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**Parshas Eikev, כ"א אב 5765**  
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## PARSHAS EIKEV



"Hey, David! Come on in."  
"NO-O-O! The water is too cold."  
"Just jump in. You'll get used to it right away."

David was not convinced. He stood at the edge of the pool and watched his friends swimming. Gingerly, he dipped his foot into the water and swished it about.

"See, David. It's not so bad after all."  
David didn't think so. He shook his head and turned to Heshy, who was standing nearby. "No way!" he said. "I can feel how cold this water is even in the heel of my foot."

Do you do the same thing before jumping into a pool? Do you test the water with your feet first? Why is it easier to put our feet into cold water?

Simple. The bottoms of our feet are not as sensitive to the cold as the other parts of our body. They can bear the cold.

But that's only one way of explaining it. There's another way to understand why this happens.

Our brain tells us to move our hands,

and the rest of our body. It sends out messages and instructions, and our body responds.

Now let's go back to David at the pool. His brain said: "Go ahead. Take a plunge. You'll soon get over the cold and have a lot of fun with your friends." Most of his body didn't want to listen, but he was able to put his foot in. The foot is farthest away from the brain, but it is the most ready to respond to its instructions. Of all the parts of our body, our feet do what we want most willingly.

Eikev, the name of our parshah, means "heel." The parshah tells us that Hashem will give us great blessings when we keep His mitzvos as eagerly as the heels of our feet follow our brain's instructions.

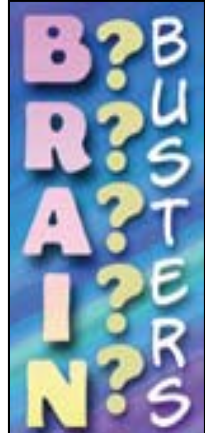
We are living in ikvesa diMeshicha, "the time when we can hear the footsteps of Moshiach approaching." The word ikvesa comes from the word eikev. Our generation was selected to greet Moshiach. Like the heels of our feet, we are eager to do everything Hashem wants.

(Adapted from Likkutei Sichos, Vol. IX)

**WITH MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS:**

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Mr. Yochanan and Mrs. Peri Brook  
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### READ SECOND, BUT THIRD IN THE TORAH.

Please send your answers to [connections@shluchim.org](mailto:connections@shluchim.org)  
Last weeks' brain buster: Beginning, middle and end, but all the same.  
Moshe and the Torah.  
Answer: אמת



# FROM THE DESK OF DR. GETZEL...

Hey there Young Shluchim!

How is your summer going? Have you been busy? Did you go to a camp? Well I am really excited because this week I'm going to the Special Camp for Professors, Inventors and other Chassidische Scientists in the Catskills. I was supposed to have gone to camp a while ago but my fellow scientists and I decided that since we are such busy professors and we only have time to go to camp for one week then we should make the camp at the end of the summer when we are really tired and can really use the vacation. Besides, as you can probably imagine, a camp for professors and inventors isn't exactly like your regular camp. In fact it is very different from your regular camp. And it can sometimes get quite dangerous. And sometimes it can even get very dangerous - but more about that later - the main thing is that since camp can be dangerous we try not to do it during the nine days if at all possible.

Since I got my official acceptance letter to camp and list of things to bring, I have been running all around town looking for everything I need. Of course, first I had to work out exactly what was on the list. You see the Special Camp for Professors, Inventors and other Chassidische Scientists has to be very careful that only professors, inventors and chassidische scientists come to the camp. A few years ago we had a definitely not-yet-very-chassidische businessman who came to our camp disguised as a chassidische scientist to try to steal some of the new inventions that we came up with. It didn't take long for us to discover who this businessman really was but he had already managed to discover the secret of how Reb Zundel always kept his mikva warm and now that still-not-yet-very-chassidische businessman sells Reb Zundel's idea as 'hot packs' and poor Reb Zundel is very upset.

So to stop things like this happening, the Special Camp for Professors, Inventors and other Chassidische Scientists sends out the camp acceptance letter and list of things to bring to camp in code so that only professors and inventors and other chassidische scientists will be able to work out what they need. It took me almost a week to work out the code but finally - just as I was starting to get a bit nervous - Mrs Getzel pointed out to me that the letter was simply written back-to-front. Well it does say that women have extra insight! Ever since the time when my experimental long-distance-extra-wide-self-adjusting telescope for seeing around corners shattered in the middle of the night and covered my bed in little bits of glass (I told you the camp was sometimes dangerous - we try out lots of new inventions there!), Mrs Getzel has not been too happy about me going to the camp. But she understands that it is important for me to farbreng with other chassidische scientists and

so she doesn't mind too much. To give her some extra peace of mind - and to protect me from flying pieces of glass - I packed some goggles and gloves and even a face mask or two in my bag just to be safe.

Anyway, it is getting late and I still need to finish packing and eat the delicious supper that Mrs Getzel has cooked for me. All children and ainek-lach who are not in camp are coming around to say goodbye to see me off to camp tonight and she always makes an extra special supper when all the family comes.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. This is Dr. Getzel signing off until next week!



Yisrolik Baumgarten, 5  
Rockaway, NJ

Hi! My name is Yisrolik. I live in Rockaway, NJ. Every night before I go to bed my Tatty reads me Chassidic Stories for Children. I love listening to the stories. On Gimmel Tammuz I davened extra hard so Moshiach should come. I love the Rebbe and I love Hashem. Once, at 'show and share' I told all my friends about the conference call we had for the Rebbe's birthday. Every Shabbos we have a program for the boys and I always can't wait until they come. We have nosh and tell stories. On Festival Day we have tons of rides and my Tatty makes a Kosher food booth so everyone could eat Kosher food there. I went early in the morning with my Tatty and helped set up and brought all the sodas to him from the truck. So many people came by to eat Kosher. I am having a great time on shlichus. We want Moshiach now!

Hey kids!

Send us a report about your shlichus and we will IY"YH publish it in our future connections!

E-mail us at [connections@shluchim.org](mailto:connections@shluchim.org)

Please include your name, age and location of shlichus.



## כ"ו אב

In 1843 the צמח צדק was called to Petersburg for a conference. The משכילים had convinced the Minister of Interior to make a law that Jewish children have to secular studies, including Russian and geography and to ban חסידות. The conference was also an excuse so that the government could have the צמח צדק close to them where they could keep a constant watch on him and make sure he wasn't teaching and spreading חסידות.

As is happened, when the Czar was given the new law to sign, he was drunk, and was busy writing a letter. The letter was very messy and the Czar wanted to burn it, but because he was drunk he did not realise what he was doing and burnt up the paper with the new law instead and so it never came into law. The צמח צדק was allowed to return home on כ"ו אב.

"וידעת עם לבבך כי כאשר ייסר איש את בנו ה' אלקיך מיסרך" (ח'ה')

QUESTION: How is ה' telling off the אידן similar to a father telling off his son?

ANSWER: If a father is not happy at how his son behaves and tells him off and hits him, he will still be very upset if suddenly a stranger would come and hit his son at the same time. The father would then protect his son.

Even though we אידן might be in גלות because ה' is not happy with the way we behave, He still doesn't like it when the גוים who rule over us don't treat us well. Even many years before מתן תורה when we became ה's nation, ה' promised אברהם that He would punish the גוים that would harm the אידן.

## PIRKEI AVOS POINTERS

### פרק רביעי

"כל המכבד את התורה" (ד'י')

QUESTION: How does one honor תורה?

ANSWER: According to רש"י, this includes not putting a ספר תורה on a bench where people are sitting.

According to תפארת ישראל it means keeping ספרים in good condition, binding them when they tear, and returning them to the shelf after use.

According to the אברבנל it means that a תלמוד חכם should be careful about his appearance. When one is dirty or shabbily dressed, people lose their respect for תורה and speak negatively about it.

According to מאירי it means that the תלמוד חכם should be of refined character, so that people will admire him and in turn have respect for תורה when they realize its influence on those who study it.

(Adapted from 'Vedibarta Bam')

Remember to say פרקי אבות of פרק רביעי  
מנחה after שבת on



# Stories of Olde

From all over Europe, thousands of אידן used to come to visit ר' ישראל, the holy Rabbi of Ruzhin. For little פסח, the orphan who lived in the Rebbe's house, it was an amazing sight which he never got used to.

"The Rebbe is a holy man," he was told. "All these people come to him for a ברכה. He can see what will happen to them many years from now."

One day the Rebbe called פסח aside and told him, "A time will come when you will have to go away. You will study medicine and become a doctor. Then you should go to ארץ ישראל. Your place is there and you will be able to save many lives." פסח burst into tears. "Must I leave, Rebbe?" he cried.

"Don't be upset," the Rebbe said. "My thoughts will always be with you."

And so it was that פסח grew up and became a doctor -- taking the family name of his beloved Rebbe, Friedman -- and settling in ארץ ישראל in the town of צפת.

One day a royal carriage stopped in front of his house, and an important looking man stepped out. "I am looking for Dr. Friedman," he announced.

When Dr. Friedman came to the door he was told, "The Princess of Prussia is visiting צפת and she is extremely ill. One minute she is burning with fever, the next moment she is shivering with cold. You must come at once. Her father, the King, is anxious that you come at once."

Dr. Friedman hurried to the princess's bedside. He checked her and saw that she had malaria. "Take this medicine for three days. If we are lucky, we will be able to cure the disease."

Three days later the princess's fever broke and it could be seen that she was slowly getting better. After three weeks Dr. Friedman was called again. "The Princess will be continuing her trip, however she still feels weak and has begged that you come with her."

Dr. Friedman explained, "Your Highness, it is difficult for me to fulfil your request. As a איד I must daven three times a day with ten men, and I may eat only kosher food. The trip to ירושלים is a long one."

The King replied, "Spare no expense. Bring along ten men and whatever food you need. Only come."

Dr. Friedman joined the traveling party for the long, hard journey. When he finally returned home, his wife asked, "Did they reward you for saving the life of the princess?"

"Not really, but they said the King would owe me. True, it was very difficult, but for me it is enough that I saved her life."

Many months passed and no more was heard from the princess or her father. ארץ ישראל had many problems and the interesting story of the princess was forgotten as everyone had a different worry -- the safety of their children. The government of Turkey, which then ruled ארץ ישראל, was demanding that young Jewish men serve in its army. Not only was it impossible to keep the תורה in the army, it was also very dangerous. The only alternative was prison. Then, out of the blue, came a telegram for Dr. Friedman from the King of Prussia.

The short letter stated that by the grace of His Royal Highness, the King of Prussia, Dr. Pesach Friedman had been appointed Consular Agent in צפת for the government of Prussia, with full authority to issue passports, visas, and any other such papers to citizens of Prussia.

Dr. Friedman was silent for a long while, as he read and reread the telegram. Then, he remembered the words of his Rebbe, as if they had just been spoken, "You will be able to save many lives."

Quickly, he called a meeting of the community leaders.

"Gentlemen," he announced, holding up the telegram, "here is the answer to our troubles. By this document I have been given the power to issue passports to citizens of Prussia. Do you realize what this means? No longer will the Turks have power over us. If any young men are threatened that they will have to go to the army, let them come to me. I'll issue them a Prussian passport that will save them! With these papers they'll become citizens of Prussia, and won't have to serve in the Turkish army!"

And so, the words of Reb Yisroel of Ruzhin came true over and over again!



# TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

## ברשת עקב

Kids! Fill out the answers to the puzzle below, and fax it to the Shluchim Office at (718) 221- 0985 or e-mail it to [connections@shluchim.org](mailto:connections@shluchim.org) by Wednesday

### Level 1:

Use a סידור to put שמוע אם והיה in order.

- א ונתתי מטו-ארצכם בעתו, יורה ומלקושי; ואספת דגנך, ותירשך ויצהרך.
- ב ושמתם את-הברי אלה, על-לבבכם ועל-נפשכם; וקשרתם אתם לאות על-ידכם, והיו לטוטפת בין עיניכם.
- ג והיה, אם-שמעו תשמעו אל-מצותי, אשר אנכי מצוה אתכם, היום--לאהבה את-ה' אלקיכם, ולעבדו, בכל-לבבכם, ובכל-נפשכם.
- ד למען ירבו ימיכם, וימי בניכם, על האדמה, אשר נשבע ה' לאבותיכם לתת להם--ימי השמים, על-הארץ.
- ה השמרו לכם, פן יפתה לבבכם; וסרתם, ועבדתם אלהים אחרים, והשתחיתם, להם.
- ו וכתבתם על-מזוזות ביתך, ובשעריך.
- ז ולמדתם אתם את-בניכם, לדבר בם, בשבתך בביתך ובליכתך בדרך, ובשכבך ובקומך.
- ח ונתתי עשב בשדך, לבהמתך; ואכלת, ושבעת.
- ט וחרה אף-ה' בכם, ועצר את-השמים ולא-יהיה מטו, והאדמה, לא תתן את-יבולה; ואבדתם מהרה, מעל הארץ הטבה, אשר ה', נתן לכם.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ג								

## הצלחה רבה

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

# TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

## פרשת עקב

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### Level 2:

Fill in the vowels to find a summary about Parshas Eikev. Then answer the questions below.

This week's parsha is called Parshas Ekev. The whole of the parsha is part of Moshe Rabbenu's speech to the Yidden before he passed away. Moshe Rabbenu tells the Yidden that Hashem will reward them for listening to Him. He reminds them about the promise that Hashem did for them when they left Mitzrayim and tells them that they should not fear the seven nations in front of Yisroel because Hashem will defend them and the Yidden will win all the battles.

Later on in the parsha, Moshe Rabbenu gives the Yidden the mitzvah of bringing fruit to the seven little children in the bunch of fruit. They can then say a part of bringing a special small version.

The end of the parsha is something special that was very dry. It is the second of the three parshas of the Shema Yisroel.

1. Who should the Yidden not fear? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What Mitzvah does Hashem give the Yidden in this week's parsha? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What special part of davening is in this week's parsha? \_\_\_\_\_

# הצלחה רבה

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_