the מיטעלער רבי's wife? _____.
3. Who was the מיטעלער רבי's father? _____.
4. Who was the מיטעלער רבי's mother? _____.
5. Who was the Rebbe before the מיטעלער רבי? _____.
6. Who was the Rebbe after the מיטעלער רבי? _____.
7. When was the מיטעלער רבי born? _____.
8. When did the מיטעלער רבי pass away? _____.
9. What happened on א"א כסלו? _____.
10. Name 2 ספרים that the מיטעלער רבי wrote: _____
and _____.

(Look in the front pages of a *Yiddish Hayom Yom* for some answers!)

Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **e-mail:** _____

Good Luck!