

Gimmel Tishrei 5553

Yartzeit of Rebetzin Devorah Leah

OKAY KIDS, HERE WE GO! This trip will take us to Liozna, during the times of the Alter Rebbe. There is a very serious feeling in the air. The Alter Rebbe has been locking himself in his room very often. It is clear that something terrible is happening, but nobody knows what.

One day, the Alter Rebbe calls his daughter, Rebbetzin Devorah Leah into his room. And this is what he tells her. "A tree needs 30 years of special care, before it can give fruit. The tree of Chasidus, is ready now to produce fruit, but there is a terrible Kitrug that might uproot everything. I want to live, because that's what the Torah says. But even more than that, I want to nurture this tree of Chasidus so that it will give fruit until Moshiach comes. My teacher, the Maggid told me that there will be hard times, and he promise that when the time comes he will help me. I saw the בעל שם טוב and the מגיד but their faces were black. It's a sign that Chasidus is in danger, and that..."

Rebetzin Devorah Leah realized that her father's life was in danger, so she takes action. She calls three of the greatest Chassidim and makes them swear that they will accept whatever she tells them (and swearing is a serious business!).

Then she says. "I have decided to give my life in the place of my father's life. I will die so that my father will live in order to keep the tree of Chasidus healthy and alive."

That year on Rosh Hashana by night, the Alter Rebbe asked "Where is Devorah Leah?" even though he usually he didn't speak. When he saw her he began to say "L'shana..." Devorah Leah interrupted him and said, "לשנה טובה ומתוקה כתיבה, father, don't speak!"

On the 2nd day of Rosh Hashana, Rebbetzin Devorah Leah got sick. The day after, on ג' תשרי, she passed away. Her last request was that her father take care of her three year old son, the Tzemach Tzedek.

**DESTINATION:
LIOZNA**

Niggun Hishtatchus

There is a niggun called "ניגון השתתחות" that the Tzemach Tzedek used to sing by his mother's Kever. When the Alter Rebbe was in prison, 10 Chassidim would go every day to the Kever of Rebbetzin Devorah Leah and say the whole Tehilim.



Mission:

Go to ShluchimKids.org and click on the link to hear Niggun Hishtatchus. Listen to it a few times so you can learn it. And then sing along!!

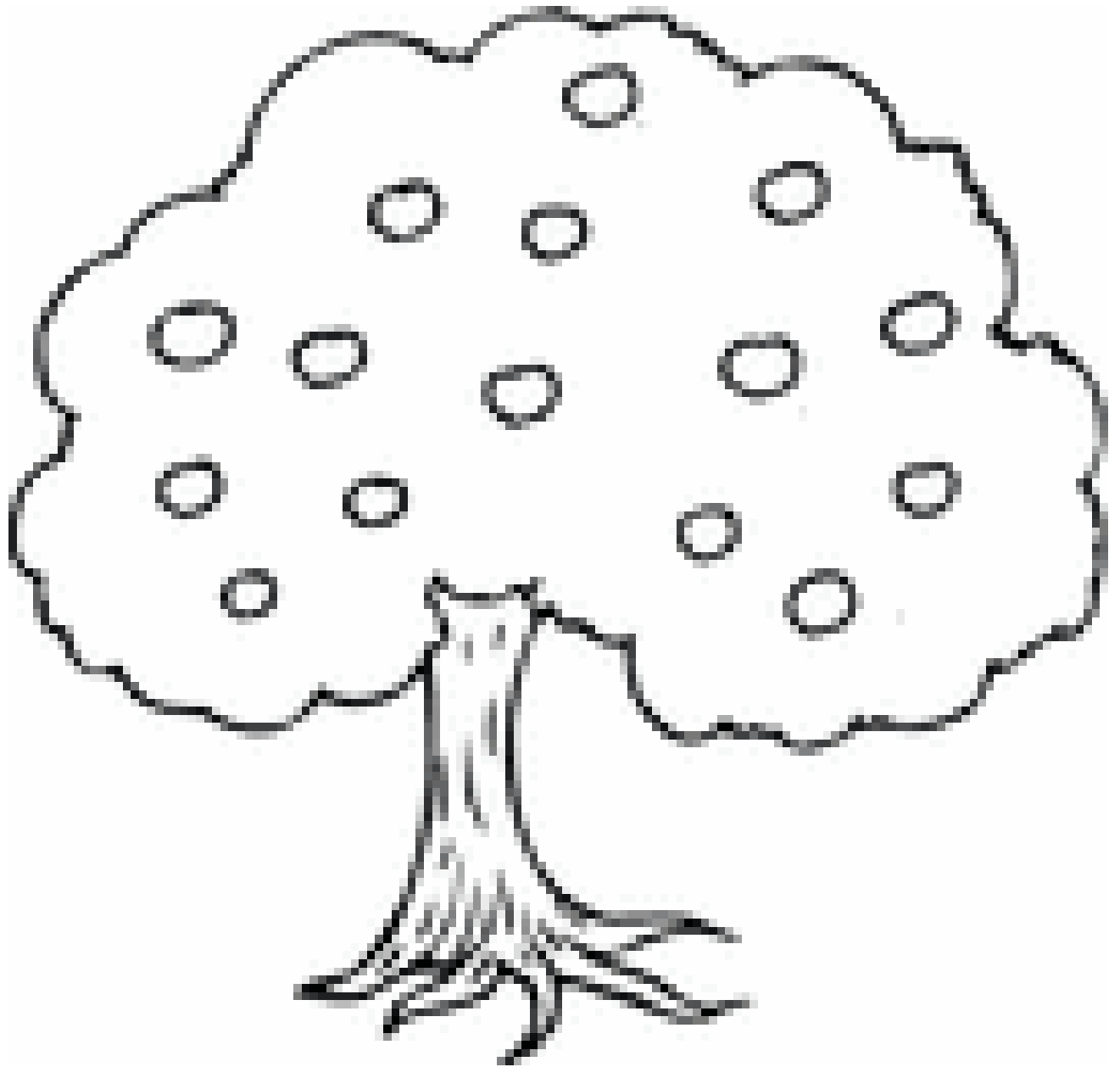


The Rebbe Says:

The story of Rebbetzin Devorah Leah has a lesson for us today. Just like she had Mesiras Nefesh for Chasidus, we must also have Mesiras Nefesh to learn and teach Chasidus. You might say, Rebbetzin Devorah Leah was the daughter of a Rebbe, and she was just a Tzadekes. I'm just a plain kid, how can I be like her?

The answer to that is, first of all we don't need to actually die for Chasidus, just to work hard. And also, Rebbetzin Devorah Leah gives us the Koach to have Mesiras Nefesh, so it's for sure possible. And you know what else, Rebbetzin Devorah Leah gives Koach to the Rebbe himself to spread Chasidus!

כי תשרי



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