

Response-able

"But they answered, "Should our sister be treated like a harlot?" (Bereishis 34:31)

Hishtadlus is one of the most important things in all the activities that Jews do, whether it is getting a good *chavrusa*, finding a wife, or getting a job. We have an obligation to make the best effort we can. However, it is unclear when *hishtadlus* is appropriate and even when it is, what is the correct amount?



For example, if Reuven needs a job, and he can make the manager of a company feel uncomfortable with Shimon, causing the manager to fire Shimon, which would allow Reuven to take over Shimon's job - that kind of effort is forbidden. Or, if Reuven wants to grow in learning, and he therefore decides to go to a class which is far above his level, his efforts will not succeed. Our job is, in all areas, to find the proper balance as to how much effort one needs to invest.

In some situations, it seems that making any effort will be unproductive. Yet we feel that we not only need to do something, but we have to do something that is very drastic in order to have a chance at producing results. The Chazon Ish says that in those situations, we probably have no obligation of *hishtadlus*. His proof of this is from next week's parsha when Yosef asked the chief bartender to "put in a good word for him." Yosef knew full well that this Egyptian was an anti-Semite and would not willingly help him, and therefore this request was not *hishtadlus*, but an act of desperation which should not have been done at all. We therefore must know when we are going beyond our range of normal for who we are and what our situation is.

In this week's parsha, Shimon and Levi take action against the citizens of Shechem because of what Shechem did to their sister Dina. Yaakov tells his sons that this was improper behavior, which could only bring about negative results. The sons responded that they could not let such a thing happen to their sister with no consequences. The *Meforshim* comment that the son's response doesn't really address Yaakov's concerns.

It seems to me that the explanation is that sometimes one must respond to an issue even if it is not the proper *hishtadlus*, as there needs to be some response to show that

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Lifecycles

Mazel Tov to Rabbi & Mrs. Avishai Hill & Rabbi & Mrs. Moshe Dovid Cohen on the upcoming wedding of their children, Aviva to Yehuda Aryeh.



The wedding will take place this Thursday, 18th Kislev, in Kinor David. *Chuppah* at 18:30. *Simchas Chosson* *Ve'Kallah* at 22:00.

בואי בשלום Boi BeShalom

FOR ALL THE FAMILY TO BRING IN
SHABBOS WITH SIMCHA
EREV SHABBOS PROGRAM FOR KIDS
STARTING 15:52 THIS WEEK

בנות: באולם - ע"י בנות סנינר
Girls 6-12 years in the Hall

בנים: באודת נשים - ע"י הרב רובין
Boys 6-12 years in the Ezras Nashim

Shabbos Schedule Parshas Vayishlach לוח שבת פרשת וישלח

| Erev Shabbos | | ערב שבת |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Mincha 1 | 12:30 | מנחה א' |
| Candle Lighting | 16:00/16:20 | הדלקת נרות |
| Mincha 2 | 16:22 | מנחה ב' |
| Sunset | 16:40 | שקיעה |
| Shabbos Day | | יום השבת |
| Brachos | 08:00 | ברכות |
| Shochein Ad | 08:30 | שוכן עד |
| Latest Shema - M. A. | 08:15 | סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א |
| Latest Shema - G'ra | 09:03 | סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א |
| Mincha 1 | 13:00 | מנחה א' |
| Pele Yoetz Shiur | 15:40 | פלא יועץ |
| Mincha 2 | 15:55 | מנחה ב' |
| Sunset | 16:40 | שקיעה |
| Ma'ariv 1 | 17:17 | מעריב א' |
| Ma'ariv 2 | 17:40 | מעריב ב' |

(Continued from page 1)

we cannot allow this issue to continue to exist. The brothers' answer was not an explanation of how what they did will rectify the situation. Rather, it was a response of pain and a supplication to Hashem, showing that the issue had to be taken care of. They were really saying, "We cannot allow this issue to go unanswered."

So too us, in our lives, we often find ourselves in a predicament to which we must respond. Yet, we just do not seem to have the right response. At that time, whether one is conducting himself according to the Chazon Ish who says that we have no obligation for *hishtadlus*, or whether one is reacting according to this other explanation (that some situations warrant a reaction), we need to just throw up our hands to Hashem and say, "Help!"



But doing a feeble *hishtadlus* will only bring us to a similar situation to that which Yosef found himself in, where his efforts were detrimental to him and not a merit. Feeling helpless should instead spur us on to connect with Hashem in a greater way.

Sponsor a Shabbos program for just 250 ₪

יש לי זוג - ושבת שמו

Learning & Oneg Shabbos

Elevate your Leil Shabbos!



SPECIAL
NOSH TABLE
FOR BOCHRIM

20:30 Beis Medrash Learning or
Alshich Hakadosh shiur from R' Avishai Hill

21:30 Oneg Shabbos

עונג שבת לילדים מכיתה ד' ואעלה

עם הרב נפתלי קפאן

20:30 לימודים בבית אדרש

21:00 עונג לבחורים באולם

מחזיקים בתורה - ומחזיקים את עם ישראל

אבות ובנים



AuB Motza'ei Shabbos at 19:00!
Boys aged 7+ learn for 1 hour

Prizes and treats sponsored by
The Goldwater family



GMACH SMACHOT

IF YOU SUFFER A LOSS CONTACT THE GMACH TO
BORROW ITEMS NECESSARY FOR A SHIVA HOME,
ahavasshalom.org/smachot
Or call 054-566-5083 OR 050-203-0584

Pele Yoetz Shiur

Continuing this Shabbos afternoon, Rav Zachariash will give his shiur for men on **Pele Yoetz**. This week, the shiur will begin at **15:40** in the hall on the topic **חוסר**.



**Did you make a pledge to the shul?
Fulfill your pledge online with ease!**

TOP 3 METHODS PAYMENT METHODS:

- Nedarim Plus terminal next to the front door
- Online at ahavasshalom.org/NEDARIM
- PayPal.me/ahavasshalom

Payment can also be accepted via

- American Friends of Ahavas Shalom at ahavasshalom.com/donate (donations in USD)
- PayPal Giving Fund ahavasshalom.com/ppg



Please help our **bookkeeper** by always writing a note—or sending a separate email—which explains the purpose of your payment/donation. For example, include the **parsha** or **pledge date** if applicable. Thank you!!

Stay In Touch!

Visit Ahavasshalom.org/list to subscribe to our email list and get notifications directly to your inbox!

You can also sign up for the shul's instant communication group on the same page!

Don't Be Left Out!

When you have a simcha (or R"L a sad event), it is *so easy* to have it included in the next newsletter! Just send an email to lev@ahavasshalom.org! **Deadline is 11:00 Thurs.**



Reminder: Sending an instant message, an email, or speaking to anyone else will probably result in your announcement not making it to the newsletter!

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 in the merit of your choosing. 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.



1 Kislev sponsored by the Lasker Family

לע"נ הלאה חיה בת דוד ע"ה

10 Kislev sponsored by the Lippman Family

לע"נ הנדל חיה בת יוסף ע"ה

Questions that appear in this newsletter come from RBSsemicha.com. Four volumes of questions are now available in print. See rbssemicha.com/books for more information.

Q&A: Chanukah Weekend at Bernie's

Q "My mansion in the Hamptons is empty this weekend. Why don't you use it?" offered Bernie Lowenstein to Levy and Yocheved on Shabbos Chanukah, and the two took him up on the offer. They brought all their food and Levy brought three large candles to light for the second night of Chanukah. However, just moments before they lit, Yocheved realized that she forgot to bring her own Shabbos candles. What is the preferred way that they divide these three candles amongst themselves?

1) Levy should light two candles for his menorah and one for his *shamash*, and Yocheved should not light at all.

2) Levy should light two candles for his menorah and Yocheved should light one candle for Shabbos.

3) Levy should light one candle for his menorah and Yocheved should light two candles for Shabbos (as she always does).

A 2. Levy should light 2 candles for Chanukah and Yocheved should light 1 for Shabbos. Even though it is proper for Yocheved to light 2 candles as she normally does, in this case, it is better to light 2 candles for Chanukah and fulfill the obligation of "mehadrin." One candle for Shabbos will suffice in this second-best situation by providing sufficient light where the couple will eat.

OC 678 M.B. 1

Q&A: Reduce, Reuse, Relight

Q Shlomo Kagan lit his Chanukah menorah in a glass box on the 2nd night outside his home and, after davening *maariv*, returned home and eventually went to sleep. In the morning, as he went to *shacharis*, he noticed that the two glass cups in his menorah were still full — indicating that the flames must have been blown out by the wind sometime soon after *maariv*. On the third night, what must he do?

1) Shlomo must pour **new** oil into all three cups, as the oil currently in the first two cups was designated for the second night.

2) Shlomo may simply fill up the third cup with oil only, as he is permitted to reuse the oil in the first two cups.

A 2. It is permitted to re-use the oil on subsequent days.

OC 677 M.B. 17

COMMUNITY CARE

Do you know someone in our Kehilla who is unwell?

Please let us know so that we can arrange home/hospital visits and meals.

Contact: Alan Rubenstein 054-398-8570

You can also inform the Ahavas Shalom Vaad.



להגיב או לא

ויאמרו הכזונה יעשה את אחותנו (בראשית לד:לא)

השתדלות היא אחד הדברים החשובים ביותר בכל הפעילויות היהודים עושים, בין אם זה לקבל חברות טובה, למצוא בן או בת זוג, או לקבל עבודה. אנחנו צריכים לעשות את המאמץ הכי טוב שאנחנו יכולים. עם זאת, ייתכן שלא ברור מתי השתדלות מתאימה וגם אם כן, מהי הרמה הנכונה?

למשל, אם ראובן צריך עבודה, והוא יכול לגרום למנהל להרגיש לא בנוח עם שמעון, שזה יגרום למנהל לפטר את שמעון, מה שיאפשר לראובן להשתלט על תפקידו של שמעון - מאמץ כזה אסור. או אם ראובן רוצה לצמוח בלימוד התורה, ולכן הוא מחליט ללכת לשיעור שהוא הרבה מעל רמתו, מאמץ כזה לא יצלח. התפקיד שלנו הוא, בכל התחומים, למצוא את האיזון המתאים לכמה מאמץ אנחנו צריכים להשקיע.

במצבים מסוימים נראה שכל מאמץ לא יועיל. אבל אנחנו מרגישים לא רק שצריכים לעשות משהו, אלא שצריכים אפילו לעשות משהו מאוד קיצוני כדי שיהיה לנו סיכוי להפיק תוצאות. החזון איש אומר שבאותם מצבים כנראה אין לנו חובת השתדלות. הוא מוכיח זאת מפרשת השבוע הבא, כאשר יוסף ביקש משר המשקים להכניס לו מילה טובה עם פרעה. יוסף ידע היטב שהמצרי הזה הוא אנטישמי ולא יעזור לו ברצון, ולכן בקשה זו לא הייתה השתדלות, אלא מעשה נואש שהיה עדיף לא להיעשות כלל. לכן עלינו לדעת מתי אנחנו חורגים ממה שמתאים למי שאנחנו ולמצבנו.

בפרשת השבוע, שמעון ולוי פועלים נגד אזרחי שכם בגלל מה ששכם עשה לאחותם דינה. יעקב אומר לבניו שזו הייתה התנהגות לא נכונה, שעלולה להביא רק לתוצאות שליליות. הבנים השיבו שהם לא יכולים לתת לדבר כזה לקרות לאחותם ללא השלכות. המפרשים מעירים כי תגובתם לא ממש מתייחסת לחששותיו של יעקב.

נראה לי שההסבר הוא שלפעמים צריך להגיב לבעיה גם אם זו לא ההשתדלות הראויה, שכן צריך תגובה כלשהי כדי להראות שאנחנו לא יכולים לתת למצב הזה להמשיך להתקיים. תשובת האחים לא הייתה הסבר כיצד מה שהם עשו יתקן את המצב. אלא זו הייתה תגובה של כאב ותחינה לה', להראות שיש לטפל בנושא. הם באמת אמרו, "אנחנו לא יכולים לתת לנושא הזה להישאר ללא מענה".

כך גם בחיינו, לעתים קרובות אנו מוצאים את עצמנו במצוקה שעלינו להגיב אליה. עם זאת, לא נראה לנו שיש תגובה נכונה. במקרה כזה, בין אם מתנהגים לפי החזון איש שאומר שאין לנו שום חוב בהשתדלות, ובין אם מגיבים לפי ההסבר השני (שיש מצבים שמחייבים תגובה), צריכים פשוט להרים ידיים לה' ולצעוק "הצילו!" לעשות איזו השתדלות חלשה רק תביא אותנו למצב דומה לזה שיוסף נקלע אליו, שבו מאמציו הזיקו לו במקום לעזור. תחושת חוסר אונים צריכה במקום זאת לעודד אותנו להתחבר עם ה' בצורה טובה יותר.

Winter Soup 'n' Shmooze

Pre-Chanukah
Women's Melava Malka
with inspirational words from
Rebbetzen Zachariash

This Motzei Shabbos,
December 14th

From 20:30



Want to help out with food?
Contact Shuli: 058.329.5812

Shiurim with the Rav

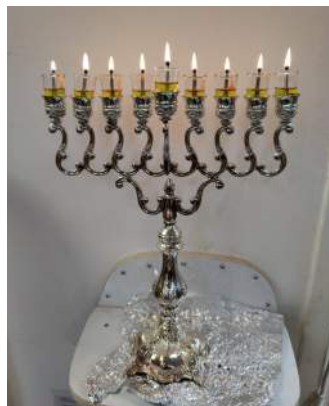
The Rav will be giving 2 shiurim this coming week:



SUNDAY 21:15: Mishnayos - Mikvaos

HILCHOS CHANUKAH 20:15 TUESDAY

All shiurim are given in shul and via ZOOM at this link:
cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom
Shiurim are archived at
ahavasshalom.org/youtube



| זמנים לימי חול | יום | א'(Sun) | ב'(Mon) | ג'(Tue) | ד'(Wed) | ה'(Thu) | ו'(Fri) |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| עד פרשת וישב | 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, 08:15 |
| | מנחה | 13:00, 15:15 | 13:00, 15:15 | 13:00, 15:15 | 13:00, 15:15 | 13:00, 15:15 | 12:30, 16:25 |
| | מעריב | 19:00, 21:00 | 19:00, 21:00 | 19:00, 21:00 | 19:00, 21:00 | 19:00, 21:00 | *Hall |

HaRav Avrohom Baruch Zachariash, Sh'lita, Rav
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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!