

# MESIVTA'S MESSAGE

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## THOUGHTS *on the* PARSHA

Rabbi Gershon Rockove

After משה רבינו, חטא העגל, sin with בני ישראל, intercedes for them. The מדרש describes משה's defense: "עכשיו נערים הם...המתן מעט להם ולך עמם ועושין לפניך" - now they are young lads... wait a little for them, and they will do good deeds before You."

Rav Avrohom Pam, ZT"L, asks, this doesn't seem accurate, בני ישראל was comprised of many age groups and all were involved in the עבירה of the עגל. So, how can משה רבינו refer to them נערים?

Rav Pam explains that בני ישראל are "נערים" since they only had the תורה for a brief period of time. מתן תורה had just taken place. They had only begun to be elevated by their exposure to לימוד התורה. משה רבינו assured 'ה' that over time the purifying effects of לימוד התורה would certainly transform כלל ישראל and lead them to be עושין לפניך מעשים טובים.

The uplifting effects of לימוד התורה are not limited to the individual learning, but impact all members of כלל ישראל, even those not engaged in learning themselves.

ואם היו בני תורה עמלים בתורה: חזון איש describes this:

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## FEATURED TORAH *Message*

Aron Mazer, 12th grade

In this week's parsha, בני ישראל are told about Shabbos for the second time. Even though it was taught to them at סיני הר סיני with the עשרת הדברות, it was repeated in this week's parsha because of the construction of the Mishkan. 'ה' wanted בני ישראל to know that even the Mishkan, which is very important and holy, does not counter Shabbos. We learn that all of the things we can't do on Shabbos are from things that they did to make the Mishkan.

When 'ה' tells Moshe that they must keep Shabbos, He uses the words אֶת־שַׁבְּתִי תִשְׁמְרוּ - However, you must observe My Shabbos. Rashi says that whenever the word אך - "However" is used, it comes to exclude something. Here, it means that despite it being so important, the work of building and making the Mishkan is stopped and not to be done on Shabbos.

The Ramban argues with Rashi and says that the use of the word אך in the passuk teaches an exception to the laws of Shabbos (as opposed to the laws of building the Mishkan.) In this pasuk, it is putting a limit on the observance of Shabbos for times when מלכה is required on Shabbos. Some of these exceptions are doing a bris on the 8th day of a baby's life or

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## SPARKS *of* MUSSAR

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### REB YISROEL SALANTER "THE GREATEST ZCHUS"

R' Yisroel held that two people should not say kaddish simultaneously, and the synagogue followed his teaching. On the

yahrtzeit of R' Yisroel's father, a simple Jew who had yahrtzeit for his daughter was also in shul.

The man, assuming that R' Yisroel had priority, was very distressed at the thought of not saying Kaddish for the elevation of his daughter's soul. But R' Yisroel went

over to him and said with a smile, "Will you please say the Kaddish?"

The congregation was amazed that R' Yisroel was willing to give up his obligation of honoring his father. R' Yisroel explained that the merit of doing chesed is greater than that of saying Kaddish.

# MAZEL TOV

Baruch Usprich on his engagement to Ms. Shana Chaya Davison from Norwalk, Connecticut!

Mr. & Mrs. Menashe Brown on the birth of their son!

## RECENT Happenings

Yosef Elisha Friedman, 10th grade

Two months ago, Rabbi Biron introduced the 3rd annual Retzifus program to us. Talmidim who participate learn three sessions each week continuously without any breaks. In addition to the learning, there are incentives built into the program to keep everyone going. Each week of the program we get donuts, and after the fifth week, we went to Topgolf. In honor of completing ten weeks, we went to Kohn's for dinner on Tuesday! We collected everyone's orders in advance, and they stayed open for us after the normal closing time! We started with appetizers on the table and then they gave everyone the food they had ordered. While we ate, Rabbi Meir Shraga Greenspoon, from the Chesterfield Kollel, spoke to us about the benefits of learning with Retzifus. On the way home, our feeling was that the special trip to Kohn's had given us the push we needed to get to the end of the program! Thank you Rabbi Biron for the great retzifus program!



The yeshiva was treated to a visit from Rabbi Paysach Krohn who spoke to the talmidim about using Positive Speech.



Rabbi Baruch Yehuda Gradon, Rosh Kollel of Kollel Merkaz HaTorah of Los Angeles spoke at yeshiva to give Divrei Chizzuk.



R' Shraga Goldenhersh spoke this month in yeshiva about his experience donating a kidney. He inspired the boys to take advantage of chessed opportunities.



The Mesivta heard a shmues from Rabbi Henschel Plotnik from Yeshiva Kesser Yonah in Chicago.



TICK invited the MTI talmidim to join them motzei shabbos for a concert and kumzits with Eitan Katz.

## THOUGHTS on the PARSHA continued

לאמיתתה, היו מצילין ילדים הרבה ואנשים רבים מהרהורי עבירה... וכיוצא בזה... בהשתפך רוח טהרה בעולם - when בני תורה are toiling to truthfully understand תורה, they can spare many people from thoughts to do עבירות etc. This happens from the flow of קדושה they inject into the world.

May we be זוכה to uplift ourselves and the entire כולל ישראל with our לימוד התורה.

## FEATURED TORAH Message continued

doing מלכה to save a person's life.

The Gemara in Yoma 85b gives a reason for someone needing to save someone's life on Shabbos by desecrating it. Based on another pasuk in this week's parsha, וְשָׁמְרוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶת הַשַּׁבָּת, the Gemara explains that Hashem wants us to "protect" Shabbos - to violate one Shabbos so that the person can keep many more Shabbosim in the future.

## THIS MONTH'S WOMEN'S MUSSAR CLASSES WITH MRS. TOBY GOLDMAN

Sunday Evenings 8:00 PM on zoom | March 3, 17, 31

Tuesday Evenings 8:15 PM at the home of Mrs. Susie Rosenblum | March 5, 12 | Zoom available

Zoom ID 525 786 3657 Phone call-in option 646.558.8656

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