

## You Can Do It Too

A prophet from your midst, from your brothers, like me, shall Hashem establish for you, to him you shall hearken.  
(Devarim 18:15)



I have a close friend who is an exceptional *Talmud chacham*. As a child he played ball and had fun like everyone else, and was "one of the guys." Already in his adolescence he took learning more seriously, and became a *masmid* to the point that today he is an expert in all of *shas*, including *zeroim* and *taharos*, with *Rishonim* and *Acharonim*! One can only be awed by the presence of such a person. I would like to explain how one should relate to this friend – or someone similar to him.

The *gemora* in Shabbos (112b) states, "If the previous generations are like angels, we are just people. And if they are like people, then we are donkeys!" I heard an explanation that if we perceive certain people as Angels, way above everyone else, we will think of ourselves as "normal" people. However, if we think that they are normal people (like us), then this shows that we are lagging so far behind them, to the point that the *Gemara* compares us to a donkey (meaning we will have to do a lot of work to reach their stature). People put *gedolim* on a pedestal as a defense mechanism so that they do not feel obligated to strive for that level of greatness. This is an incorrect approach. It is very important to know that many of the *gedolim* were mischievous children (possibly today they would have been diagnosed with ADHD) and one could not see signs of greatness in them as children. Therefore, we are also obligated, even with our own limitations, to strive to reach levels of greatness.

It is said in the name of Rabbi Yisroel Salanter (1809-1883) that it is easier to learn all of *Shas* than to change one bad character trait. Indeed, there are very few people whom I have seen change their character traits. One childhood friend of mine, who was a "happy go lucky fellow", later became a more serious adult. Another classmate of mine said about him, "He is the person who gives me equilibrium in my life, for he calls me every *erev Shabbos* to see how I am doing." That seriousness and commitment was not something he was born with but something he worked on.

Another place where I have seen this misconception is when someone rises to become a *Rosh Yeshiva* or a

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## Kinyan HaMesechta is Starting the THIRD PEREK of SOTA!



### Come learn *Mesechta Sota* and **KNOW IT!**

This is a great time to join the Ahavas Shalom "*Kinyan HaMesechta Chabura*" as we begin learning the third *perek* of **Sota** on Mon, Sep 9!

Meeting 08:15-09:05 Sun-Thurs mornings in the hall.

**Kinyan  
Hamasechta**

If you are interested in joining, please contact R' Elyahu Jacobs to receive your **free** Gemora.

### Shabbos Schedule Parshas Shoftim

### לוח שבת פרשת שופטים

ערב שבת		Erev Shabbos
מנחה א'	13:30	Mincha 1
מנחה "מוקדמת"	17:18	"Early Mincha"
פלג המנחה	17:38	Plag Hamincha
הדלקת נרות	18:19/18:39	Candle Lighting
מנחה ג'	18:41	Mincha 3
שקיעה	18:59	Sunset
יום השבת		Shabbos Day
ברכות	08:15	Brachos
שוכן עד	08:45	Shochein Ad
סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א	08:43	Latest Shema – M. A.
סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א	09:29	Latest Shema – G'ra
מנחה א'	13:30	Mincha 1
מנחה ב'	17:35	Mincha 2
פרקי אבות	17:59	Pirkei Avos Shiur
שקיעה	18:58	Sunset
מעריב א'	19:35	Ma'ariv 1
מעריב ב'	19:58	Ma'ariv 2

Question from the Q&A book from **RBSsemicha.com**

## Q&A: Waking the Key Man

**Q** Mr. Shlomo Kagan decided it was time to teach his son Yitzchak Tzvi a trade. He took him to India, and, making his son use his own money, purchased diamonds and precious gems. When they returned home, Mr. Kagan locked the diamonds that Yitzchak Tzvi purchased in the family safe. Still jet-lagged, he went to sleep, while Yitzchak Tzvi went to work trying to make a deal. Within a few minutes, he had arranged to sell all his goods to Mr. Pinsky at a very good profit — but he had to act quickly. Otherwise, Mr. Pinsky said he would go elsewhere. It was then that Yitzchak Tzvi realized that the safe was locked and the only key was in his father's pocket! Is Yitzchak Tzvi permitted to wake his father up, so that he can get the key and make the sale?



**A** Yes. This is because Shlomo Kagan would be very happy that his son is making money and will not be upset that he was awakened for this. While it is true that there is a story in the *Gemora* about a gentile named Dama Ben Nesina who did not wake up his father in a similar situation, the *Gemora* praised him for his actions. Rav Moshe Feinstein, zt"l, explains that the father of this gentile was mentally ill. As such, he did not care if his son made a large profit on the deal and would have been very upset if woken up.

YD 240 *Gemora Kedushin* 31a; Rav Moshe Feinstein  
"Dibros Moshe" Kiddushin Simon 50 Note 17

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prominent Rav and his opinion is quoted internationally. There are people who ask, "HIM? He was a troublemaker in his youth just like the rest of us!" Indirectly they are minimizing his greatness in Torah, and trying to make themselves feel better about their lack of growth, by saying that this Rav is just a regular person, like them.

Rav Shimshon Rafael Hirsch (1808-1888) comments about the issue of prophets in this week's *Parsha*. Rav Hirsh says that a prophet has to be one who grew up within normal society, just like the rest of the people of his time. Yet everyone is obligated to heed his word even though he was that fellow with whom they played with as a child.

As we look towards Rosh Hashanah, I feel that it is worthwhile to look at the people around us who have shined this year. We should try to emulate their ways, and not minimize their progress and what they have become. It could very well be that someone you know has reached a higher status than in the past. When you see people just like you attain a higher level, be inspired by it.



## Yeshivas Bein HaZmanim

Rosh Chodesh marked the end of Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim Summer 2024. Thank you to all the donors who made this program so successful.

We look forward to another Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim after Yom Kippur!



## אבות ובנים

Shabbos Afternoon:

16:35-17:35

Ages 3-7 learn ½ hour  
7+ 1 hour.

**NOTE  
NEW TIME**

## CHOCOLATE CHASE

Come 3 Shabboses during Elul  
and get a Chocolate Bar!

**בואו 3 שבתות בחש  
אלול וקבלו חטיף  
שוקולד!**



**YOU can also Sponsor AuB!**  
**Treats: 50₪ Chocolates: 150₪**



# Early Bird Special!

**PAY for your Yomim Noraim seats by Midnight Sep 10 and receive a 10% discount!**

## Member Prices Per Seat:

	FULL	Early Bird
First Seat	250₪	225₪
Add'l seats for spouse and dependent children	150₪	135₪
Add'l seats for extended family and out-of-town guests	200₪	180₪

## Associate Member Prices Per Seat:

First Seat	350₪	315₪
Additional seats	250₪	225₪

## Non-Member Prices Per Seat:

Each Seat*	500₪	X
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To receive the member price:

- You must be a full member (not an associate member).
- Outstanding financial obligations must be paid in full.
- You must have a standing order to pay via "horaat keva" or credit card, or must pay dues (190₪ per month.) for September, October, and November 2024 in full.

Hardship cases will be handled with sensitivity and discretion.

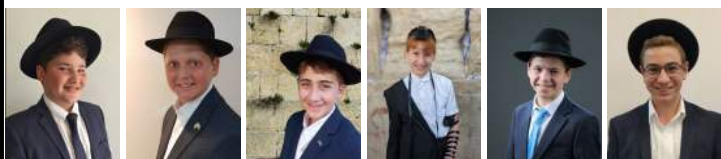
Nedarim Plus [ahavasshalom.org/nedarim](http://ahavasshalom.org/nedarim)  
[ahavasshalom.org/ynseats](http://ahavasshalom.org/ynseats) (Coupon code "EARLY")

After payment, please contact Brad Rubenstein 054-237-0028 or [brad@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:brad@ahavasshalom.org) to arrange exact seats.

\*Non-members can begin purchasing seats on Motza'ei Shabbos 07-Sep-24.

## Bar Mitzvah in 5785?

If your son having a Bar Mitzvah in 5785, make sure you schedule the date with us as soon as possible so as to avoid disappointment due to scheduling conflicts. Contact Naftali Kaplan Gabbai@AhavasShalom.org to schedule your son's Bar Mitzvah.



## GMACH SMACHOT

IF YOU SUFFER A LOSS CONTACT THE GMACH TO BORROW ITEMS NECESSARY FOR A SHIVA HOME, [ahavasshalom.org/smachot](http://ahavasshalom.org/smachot)

## Netziv Hayom

Sponsor *Netziv Hayom* in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special occasion, and all the learning and davening that take place in our shul during that day will be to your merit. Just 120₪ per sponsorship, which is announced via a notice on the "Netziv Hayom" board in the shul, as well as an announcement in this newsletter. To sponsor a day please contact Mrs. Zakoo [Netziv@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:Netziv@ahavasshalom.org).



Av 28 sponsored by the (Alan) Rubenstein Family

לע"נ אטל חיה בת אליעזר ע"ה

Av 30 sponsored by the Helprin Family

לע"נ אלחנן בן זאב דוב ז"ל

4 Elul sponsored by the Madowicz Family

לע"נ הענה בת יהושע העשל ע"ה

## Shiurim with the Rav



The Rav will be giving 2 shiurim this coming week:

SUNDAY 21:15: *Mishnayos - Mikvaos*

TUESDAY 20:15: **HILCHOS YOM KIPPUR**



All shiurim are given in shul and via ZOOM at this link:  
[cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom](http://cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom)

Past shiurim are archived at [ahavasshalom.org/yt-videos](http://ahavasshalom.org/yt-videos)

## Mi Shebeirach for Cholim

**Reminder:** If you would like the Gabbai to read the name of a *choleh* on Shabbos during the *Mi SheBeirach*, you must submit it via Email to Mrs. Zakoo by Thursday!



Send your list of *Hebrew Names* using *Hebrew Letters* to Mrs. Zakoo at [office@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:office@ahavasshalom.org). The list is erased each Rosh Chodesh, so you'll need to resubmit the names after a month if they are still relevant.

Thank you for following this procedure which enables us to have the Shabbos service run more smoothly!

## Keep Your Slate Clean!

If you have outstanding pledges from an *Aliyah*, fulfill your obligations quickly and easily using any of the following methods:

- Nedarim Plus terminal next to the front door
- Nedarim Plus online [ahavasshalom.org/nedarim](http://ahavasshalom.org/nedarim)
- [PayPal.me/ahavasshalom](https://www.paypal.com/ahavasshalom)
- [Ahavasshalom.com/donate](http://Ahavasshalom.com/donate)

המשך מעמוד 4

שהם הפכו להיות. יכול מאוד להיות שמישהו שאתה מכיר הגיע לרמה גבוהה יותר. כשרואים אנשים בדיוק כמונו צומחים ככה, צריכים להתעורר מזה.

## Thank You Rabbi Teichtal



In the Beis Medrash 5763



In the Beis Medrash 5784

When one thinks of Beis Medrash Ahavas Shalom, it is hard to not also think about the Kollel run by Rabbi Akiva Teichtal—after all, the Beis Medrash and the Kollel were both founded at the same time a quarter of a century ago. While Rabbi Teichtal rebranded as Kollel Bet Zvi, the Kollel and Rabbi Teichtal have been an integral part of our Beis Medrash, and rarely would a day go by without the sound of Rabbi Teichtal teaching Torah in our Beis Medrash.

Until now.

Rabbi Teichtal is moving up to a new position at the **Reishit Yeshiva** in Beit Shemesh, and will be leaving his position of Rosh Kollel at the end of 5784. We thank him for many years of service and wish him *hatzlocho* and *brocho* in bringing his unique style of Torah to a new group of students!

## Ahavas Shalom Community Kollel

Baruch Hashem, we are excited to announce the opening this Elul of a new Kollel program, learning in Ahavas Shalom under the auspices of the existing Ahavas Shalom Kollel. A group of *Avreichim* will be learning in the mornings *Gemora Be'iyun*. The *Avreichim* will also be available for the first hour of the Seder (roughly 09:00-10:00) to learn *b'chavrusa* with members of the community.

For details and sponsorship opportunities, contact the *Rosh Kollel*, Rabbi Moshe Dovid Cohen (052-762-4727)

## Times are Changing!

The first weekday Mincha moves to 13:10 this Sunday, and remains at this time for two weeks. FYI: The time will change again the following Sunday (Sep 22) to 13:05 for a week, and then settle at 13:00 on Sep 29 for the rest of the winter.



משולחנו של הרב אברהם ברוך זכריש

## גם אתה יכול

נביא מקרפך מאחריך כמני יקים לך ה' אלקיך אליו תשמעון:  
(דברים יח:טו)

יש לי חבר קרוב שהוא תלמיד חכם יוצא דופן. כילד הוא שיחק בכדור ונהנה כמו כולם, והיה "אחד מהחבר'ה". כבר בגיל ההתבגרות לקח את לימוד התורה ברצינות רבה יותר, והפך למתמיד עד כדי כך שהיום הוא מומחה בכל הש"ס, כולל זרעים וטהרות, עם ראשונים ואחרונים! אנו מתפעלים כאשר אנו נמצאים בנוכחות אדם כזה. אני רוצה להסביר איך צריכים להתייחס לאדם כזה.

הגמרא אומרת: "אם ראשונים בני מלאכים אנו בני אנשים ואם ראשונים בני אנשים אנו כחמורים!" (שבת קיב:ב) שמעתי הסבר שאם אנו רואים את הגדולים כמלאכים, הרבה מעל כולם, נחשוב על עצמנו כעל אנשים "נורמליים". עם זאת, אם רואים אותם כאנשים רגילים (כמונו), אז זה מראה שאנחנו כל כך רחוקים מהם, עד כדי כך שהגמרא משווה אותם לחמורים (כלומר - הם צריכים לעשות עבודה רבה כדי להגיע לרמה שלהם). אנשים מעמידים את הגדולים על במה כדי שלא ירגישו מחויבים לשאוף לרמת גדולתם. אבל זו הגישה לא נכונה. חשוב מאוד לדעת, שרבים מהגדולים היו ילדים שובבים (ייתכן שהיום הם היו מאובחנים עם הפרעת קשב וריכוז) ולא ניתן היה לראות בהם סימני גדלות בילדותם. לכן, גם אנחנו מחויבים, ולו במגבלותינו, להתאמץ ולנסות להגיע לגדולה.

נאמר בשם רבי ישראל סלנטר, שיותר קל ללמוד את כל הש"ס מאשר לשנות תכונת אופי שלילית אחת. אכן, יש מעט מאוד אנשים שראיתי ששינו את תכונות האופי שלהם. חבר ילדות אחד, שהיה "בחור שמח", הפך למבוגר רציני. חבר אחר מאותה כיתה אמר עליו, "הוא מספק לי שיווי משקל בחיי, כי הוא מתקשר אליי בכל ערב שבת כדי לראות מה שלומי". הרצינות והמחויבות הזו לא היו תכונות שהוא נולד איתן אלא שהוא עבד עליהן.

גם ראיתי את התפיסה המוטעית הזו כאשר מישהו עולה להיות ראש ישיבה או רב מפורסם, ודעותיו מובאות ברחבי העולם. יש שמתמיהים, "הוא? בצעירותו עשה צרות בדיוק כמו כולנו!" בעקיפין הם מקטינים את גדלותו בתורה, כדי לגרום לעצמם להרגיש טוב יותר עם חוסר הצמיחה שלהם, בכך שהם אומרים שהרב הזה הוא רק אדם רגיל, כמוהם.

הרב שמשון רפאל הירש מעיר על נושא הנביאים בפרשת השבוע. הרב הירש אומר שנביא צריך להיות אחד שגדל בתוך החברה הרגילה, בדיוק כמו כולנו. ובכל זאת אנו מחויבים להקשיב לדבריו למרות ששיחקנו איתו בילדותנו.

כשאנחנו מתקרבים לראש השנה, לדעתי כדאי להסתכל על האנשים סביבנו שהבריקו השנה. עלינו לנסות לחקות את דרכיהם, ולא למזער את ההתקדמות שלהם ואת מה

המשך בעמוד 3

זמנים לימי חול עד פרשת כי תצא	יום	א(Sun)	ב(Mon)	ג(Tue)	ד(Wed)	ה(Thu)	ו(Fri)
שחרית	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:15
מנחה	13:10, 15:15	13:10, 15:15	13:10, 15:15	13:10, 15:15	13:10, 15:15	13:10, 15:15	13:30, 17:10, 18:32
מעריב	20:15, 21:00	20:15, 21:00	20:15, 21:00	20:15, 21:00	20:15, 21:00	20:15, 21:00	*Hall

HaRav Avrohom Baruch Zachariash, Sh'lita, Rav  
Su-Fr 08:30-09:15 and Su-Th 19:15-20  
Cellphone: 052-763-5938  
Binyomin Rubenstein, Chairman  
binyomin@ahavasshalom.org 054-237-0028

Administrative Secretary: Miriam Zakoo  
Su & Tu 11:00-13:00 and Th 10:00-12:00  
J 058-3263914 office@ahavasshalom.org  
Shul Address: 33 Nachal Lachish  
Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

Main Ahavas Shalom lists:  
Email List: ahavasshalom.org/list  
WhatsApp: ahavasshalom.org/WhatsApp  
Email Rav: ahavasshalom.org/email-rav

Newsletter Design: Lev Seltzer lev@ahavasshalom.org  
Newsletter Contact: Send your lifecycle events, news, comments, etc. to lev@ahavasshalom.org. Remember: If we don't know about your event, we can't publish it!