

זכור את־יום השבת לקדשו.
ששת ימים תעבד ועשית כל־מלאכתך,
יום השביעי שבת לה'

SHABBAT LASHEM

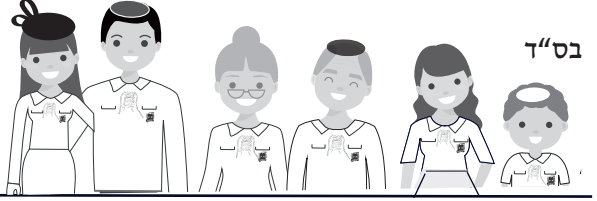
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THE DANGER OF DELAY

ARIELLA QUINT
SHEVET OROT

Avraham sends his loyal servant, Eliezer, on a mission to find a soulmate for Yitzchak. The Torah goes into immense detail when describing Eliezer's travels.

There are elements of Eliezer's behaviour during his mission which are questionable, but if we delve deeper into the meaning behind them, they can guide us nowadays in how we are to fight our own inner battles for daily growth.

Eliezer travels to Aram Naharayim in order to find Yitzchak's future wife per Avraham's request and he reasons that if a girl is to both fetch water for him and his camels, it is a sign from Hashem that this is 'the one' for Yitzchak. Indeed this happens, and almost immediately Eliezer hands over expensive jewellery to Rivka - giving a clear message of his plans for her future marriage to his master's son. He does not even ask if she is from Avraham's family. When they arrive at Rivka's home, he declines the offer of food before explaining his intentions and insists that she return with him now to Avraham and Yitzchak instead of remaining home for a year to prepare for the marriage, which is what her family would have preferred.

Why does Eliezer immediately hand over the jewels to Rivka before asking about her family background? Why does he refuse to eat before giving over his objectives? Why is he so insistent on leaving her family home immediately?

To answer these questions, we must learn something about this loyal servant. We know that Eliezer was an extremely loyal and reliable servant to Avraham. Therefore, he must have been greatly disappointed when Avraham made him swear that Yitzchak's match must be from Avraham's own family not Eliezer's own daughter as he did not want a Canaanite woman.

During a conversation Eliezer had with Avraham in vocalizing his worries that perhaps the bride may not want to come with him, the word 'ulai' is spelt with a missing vav - meaning it can be read 'elai'. This changes its meaning to 'to me'. Rashi tells us that this reveals Eliezer's hidden personal bias. He was hinting to Avraham that if this woman does not come back with him perhaps Avraham would turn 'to me' and Yitzchak could marry his own daughter.

Once Eliezer was on his journey to find Yitzchak's wife, he had already come to terms that his daughter was not going to be an option and thus he went forward with his expedition with a full heart. However, despite Eliezer being on a holy level, traces of hidden bias and selfish motives can always resurface.

Rav Yosef Yozel Hurvitz teaches that Eliezer was worried that his original bias may affect his mission, causing him to subconsciously ruin the objective. In other words, Eliezer did not want the plan to fail as he was loyal to Avraham, but he was aware of his personal bias and was worried it would interfere. Therefore, at any moment during his journeys where a delay could have hindered the aim, Eliezer ensured to act with great alacrity.

continued on next page

SHABBAT TIMES

London In 17:23 Out 18:29

Manchester In 17:26 Out 18:35

Cambridge In 17:17 Out 18:27

Oxford

In 17:24 Out 18:33

Bristol

In 17:30 Out 18:39

Birmingham

In 17:25 Out 18:35

Leeds

In 17:20 Out 18:31

Glasgow

In 17:25 Out 18:39

Jerusalem

In 17:16 Out 18:29

When he received the divine sign that Rivka was the one, he immediately handed her the jewellery and he refused to eat before explaining in case the delay had endangered his success in his mission. Finally, whilst Rivka's family wanted her to remain home for a year before her marriage, Eliezer insists on escorting her straight away.

There is a great lesson we can learn from Eliezer. When doing a positive act, the best technique the Yetzer Hara uses against us is simply to cause us to delay. For example, let's say you are on your way to do something nice for someone who is going through a hard time but there is a voice telling you to do it once you have sent that

email. Before you know it, you are busy with something else and the positive act never gets done.

Just like with Eliezer, the Yetzer Hara attempts to hold us off from succeeding in our spiritual missions on a daily basis. It is not stupid enough to outright tell us: "Don't help that person, checking Facebook is far more important!". Rather, it cleverly uses the technique of subtle delays until the mitzvah has vanished completely and our growth mission fails.

The next time an opportunity to grow or to do a mitzvah is presented to you, grab hold of it and do it as soon as you can. Make yourself aware of your inner selfish desires so you can push them away just like Eliezer.

ARIELLA WAS A MADRICHAH ON BET BASE MACHANE 5781

MEET THE NIVCHARIM

NAOMI BROOKARSH | NIVCHERET HANHALLAH



Hi! My name is Naomi and I am a Nivcheret this year on the Hanhallah. I am from London and have been involved with Bnei Akiva since I was 5 years old. I was a chanicha, madricha and rosh of Pinner sviva (z"l) and attended many machanot as a chanicha and madricha.

I went to Hasmo then spent my gap year learning at Midreshet Nishmat. I am currently in my second year studying Medicine in the University of Manchester.

In my spare time you will most likely find me colouring in my anatomy textbook or cooking with my housemates.

I am super excited to be working alongside the Hanhallah this year and speaking to many charerim of Bnei Akiva! I'm keen to increase the events and support for students on campus. Bnei Akiva has had a major influence on my ideology, hashkafa and life choices and I can't wait to see what this year holds!

SHEVET DOROT SHABBATON

Over 40 Year 13 students enjoyed a shabbaton at the London Bayit, where they learned about the different Hachshara programs that Bnei Akiva offers. Participants were given the opportunity to ask questions to Alumni of Midreshet Amit, Yeshivat Hakotel, Midreshet Harova, Yeshivat Eretz Hatzvi and Kivun.

The Shabbaton also featured three Shabbat meals, Tefilla and amazing Bnei Akiva ruach. Rav Ari Faust, director of Kivun and former Rav Shaliach of Bnei Akiva UK travelled all the way from Israel to be there.

Attendee Leo Weineger said, 'The shabbaton, as well as being super fun, opened my eyes up to new angles of approaching Yeshivot and was therefore extremely useful.'

'This was a really amazing shabbaton', said Shira Collins, Israel and Sixth Form Worker, 'It was so great to see Shevet Dorot emerge as such a strong Shevet after Covid and we can't wait to support them in achieving amazing things in the future!'



Q&A WITH RAV JOEL

Q: I AM FLYING OVER CHANUKAH SUCH THAT I MISS A NIGHT OF CHANUKAH (TAKE OFF WHEN IT IS LIGHT, LAND WHEN IT IS LIGHT THE NEXT DAY) SO I CAN'T LIGHT CANDLES FOR THAT NIGHT. A) SHOULD I STILL MAKE ANY OF THE BRACHOT OR RECITE HANEROT HALLALU/MAUR TZOR. B) CAN I CONTINUE TO RECITE THE BRACHOT THE FOLLOWING NIGHTS, IF I MISS ONE?



A: The Gemara (Shabbat 21b) describes the mitzvah of Chanukah as “Ner ish u’beito” (lit. the candle of a person and his home). Many

Rishonim understand from this that the mitzvah is inherently tied to a home and one who has no home for the night(s) of Channuka would be exempt from lighting.

Thus Rashi (Shabbat 23a) writes that one who is on a boat would not have to light, and Tosfot (Sukka 46a) compare the mitzvah to the mitzvah of mezuzah – in that the obligation is only within one’s home.

Based on this it would seem that one who is on board a plane overnight is “homeless” and would be exempt from lighting. Although the Maharsham (4:146) writes that on board a train one would be obligated in the mitzvah of Chanukah candles, a cabin of a train may be closer in

status to that of a home, particularly when journeying for a number of days. Consensus amongst many modern-day Poskim, including Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach zt”l, and Rav Asher Weiss shlit”a is that an aeroplane is not considered a home and one would be exempt from lighting there.

As a result, one would not say any of the brachot as one is not fulfilling the mitzvah. Regarding the singing of Maoz Tzur and the like, one may sing if one wishes to but there is certainly no obligation.

EACH NIGHT IS ITS OWN INDEPENDENT MITZVAH

Each night is its own independent mitzvah thus one would continue saying the brachot, regardless of

whether they had skipped them the previous nights. The only potential change to be aware of is that the bracha of Shehecheyanu is said the first time one fulfils the mitzvah for that year. Thus if you were on a plane for the first night of Chanukah and missed saying the bracha then you would recite Shehecheyanu when lighting the next night (along with the other two brachot).

Q: IF ONE IS STAYING IN A HOTEL THE FIRST NIGHT OF CHANUKAH AND THE HOTEL DOESN'T ALLOW ONE TO LIGHT CANDLES, WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

A: It’s worth clarifying with the hotel if there is an option nonetheless to light candles somewhere (perhaps dining hall) for half an hour, and someone will stay with them while the candles are lit.

If this is not possible, it should go without saying that one needs to follow the safety regulations of the hotel and would not be allowed to light candles.

Poskim discuss the option of lighting with electric lights (incandescent bulbs and not LED) - most reject it as these are not similar to the candles that were lit in the Beit Hamikdash. However, barring any other option, several Poskim write to use electric lights without a bracha and Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach writes in Halichot Shlomo that one may even say a bracha on such lights.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR RAV JOEL? SEND IT IN TO RAV@BAUK.ORG. YOU CAN ALSO FOLLOW RAV JOEL ON FACEBOOK (RAV SHALIACH PAGE) AND ON TWITTER (@JOEL KENIGSBURG).

WHAT'S GOING ON?

- Calling all Bogrot! **Lishma is back!** Don't miss this amazing **Torah learning opportunity**, now with a brand new **choice of Chaburot!** Sign up: tinyurl.com/Lishmah-BA

- Calling all male Bogrim! Join **Rav Joel** for a **weekly Va'ad** on Tuesday evenings at 10:15!

- **Student Bet Midrash** is taking place weekly on **Thursday evenings** for high school and university students. For more info email chinuch@bauk.org

- **The Sem/Yeshiva fair** is taking place at Kinloss this year! Anyone interested in taking a gap year is invited to come at 5:30-8:30!

- **KADIMA is back** by popular demand! Open to all in **Years 7-10**, join us for a riveting **5-part course** infused with **fun, friends and inspiration!!** For more information contact Adi at svivot@bauk.org

- **Mazal tov** to Mazkir **Sam Prais** (Shevet Avichai) and **Rachel Cooklin** (Rosh Nivcheret 5780, Shevet Avichai) on their marriage this Sunday!



- Keep an eye out for **exciting Bnei Akiva updates** for all ages!

- Be sure to like our **Facebook page (Bnei Akiva UK)** and follow our **Instagram (bneiakivauk)** to get regular updates with what is going on in the Tnuva.

- Visit bauk.org/feedback for contact details for all Mazkirut members and to leave any general feedback!

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