

Candle Lighting: 4:47

By: Rabbi Yaakov Deutscher

Parshas Va'eira 5772

Vol. 8 Issue 11

Parental Control

“These were the heads of their fathers’ houses... Amram took his aunt Yocheved as a wife and she bore him Ahron and Moshe.” (Shemos 6:20)

Why is there a need to mention the lineage of Moshe and Ahron again; particularly now?

Rav Ahron Leib Shteinman, *shlita*, explains that the reason why the Torah lists the genealogy of Moshe and Ahron at the beginning of *Klal Yisroel’s* redemption from Mitzrayim, and not at the end, is in order to help justify Hashem’s decision to handpick Moshe and Ahron to be His emissary. Although Moshe and Ahron were most definitely worthy in their own right to lead *Klal Yisroel* out of Mitzrayim, it is important to give due credit to their parents and ancestors who worked tirelessly to ensure the eventual production of such outstanding individuals.

One’s lineage can help determine many of the inherited traits, both physical and spiritual, that are implanted within while still in utero. The *mishna* in Avos (2:2) states: “All who exert themselves for others should only do so for the sake of Heaven, for the merit of their forefathers aids them, and their righteousness endures forever.” Rabeinu Yona (*d. 1263*) explains that the communal Torah leaders who meet with success in teaching others Torah must recognize that it is not a result of their efforts, but rather it is due to the enduring merit of the forefathers of those who have been impacted. Thus we see that the challenges and struggles of previous generations and the ability to overcome constant hurdles, can have long lasting effects for many generations to come.

Additionally, Hashem grants parents the special opportunity to select the course of life they wish their

child to assume, years before the child has the wherewithal to choose a course for him/herself. Although Moshe and Ahron certainly excelled by their own free will, it was the path initiated by their righteous parents that helped transform them into the worthy leaders of *Klal Yisroel*. There is no doubt that Moshe and Ahron’s forebears helped partake in instilling in them the love to serve Hashem and to ultimately follow in their ancestors’ righteous footsteps. We can learn from here the vital role that *chinuch habanim*, educating children plays in shaping a child’s life.

Rav Elyah Lopian, *z”l*, (1876-1970) comments further on this idea. Dovid Hamelech writes in *Tehillim*, “A righteous man will flourish like a date palm, like a cedar in Lebanon he will grow tall. Planted in the House of Hashem, in the courtyards of our G-d they will flourish.” (92:13-14) The way to help one flourish and have the opportunity to become righteous is by using proper *chinuch* techniques. This is done by ‘planting’ a child in the house of Hashem at a young and tender age. Once the planting is completed the child will then have the ability to flourish out in the open world.

There are parents who believe that when it comes to infusing proper love and fear of Hashem, a hands-off approach is the best way for their child to develop. They are convinced that a child will ultimately receive all the necessary Torah knowledge, perhaps not from home, but from the wonderful teachers and rabbis at the child’s school. After all, it is the school’s responsibility to teach and infuse within the child a true love of Torah. That approach, explains Rav Elyah, is exactly what Hashem does not want a parent to do.

If we, as parents, desire wholeheartedly for our children to flourish and fulfill their full potential in this world then we are the ones obligated to ‘plant’ and infuse within them true love of Torah and *mitzvos*.

Question of the Week

“Moshe said (to Pharaoh), ‘We will go on a three-day journey in the Wilderness...’” (Shemos 8:22-23)

Why did Moshe only ask for a three-day journey when his goal was for *Klal Yisroel* to permanently leave Egypt?

Kollel News

1. This Shabbos at the Kollel Parshas Vaera
Thursday, January 19:

8:15 p.m.: Rabbi Biberfeld's Gemarah Yoma Shiur
9:00 - 10:00 p.m.:
 Rabbi Frand's Weekly Parsha Shiur
9:00-10:00 p.m.: Kollel Erev
10:00p.m.: Maariv

Friday, January 20:

8:25-8:50 a.m.: Rabbi Prupas's *Chumash shiur*
4:47 p.m.: Candle Lighting
5:05 p.m.: *Shkiya*/Sunset

Shabbos, January 21:

8:15 a.m.: Shacharis
Chaburas Chacham Lev
9:09/ 9:45 a.m.: Latest Krias Shema
4:26 p.m.: Mincha
5:06 p.m.: *Shkiya*/Sunset
6:01 p.m.: Maariv
6:18 p.m.: 72 Minutes
7:00 p.m.: Masmid Program
7:30 p.m.: Rabbi Reisman's Navi Shiur

2. SAVE THE DATE! Kollel Shabbaton

On Shabbos, Parshas Mishpatim, February 18th, the Kollel will be hosting international lecturer, **Rabbi Eziel Tauber**, for a special weekend Shabbaton. Community members will have a chance to share the seudos Shabbos with Rabbi Tauber as well as listen to him speak many times over Shabbos. More details about this exciting upcoming Shabbos will be forthcoming soon.

3. Masmid Program This week's Masmid Program is from 7:00-8:00 pm. This week's Masmid Program is sponsored by Benjamin and Binyamin Friedman in memory of their Zeidi, Binyamin Yosef Kraus ז"ל

4. This Wednesday! Women's Rosh Chodesh Shevat Shiur

You are invited to join us in honor of Rosh Chodesh Shevat to hear **Rabbi Yechiel Biberfeld** speak on the topic:
Ten Utterances
Ten Plagues
Ten Commandments

This Wednesday evening, January 25, 2012 at 8:15 p.m.
 At the home of Dr. Kineret Shakow: 409 Sycamore Avenue

Mazel Tov To:

Rabbi and Rebbitzin Adina Shmidman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Yitzchok!

Dr. and Mrs. Ethan and Suri Halpern on the marriage of their son, Dovid!

Mr. and Mrs. Pinny and Julie Ben David on the birth of a son. Mazel tov to the proud grandparents, **Mr. and Mrs. Sandy and Margie Bruck!**

Community News

***Torah Youth: 3-4 pm in the LMS Social Hall.** Grades K-8th. If you would like to help sponsor a Shabbos or want more information contact Rabbi Ari Silver at 610-6686-6833 or SilverDollar@verizon.net

***Bnos of Bala Cynwyd will iy"H meet this Shabbos,** Parshas Vaera, January 21st, from 3:00pm - 4:00pm at LMS (please note time).

If you would like to receive Menucha Vesimcha by weekly email or to sponsor an issue of Menucha Vesimcha in someone's honor / memory, please contact the editor at: menuchavesimcha@verizon.net
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Good Shabbos!