



Thoughts on Purim

by Rabbi Shmuel Wasser

We have all heard of the amazing power of tefilla on Purim. ה's presence and closeness to כלל ישראל is palpable, with the hand of ה' working behind the scenes more visible to us at this time. There is an amazing insight which can help inspire our tefillos and our appreciation of our relationship with ה' on this powerful day.

The Medrash describes the words of the tefilla that Esther davened before appearing unannounced before אחשורוש, as she beseeched ה' to grant her success in her mission of saving the entire Jewish Nation from המן and אחשורוש's terrible decree. Upon close examination, you will notice that in the midst of this all-important, national tefilla, אסתר puzzlingly requests that ה' pay attention to the pain of the orphan (herself) who was before Him. This is strange. ה' was asking ה' to save the entire ישראל - a global, international request! What place does her personal, individual background as an orphan have in this tefilla? Would it make a difference in

MTI Recent Happenings

AN EXCITING FEW DAYS IN YESHIVA
by Shmuel Aberman

We just recently had an exciting fundraiser in yeshiva - our annual Charidy campaign - during which we had three matching donors who matched every dollar donated to hit our goal of one million dollars in thirty-six hours. It was great to have all of the guys together in the same room making phone calls trying to reach our goal, each person's excitement spreading to the next. The MTI band had a short performance after maariv on the first evening of the campaign to get us all in the fundraising mood. We even got to spend time with a couple of alumni who came to build up the excitement and energize the atmosphere, making it even more enjoyable. The campaign really came down to the wire, and the deadline was at the same time as our basketball championship

Featured Torah Message

EVERY BIT COUNTS
by Yosef Zehnwirth

In מגילת אסתר פרק ד פסוק ד it states, ותשלח בגדים להלביש את מרדכי. The posuk describes that when Esther heard that Mordechai was wearing sackcloth, she sent clothing to him. The Brisker Rav asks - why did Esther need to send Mordechai clothing? He had clothes! Shouldn't she have realized that there was a reason why he was walking around in sackcloth and ashes!? The answer is yes, but she wanted him to come and talk things over and she knew that one cannot go to the king's palace wearing sackcloth and ashes. However, this is still problematic - why didn't Mordechai just change into other clothing? It's very nice that he was wearing something that helped him with his tefillah, but isn't changing and talking to the queen a worthwhile hishtadlus - due diligence? Couldn't he have taken the sackcloth off for a quick shmooze, and then put it back on right afterwards? The answer is that some-

Sparks of Mussar

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Rav Yisroel Lipkin of Salant - "Cheering People Up"

A disciple once saw R' Yisroel conversing about mundane things. Later, during a discussion on idle speech, the disciple asked R' Yisroel about that conversation. In his humility, R' Yisroel was not offended by the question. He explained that the man with whom he was speaking was depressed and it was a great chesed to cheer him up. "Now," said R' Yisroel, "how could I cheer him up? With talk of Mussar and fear of G-d? The only way was with light, pleasant conversation about worldly matters."

Mazel Tov!

To the Fromowitz Family on Yisrael's Bar Mitzva!

Rabbi & Mrs. Gershon Rockove on the birth of a girl!

Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Rosenblum on the birth of a boy!

Thoughts on Purim cont.

the fate of the entire nation? Apparently, each human being is incredibly significant and yes—even within the context of the needs of so many, אסתר understood that to הקב"ה, the pain of an individual orphan would be important. As we experience the incredible day of Purim, let's remember this lesson and recognize how very special each of us is to הקב"ה and how much ה' loves and values every individual!

MTI Recent Happenings cont.

game. With less than ten minutes left in the campaign, and just before the end of the first half of the game, we finally hit our goal. From the cheering on the sidelines you would have thought we had won the game! (Which we did, too, but twenty minutes later!)




Featured Torah Message cont.

times even a few moments of something that helps your kavana can mean the difference between tragedy and salvation. While talking to the Queen of Persia face to face certainly could be very helpful (if it was pointless, Esther would not have told Mordechai to come), nevertheless, Mordechai calculated that, at this point, the best thing to do was to wear his sackcloth and ashes - who knows what would cause the gezairah to be torn up? Maybe those moments of extra kavana would be the cause to change the decree in shamayim!

We must remember that every action we do has a huge ripple effect. We are bnei melachim - princes - whose Father cares about every amount of effort we make. Even remembering to make a bracha might be the mitzvah that brings the geulah. Each action and thought generates such a force that is hard for us to fully comprehend during our lifetime.

Upcoming & Ongoing MTI Community Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBOS
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TWO SAVE THE DATES!

COMING TO ST. LOUIS!

Rabbi Berel Wein

Community Lecture May 13th

ANNUAL DINNER & BUILDING DEDICATION

SUNDAY, JUNE 16TH

Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 24	25	Women's Mesilas Yesharim Chesterfield 26	27	Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 28	29	30
Alumni Shiur - Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 31	APRIL 1	Women's Mesilas Yesharim Chesterfield 2	3	Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 4	5	6
Alumni Shiur - Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 7	8	Women's Mesilas Yesharim Chesterfield 9	10	Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 11	12	13
Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 14	15	16	17	18	19	20

ATTENTION LADIES!

ADD SOME INSPIRATION TO YOUR WEEK - JOIN MRS. TOBY GOLDMAN FOR OUR

Mesilas Yesharim Women's Series

THREE CLASS OPTIONS WEEKLY IN U.CITY & CHESTERFIELD

This month's shiurim sponsored in loving memory of Mrs. Thelda Reiss, Toba Bas Reuven, a"h

JOIN US 5 minute Ahavas Chessed with Rabbi Shmuel Wasser

After shacharis, 4 days a week, Rabbi Wasser learns Ahavas Chessed with the talmidim of our yeshiva. To join a WhatsApp group to receive the recording immediately following the shiur, scan the QR code below!

