



Thoughts on the Parsha

by Rabbi Mendy Rosner

After the death of **יעקב אבינו**, the **יוסף** were fearful that perhaps **יוסף** was harboring resentment in his heart over their terrible treatment of him by selling him into slavery. Now that **יעקב** was no longer alive, **יוסף** may have been looking to exact punishment for their past sin. They approached **יוסף** with the following message: **אביך צוה לפני מותו לאמר...** - your father commanded us before his death that we should tell you that you should forgive us for our **חטא**. The **תורה** describes **יוסף**'s response: **ויברך יוסף בדברם אליו** - he cried when they spoke to him.

The simple way to understand **יוסף**'s reaction is that he was upset that his brothers suspected him. The **ספורנו**, however, has a different approach. He explains that in the way the brothers introduced their words, they were hinting to the fact that although **יעקב** had given them instructions to clear the air with **יוסף**, he personally was confident that **יוסף** had already totally forgiven his brothers and that their concerns were unfounded. **יוסף**'s crying was an emotional reaction to the mention of **יעקב**'s great love for him, as shown by

MTI Recent Happenings

SIYUM HASHAS

by Koby Desmond
11th Grade

After another seven-and-a-half-year cycle, the participants of the Daf Yomi program (as well as people who hadn't completed Shas) gathered in MetLife Stadium and the Barclay Center in New Jersey and many others around the globe to celebrate this tremendous accomplishment. This crowd numbered close to 100,000 Jews (including some MTI high school and bais medresh bochurim), all coming together to celebrate the learning of Torah. Despite the bitterly cold weather, the open-air stadium was filled nearly to the brim with people who had come to hear **דברי חיווק** and the inspiring stories of all those who had made the daily commitment to achieve this milestone. Many thousands more will be likely to join after hearing such stories as that of Mendy Rosenberg, a Brooklyn resident suffering from ALS, who despite only being able to move his eyes, still learned Daf Yomi with the help of a computer which tracks his eye movements and

Featured Torah Message

HEALING POWERS

by Noam Dallal
10th Grade

In this week's **פרשה** the **פסוק** says: **ויגד ליעקב ויאמר הנה בנך יוסף בא אליך ויתחזק ישראל** - And [someone] told **יעקב** and said, "Behold, your son **יוסף** is coming to you." And **ישראל** summoned his strength and sat up on the bed. **רבינו** asks, how does the arrival of **יוסף** connect to the strengthening of **יעקב**? He explains in his sefer, **בן איש חי**, that one of the three-letter segments of **ה' 70** triple letter name is **מה"ש**, which has the power of **רפואה** attached to it. Furthermore, **בן איש חי** adds that **יוסף**'s stone on the **חשן** of the **גדול** was the **שהם**.

The **בן איש חי** continues - since **יוסף**'s stone on the **חשן** was the **שהם** stone, and it has the same letters as **מה"ש**'s name, we can make a connection and say that this aspect of **רפואה** was attached to **יוסף** as well. That's why, when **יוסף** came to **יעקב**, that name of **מה"ש** also came with **יוסף**, and after this, **יתחזק**, **ישראל**, and **יעקב** was healed.

May we all be healed with this special name of **ה'** with the coming of **בימינו**.

Sparks of Mussar

HaRav Nosson Tzvi Finkel, (1849-1928) was known to all as the Alter of Slabodka. He was one of the preeminent Baalei Mussar and was the mentor and rebbe of many of the most famous Roshei Yeshiva in America.

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HaRav Nosson Zvi Finkel - "The True Power of Chesed"

To R' Nosson Zvi, **chesed** was as important as fear of G-d and observance of **mitzvos**. When his son R' Moshe fell ill, R' Nosson Zvi sent a messenger to three Jerusalemites asking them to pray for his son's recovery: the old Kabbalist R' Shlomo Elyashiv, another **tzadik** from the elders of Jerusalem, and a medic who was famous for his deeds of kindness.

the fact that he wasn't suspicious that יוסף was hiding his true feelings.

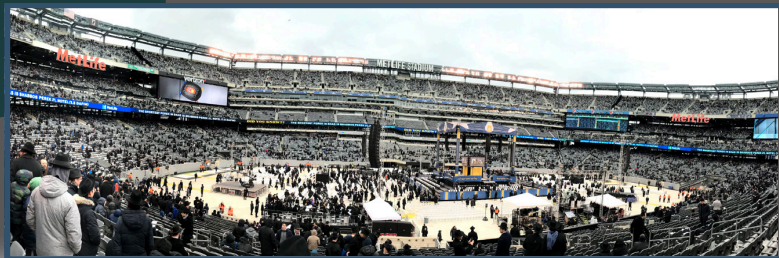
This intense reaction by יוסף is a bit surprising. יוסף knew very well that יעקב loved him dearly. He was יעקב's בן זקונים and closest תלמיד, had received the פסים כתונה from him, and heard about יעקב's insoluble grief when presented with יוסף's supposed death. יוסף also spent the last 17 years connecting and growing ever closer to his father. This example of יעקב's love was one of many – so why did this affect יוסף in such a powerful way?

It seems that there was something unique happening here. יעקב was giving a message above and beyond a simple "I love you;" he was saying "I fully believe in you." For יוסף to hear that his father had total con-

fidence in his מדות and אמונה touched him in a way that made him feel יעקב's love to a degree he hadn't felt before, and he was overcome with tears. The memories of past indications of love could not compare to the power of an "I believe in you."

This is a lesson we can certainly apply to our own lives. While telling our children how much we love and care for them is so important and will provide them with a strong sense of security as they grow, a heartfelt message of "you are amazing - I believe in you!" can resonate in a deeper way, strengthen the parent/child relationship, and propel the child to greater heights.

translates them into words. If someone for whom it takes much longer to simply communicate one sentence of their thoughts did Daf Yomi, why shouldn't we all? While there were many amazing, heartwarming, and inspiring speeches given over by various גדולי הדור and ראשי ישיבות, the message that seemed to encapsulate the whole thing best to me personally was what was told to my shiur by HaRav Shmuel Kamenetsky שליט"א. He pointed out that the one thing that brings all Jews together, whether we are on good terms with each other or not, is the כי הם חיינו ואורך ימינו- תורה.



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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Women's Orchos Tzaddikim University City						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Women's Mesilas Yesarim Chesterfield	Women's Orchos Tzaddikim University City	7th & 8th Grade Learning, Basketball & Dinner Program @ MTI		FEB 1
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Women's Orchos Tzaddikim University City			Women's Orchos Tzaddikim University City			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Mazel Tov!

Rabbi & Mrs. Menachem Wachsman on the birth of a girl!

Rabbi & Mrs. Shmuel Wasser on the birth of a boy!

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