

PARSHA PERSPECTIVES RABBI YERACHMIEL FRANK



In this week's parsha we find Avraham Avinu sending his trusted servant Eliezer on a mission to find the right wife for Avraham's son, Yitzchak. The Torah tells us in great detail how Eliezer carried out his mission and, through Divine Providence from Hashem, he was successful. One of the things the Torah tell us is that when Eliezer finds Rivka, and realizes that she is the wife for Yitzchak, he thanks Hashem for the kindness that was done for his master Avraham, and he adds "anochi baderch nachani Hashem", Hashem has guided me on the path.

Rav Yeruchem Levovitz (1873-1936), the famed Mashgiach of the Mir Yeshiva, explains this statement which Eliezer added. He explains that Eliezer understood and felt that with every step of his mission to find a wife for Yitzchak, he was lovingly guided and directed by Hashem like a parent leading their child on the correct and straight path which is best for them. Rav Levovitz says further, that this is the reality for each one of us. Hashem created us and put us into this world to fulfill a mission, and, if we look closely, we will realize that Hashem with His infinite kindness is lovingly leading us on the perfect path to accomplish our mission in life.

This is true of every aspect of our lives. Individually, family, community and all events happening in every part of the world. It is Hashem leading us on our path with tremendous love. Every situation, easy or hard, every challenge, every turn. Hashem is leading us on our true path for our mission in life. This *emuna* in Hashem is sure to give us comfort and calm amid the daily uncertainties of today's world.

MOMENTS OF GREATNESS

The Golden Age of Spain produced some magnificent Jewish scholars. One of these was R' Avraham Ibn Ezra zt"l. He was born in 1089 and lived a life of extreme poverty and deprivation. No matter what sort of enterprise he tried his hand at, he was never successful. All his life, he barely scraped together enough money to live and he once joked that if he would try to sell candles, the sun would never set at night and if he would sell Tachrichim, people would stop dying! His good friend, R' Yehuda HaLevi zt"l once tried to help the Ibn Ezra out and he took a pouch of gold coins and sprinkled them out in front of R' Avraham's house, so that when he came home, he would find the coins and have some money to live on. He waited to see what would happen and was shocked when the Ibn Ezra came to his house, and groped along the wall until he reached the front door. He found the handle and walked inside, never seeing the coins. Later, he asked him why he behaved that way. The Ibn Ezra said, "While I was walking home, I wondered about my bad mazel and why I have no money. Then, I thought, 'I have no right to complain - look, I have my health!' So as to drive this point home, I decided to act like a blind man to feel what he's going through, so I can appreciate all that I have!"



UPCOMING WEEK'S SCHEDULE YEAR 6 WEEK 9 — SUCCAH 44B

Maggid shiur of the week - **R' Daniel Lefton**



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HARMONIOUS HOME

RABBI GIDON NITSUN
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When your spouse makes a suggestion, what's your gut response? Is your go-to to see the good in his or her idea and say "Yes"? Or do you find yourself automatically raising objections and finding reasons why their idea won't work? If you're constantly rejecting or invalidating your spouse's opinion, perspective, and initiatives, you're missing out on the give-and-take flow of conversation and interaction that is at the bedrock of any healthy and enjoyable relationship. It won't be long before the feeling of disrespect and the thought of "why should I bother talking to you if you're just going to shut me down" takes hold. Then the communication and suggestions stop and you're left wondering why you're both miserable and no longer talk. Instead, be agreeable, not argumentative. Get curious and inviting about their viewpoint. Maybe they have a different hierarchy of needs, wants or values that drew them to their opinion or idea. Get vulnerable by validating your special someone. Make it safe for them to share and find ways to support them and their ventures.

Conversely, when approached with a suggestion that you perceive (correctly or incorrectly) as criticism, your go-to response might be to get defensive. You see an attack coming towards you, and you feel the need to counter it or push back. That's natural. But can you see how being defensive acts as a separation and disconnect? Instead of snapping back with outright denial or a claim of projection, imagine what it would feel like to drop defensiveness in the face of fragility. See where the message might actually have some merit, without attributing intentions and making it mean more than your spouse articulated. State that you're hurt. Share authentic feelings and express yourself with vulnerability. This facilitates feelings of being heard, validated, and accepted. It creates mutual respect, and it's fertile ground for growing connection and intimacy. *(Adapted from Aish.com)*



The Stan Jacobs Chair of Senior Kollel Learning is dedicated in loving memory of Mr. Stan Jacobs a"h

Stay tuned for exciting classes and events from the Eishes Chayil program!



Upcoming events include:

Emuna Va'ad

with Mrs. Mimi David

Topics in Rav Dessler

with Mrs. Esti Zuravin;

Shemona Esrei

with Mrs. Raizy Golombeck;

and a special **Shalom Bayis class** for Men & Women!



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