

Reb Leibush couldn't wait to visit the site of the new shul, and so after partaking of a cup of tea and some fresh cake with his mother, he went out to check on the progress of the building. He was surprised to see his brother standing with a shovel in his hand, helping with the work like a member of the construction crew.

Reb Shalom listened quietly to his brother's words before responding. "Leibush," he began. "I will tell you a story that will explain my apparently strange behavior. Many years ago when I was studying in the town of Skohl my two study partners and I learned that if we studied with the utmost dedication and unstinting effort for a 1,000 consecutive nights without sleeping, we would merit a revelation of the prophet Elijah. When we heard about this, we wanted this holy revelation more than anything else in the world. We resolved that we would undertake to study together for a 1,000 nights in a row. In the beginning it wasn't hard. After all, we were very enthusiastic and burning with our desire to reach our exalted goal. Nights passed in intense study, and we hardly noticed when the morning came.

“I sat alone in the dark shul every night, fighting sleep and utter exhaustion, determined to reach the one thousandth night. When I thought that I had no more strength to continue I still pushed on, so deep was my desire to receive the revelation of the holy prophet.

“But then I gathered myself together. Was this not my last night, after which I could expect a visit from the prophet Elijah himself? How could I allow a mere storm to deprive me of my reward? I felt my way to the holy Ark and slid open the carved door, and wept my heart out before G-d, begging Him to help me. I don’t know how long I stood there pouring out my yearning and frustration to the One Above, but at one point I realized that the storm had ended.

“The last part of the Torah which he taught me was the laws of building a synagogue. This teaching is so precious to me that if I were able, I would erect the whole building by myself from beginning to end. Alas, this little bit is all I am capable of doing, but even so, it is so dear to me that my entire being is full of joy with each brick that I place.”



**THOUGHTS
THAT COUNT**
on the weekly Torah portion

The Torah is called the “prescription of life”—a medicine able to purify those who take it. That is why we are warned not to add and not to subtract from the Torah’s words. A prescription drug is a precise mixture of various substances, and changing the proportions can have toxic effects. So, too, are the commandments of the Torah given in the exact and correct proportions, and to change even a word has a deleterious effect. (*Rabbi Yonatan Eibeshutz*)

"In the heavens above and on the earth below" (Deut. 4:39).

I stand between your G-d and you (Deut. 5:5).
Early chasidim used to explain that the “I,” the awareness of self, the ego, stands between the person and his efforts to come closer to G-d.

NY Metro Area
14 Av / August 8
 Torah Portion Va'etchanan
 Shabbat Nachamu
 Ethics Ch 3
 Shabbat ends **8:46 pm**



L'Chaim

Dedicated to the memory of Rebbeztel

Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made us

**The Weekly Publication
for Every Jewish Person**

A black and white portrait of an elderly man with a long, full white beard and mustache. He is wearing a dark, wide-brimmed hat. The background is dark and out of focus.

Adapted from the works of the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

I was telling everyone about it—like a proud parent showing off a gifted

Only you can do that.

The 27-year-old resident of Rechelim in Samaria paints the scene with vivid detail: “We’re walking with heavy equipment, sweating, wet, tired, and then they tell us to

During the COVID-19 pandemic, David founded “Fighting for Your Smile,” an

Adapted from Sichat Shavu

The Rebbe Writes

The message of Chanukah, for Jewish girls and women, is that they should not allow themselves to be influenced by the

Although this letter has been addressed to you in reply to your letter, both your letter as well as the reply are, of course, intended on behalf of the entire group. I hope, therefore, that you will bring it to the attention of each and every one of the group, and that it will help you and them in your determination to show a living example to other girls and groups as to what the proper thinking and conduct of a Jewish girl should be. In this way we may be certain in the eventual victory of light.

(Maimonides' "Introduction to Chelek")

“A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

“The above-described study is not only a spiritual means of securing the speedy advent of Moshiach; it is a way of beginning to live one’s life in the mood of Moshiach and the Redemption by having one’s mind permeated with an understanding of the concepts of Moshiach and Redemption. From the mind, these concepts will then find their way into the emotions. Ultimately, they will find expression in one’s actual conduct—in thought, word and deed—in a way befitting this unique era when we stand on the threshold of the Redemption.”

Samuel Belman

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לזכרון חי'ה י מושקא

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Ethics Chapter Three

He would also say: One who is pleasing to his fellow men, is pleasing to G-d. But one who is not pleasing to his fellow men, is not pleasing to G-d.

MOSHIACH
MATTERS

His [the Messiah's] name will be great and fill the earth to its uttermost bounds. It will be a greater name than that of King