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1. Learn about Shavuos with this booklet - you will need your answer from page 19. 2. Read the Aseres Hadibros at home on Shavuos Visit WWW.CHABADYOUTH.ORG/ICECREAM to fill in the form \*Please note, form will close Monday 8th June at 5:00pm. Cold Rock will email vouchers once submissions have closed.

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בס"ד



#### Har Sinai was a simple small mountain, but at Matan Torah, Hashem covered Har Sinai with flowers.

Follow this beautiful daisy chain pattern to make yourself a new braclet or necklace for Yom Tov, make one as a present for your mother.

You will need: • a sewing needle • some thread • small plastic beads, at least 2 colours. Before you start, thread your needle and tie a knot at the end.

STEP ONE. Onto your string thread 3 beads of colour A, 4 beads of colour B and 1 bead of colour C (If you only have 2 colours, use colour A).



STEP TWO. Thread your needle through the first bead of colour B.



STEP THREE. Add 3 more beads of colour B.



STEP FOUR: Thread your needle through the bead marked with a  $\star$ .



STEP FIVE. You have now completed your first daisy. Repeat steps 1-4 until you have finished your chain.



1. When Hashem gave us the Torah, Har Sinai was covered in



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The Torah was given on a small humble mountain in the desert, in a place that nobody owns, to show that the Torah belongs to every Jew. Sing these songs at your Yom Tov table.

#### THE TORAH WAS GIVEN IN THE DESERT. TTTO: Hashem gave us a present. The Torah was given in the desert, on top of Har Sinai. It wasn't given in a house, or a shule, or a place that we can buy. The Torah was given in the desert, on top of Har Sinai, because it is for every Jew, including you and I.

#### TTTO: Kookaburra sits in the old gum tree. At Matan Torah, Har Sinai was glowing, there was thunder and lighting and shofars blowing. All Bnei Yisroel were there, and Hashem's voice we did hear.

AT MATAN TORAH



2. The Torah was given in a

**F** / CHABADYOUTH.ORG

D Building

R

Desert

B Rainforest

CHÀBAD



On Shavuos, there is a Minhag to eat milchigs. One reason is because the Jewish people need the Torah, just like a little baby needs it's milk. *Look at the ice creams below. Only two are the same in each row. Can you find them?* 



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Shavuos means weeks. During the 7 weeks between Pesach and Shavuos, we count Sefiras HaOmer each night.

There are 49 days in 7 weeks. Can you join the 49 dots?



A Six C Seven Y Eight

5

4. How many weeks are in Sefiras HaOmer







Shavuos has more than one name. One of the names of Shavuos is Chag HaBikurim. This is because during the times of the Beis Hamikdash, this was the time when people would bring the "first fruits" from their trees to be placed near the Mizbeach.

Can you collect all the fruits before everyone leaves to go to the Beis Hamikdash?

This is a co-operative memory game. Cut out all of the pieces on the opposite page. Make the die. Glue the man to a wine cork or similar object.

#### How to play:

Turn all of the fruit tokens face down. Roll the die and turn over one token. If the token matches the fruit shown on the die congratulations - you have collected a fruit. If the die lands on the basket, the player says the name of a fruit and then turns over a token. If they guessed the fruit correctly, they keep the token. If the die lands on the person, move the person one step closer to the Beis Hamikdash. If all fruits tokens are collected before the person reaches the Beis Hamikdash - you have won!



**5.** Shavuos is also called Chag HaBikurim, because during the times of the Beis Hamikdash, people would bring

E Fruit U Cheescake O Pasta

## 

When Hashem spoke the Aseres HaDibros at Har Sinai, there was no echo!

An echo is a sound that is repeated because the sound waves are reflected back. Sound waves can bounce off smooth, hard objects in the same way as a rubber ball bounces off the ground. ...

That is why echoes can be heard in a canyon, cave, or mountain range. When Hashem spoke, the whole world absorbed His words and so the sound did not bounce back. Try these fun sound experiments.

#### DANCING WIRE

• Two identical glasses

• Measuring cup

• Water • Wire

Use a measuring cup to fill each glass with the exact same amount of water. Cut a piece of thin wire that's 15mm longer than the diameter of one of the glasses. Place the wire across the top center of one glass. Bend the wire so that half hangs over each side to keep the wire in place. Rub your finger along the outer rim of the second glass to make sound and watch the wire move. Since both glasses have equal amounts of water, they both have

the same natural frequency. Sound is transferred from one glass to the next and thus the vibrations cause the wire to move.

• Small box with no lid Rubber bands of different thickness • Ruler

SOUND BOX

Arrange a series of rubber bands stretched over the box from thinnest to thickest. Pluck each rubber band and talk about your observations. Place a ruler on its edge across the rubber bands, like a bridge. Pluck each rubber band again and talk about what changed. You will see that thinner, shorter bands produce higher sound pitches because they produce shorter sound waves. The ruler across the bands acts like a dampener and should change the pitch the tightened rubber bands make.

#### **SEEING SOUND**

• Thread • Tissue paper • Speaker Tie a piece of thread to some tissue paper and hold the tissue paper by the thread in front of a speaker. Turn on the music and observe what happens to the tissue paper. Try different types of music at different volumes and see if there's any change to the paper. The tissue should move when the music is played, since the sound waves are hitting it as they leave the speaker. •

6. At Har Sinai, Bnei Yisroel heard Hashem say I The Aseres HaDibros A song M A ioke G A / CHABADYOUTH.ORG



## ASERES HADIBROS

Hashem took us out of Mitzrayim, so that we could be free to live as Jews and keep Torah and Mitzvos. Cut out the arm and stick it to the grey rectangle to help the boy say Shema.



#### 7. Hashem took us out of V Mitzrayim K Eretz Yisroel F Australia I / CHABADYOUTH.ORG





#### There is only one Hashem, and He is King of the whole universe.

Can you put all of the words into the word grid?



## 3. MASHEM'S NAME IS HOLY

We must be very careful to only say Hashem's name during davening, making brochos or when we are reading Pesukim.



Colour-by-Brocha use the key to colour in the ice cream

RED: Brocha Haeitz - food which grows on a tree BLUE: Brocha Haadama - food which grows in/on the ground GREEN: Brocha Mezoinos - food made from grains eg: cake, biscuits YELLOW: Brocha Hamoitzi - bread BROWN: Brocha HaGofen - wine or grape juice PURPLE: Brocha Shehakol - all other foods eg: lollies, milk, meat



4. KIELEP SIRALES 0

Hashem gave us Shabbos, the seventh day of the week, as a day of rest. *Colour in the picture of the girl lighting Shabbos candles.* 



10. Which day of the week is Shabbos?

T Seventh

L Fifth K Sixth

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We must be careful to respect our parents and to do what they say. Yaakov came home from school and found a note from his Mum asking him to clean his room. His Mum also left a coded message. Can you figure out what it says?



11. Kibud Av v'Eim means we should respect our





6. DO ROT MURDER

**The Torah teaches us that life is holy.** *Can you help Hatzolah race to the hospital?* 



**12.** The Torah teaches us that life is Z A little bit important A Unimportant E Holy



A husband and wife should respect each other. On Shavuos we celebrate the marriage of Hashem and the Bnei Yisroel. *Can you make the rabbi dance with his Torah?* 



4

ہ) (°) 0, (0)

#### We must not take things that do not belong to us.

It is a very big Mitzvah to return something you found to its rightful owner. *Can you use the clues below to work out who found the lost objects, and who they belong to?* 

		ITEM					OWNER							
		Siddur	Pencil Case	Lunch Box	Ball	Helmet	Menachem	Dov Ber	Avraham	Rochel	Chana			
	Michoel													
ER	Yitzchok													
FINDER	Zalman													
日	Devorah													
	Nechama													
	Menachem							EIN		<u> </u>			<u> </u>	OWNE
ER	Dov Ber						FINDER			ITEM	+	OWNER		
OWNER	Avraham													
10	Rochel												$\dashv$	
	Chana													

#### **CLUES:**

**1.** Yitzchok found the item belonging to Avraham. It was not the ball. The ball does not belong to Chana.

**2.** Menachem left his Siddur in Shule.

**3.** Nechama found a bike helmet. Neither Nechama or Zalman found the item belonging to Dov Ber.

4. Michoel found Chana's item, which was not the pencil case.



#### We must be careful to always tell the truth.

The hebrew word for truth is Emes, which has the gamatria of 9. Did you know? Choose any number which is a multiple of 9. Add the digits of this number together until you have a single digit. It will always equal 9! The number 9 always tells the truth! eg: 9x5=54, 5+4=9, 9x15=135, 1+3+5=9

*In the grid below, find numbers which add together to make 9 - they must touch on one side - no diagonals. Colour in the boxes. When you find all the pairs, you will see a picture.* 

					i								
4	5	8	1	1	8	4	5	6	3	0	9	6	1
6	3	4	5	0	9	1	8	5	4	7	2	3	8
9	8	2	6	3	8	3	9	7	9	1	5	7	4
0	3	5	9	4	2	5	2	2	6	7	2	6	5
5	6	2	0	5	3	4	8	6	7	9	0	5	3
4	2	9	8	9	1	7	4	3	4	6	4	8	6
1	7	6	1	3	6	2	9	0	1	3	8	0	4
8	3	6	7	2	5	4	3	6	8	5	1	9	5
3	9	8	7	3	1	6	5	6	2	4	1	5	8
2	7	4	0	5	4	8	4	4	7	9	2	6	9
9	1	2	9	6	3	3	3	8	8	0	1	3	7
4	8	5	1	8	4	2	6	0	1	7	5	8	4
4	9	3	6	8	5	3	6	2	7	0	9	1	7
5	0	5	4	1	7	2	0	9	6	3	4	5	2

15. We should always be careful to tell

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CHABAD

C A lie R The truth N A story



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## 10. DON'T BE JEALOUS

We should not desire what belongs to someone else. We should be happy with what Hashem gives us and trust that we have exactly what we need. *Can you match each animal to it's correct home?* 





When Moshe Rabbeinu went to recieve the Torah the Malachim asked Hashem "How do you know Bnei Yisroel will keep the Toarh", so Hashem asked Moshe to provide a guarantor, someone who could promise that we would always keep Torah and Mitzvos.

The guarantor that Hashem accepted was YOU, the children! Fill in all of your answers from this booklet to find out what happened at Har Sinai.

#### What happened at Har Sinai?

\*Use this answer to get your free ice cream - visit www.chabadyouth.org/icecream





At your Shabbos table, have each member of your family act out one of the Parshafier characters Then discuss the story-how can the Parshafier change your life?





Yitzu

0 6

Featuring



Chany: Sruly, you're finally home and there's no time for Parshafier! A Shavuos adventure would be really cool!

Sruly: Isn't there enough excitement at home?

Rivky: Mommy's coming home today! I can't wait to see the cutie Baby Shterna Sara for the first time!

Chany: We got baby gifts from so many people.

Mendy: Just boring clothes and blankets.

Yitzy: But look at this awesome walkie-talkie set!

Rivky: Yitzy, that's a baby monitor.

Sruly: Well, I have something even more special for baby Shterna Sara.

Mendy: A toy?

Sruly: Even better.

Chany: A doll?

Sruly: Keep guessing!

Yitzy: An electronic robo-zoom stroller that steers itself?



20

שַבוּעות Tiny Baby, **Big Gift!** 

Why should I buy a letter in the Sefer Torah?

Sruly: Don't ever change, Yitzy ....

Mendy: Sruly, tell us already!

Sruly: Ta-da-da! This.

Chany: A dollar? What's so special about that?

Sruly: This is a dollar for Baby Shterna Sara to buy her own letter in a Sefer Torah.

Yitzy: Oh! That is a great gift!

Mendy: I don't get it. How does a dollar get you a Torah letter?

Rivky: There's a Sefer Torah being written in Eretz Yisroel for all Yiddishe kinderlach. To participate, you have to buy your own letter. So Sruly is going to buy Shterna Sara a letter.

Sruly: I'm going to hold her while I fill out the form

so she's right there, even though she can't actually buy it herself.

Chany: [points] Then she'll get a special certificate, iust like us!

Mendy: I have a special certificate?

Sruly: Yes you do! When we buy a letter, we strengthen our neshama's connection to the Torah.

Rivky: Shavuos is a perfect time for this mivtzait's זַמַן מָתָן תּוֹרָתֵנוּ

Chany: My Morah told me that we're getting the Torah again this Shavuos.

Sruly: Exactly! And while we have an amazing connection with our letter in the Sefer Torah. getting the Torah anew on Shavuos will make it even stronger.

Mendy: Shterna Sara's gonna be one strong baby!

Yitzy: A Torah-strong baby.

Chany: And we're Torah-strong kids! We have the power to learn and follow the Torah to its fullest!

Sruly: You got it! אַלִיך הַדָּבָר מִאֹד בִּפִיך וּבִלְבָבִך לַעֲשׁוֹ זוֹ. Torah is very close to you, in speech, thoughts and actions.

Yitzy: We can use our Torah-kochos to win the war against the yetzer hara.

Mend

Chany: I can't wait to train Shterna Sara to be a chayol too!

Sruly: That's a great way to use Torah-kochosto train more chayolim to know that Torah and mitzvos are הַכְּכָבָךְ לַעֲשֹׁתוֹ.

Yitzy: It's like a never-ending domino effect! We inspire chayolim, who will inspire other chayolim, who will inspire-

Rivky: Sruly, you definitely got Shterna Sara the best gift!

in honor of Zaldy's first yahrtzeit לע״נ רי שלום דובער בן רי אהרן לייב ע״ה HASHEM'S LIVELIHOOD Mere THAN A ליכטיגע טעג A Story of the Baal Shem Toy THE BAAL SHEM TOV WANDERS THE COUNTRYSIDE, HOW ARE YOUR HOW IS YOUR JOURNEYING FROM VILLAGE TO VILLAGE PISSUISING AS A SIMPLE TRAVELER. LIVELIHOOD? **CELEBRATING A CHOSSID'S SPECIAL DAYS** BORUCH HASHEM! I THANK OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN FOR HIS KINDNESS. Ser Persona con the אים על גינה מצר הי המני הנשי בה ONE PAY, THE BAAL SHEM TOV CHANCES 1/202 70% makes 4 Mg HOW IS YOUR FAMILY? wins really in charge of all HOW IS YOUR UPON A PORUSH IN A CORNER שבועות Solutions and L. An analysis of the second secon HOW IS EVERYONE'S HEALTH? LEARNING? HOW ARE OF THE BEIS MEDRASH .... YOUR PARENTS? GETTING BETTER. HOW ARE THINGS? IS YOUR FAMILY WELL BORUCH HASHEM! PO YOU HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT? THE MASTER OF THE WORLD POES NOT FORGET US. WHO IS THIS MAN BORUCH HASHEM HISTALKUS OF THE DISTURBING MY LEARNING IT'S A WASTE OF TIME TO RESPOND. **BAAL SHEM TOV** חי אלול תנ״ח 9 Mezhibush MY TEACHER WAS VERY PROUP OF ME TODAY. BORUCH HASHEM. יין מנומל שלומל הליח כנים תס"ד עוניה חכיז מיד 5 6801 Age 5 \*\*\*\*\*\* דער בעל שם טוב WHY ARE YOU PENYING IT SAYS IN TERILIM אַתָה הָדוש יושַב תְהָלוֹת ישָׁרָאַל״ HASHEM HIS LIVELIHOOD? YOU, HASHEM, PWELL ON THE PRAISES OF YISROEL." WE LIVE ON WHAT HASHEM WHAT? HOW PARE YOU חי אלול GIVES US, BUT WITH WHAT POES HASHEM SPEAK LIKE THAT. SUSTAIN HIMSELF? WHEN ONE JEW ASKS תצ"ד YOU THINK HASHEM AFTER THE WELFARE OF ANOTHER, AND THE NEEDS HIS LIVELIHOOD Age 36 ANSWER IS "BORUCH HASHEM" THIS IS FROM YOU? WHAT SUSTAINS HASHEM. תקי״ב Age 54 ········ דער בעל שם טוב האט געטייטשט ״ואתה קרוש יושב תהלות ישראל״: אז בא ״תהלות ישראל״ ווערט דער ״ואתה קדוש״ Hear the Rebbe Say ... און דערפאר האָט ער זיך משתדל געווען אַז אידן זאָלן בענטשן דעם אויבערשטן חי אלול תע"ו The Baal Shem Toy interpreted the possule "And You, the Holy One, awaits the praise of Yisroel", the "praise of Yisroel" י"ט כסלו תש"כ תק״ח Age 18 יום א דחג השבועות causes "You (to be the) Holy One". Therefore, he made an effort to have Yidden bless Hashem (all the time). Age 50

תק"כ

Age 61

22

23

# Living with

#### Observed by Yaffa Leba Gottlieb

Malka was hard at work writing Moshiach Message #11. But it wasn't going so well.

U

"It's not a message, just a mess," she mumbled.

"What's up, Malka?" asked Dina, who was peeling vegetables for soup.

"I don't know what to write! By the time I figure

it out, Moshiach could be here already!"

"Don't worry about it. Everything is in Hashem's hands," Dina said. "Though sometimes we think we know what will happen."

"Well, now we know we don't!" Menachem

exclaimed as he entered the kitchen after his Zoom shiur. "But Boruch Hashem, we are all healthy. And, Boruch Hashem, we are trying everything to bring Moshiach already, because we have, Boruch Hashem, friends that we mamash want to see, and shuls. Boruch Hashem, that we mamash want to daven in, and Boruch Hashem, swimming pools that we mamash want to swim in..."

"That's not going to ever change," said Dina,

"What?"

Boruch Hashem. we're all healthy!

#### It's just a mess!

"Saying 'Boruch Hashem' all the time. When we see Moshiach with our own eyes, mamash, we'll say Boruch Hashem' too. Because we'll really be aware of all Hashem does for us, we'll want to thank Him constantly. I keep feeling that now with Mommy and Tatty. When we're all home together, we really see how much they

do for us..."

"I wrote about that in Moshiach Message #10!" Malka interrupted. "When the Geula comes, we'll mamash see Hashem in everythingthat He is everything. We'll want to praise Him all day!"

"And we can start right now by saying 'Boruch Hashem' all the time." Dina said, reaching for the soup pot.

"That's a great message!" said Malka, looking down at her crossed-out pages. "Wherever we're holding, we can bring Hashem closer by saying, 'Boruch Hashem'. He really lives with us, while we're eating and sleeping and learning...and we can give Him endless nachas!Y'know, there's a story about the Baal Shem Tov that talks about this. Let me go look for it ... "

> MISSIN Share a story of the Baal Shem Tov

#### **Boruch Who?**

The Baal Shem Toy taught us that we can never "pay" too much praise and thanks to Hashem for everything in our day-to-day lives: for our wonderful teachers and parents. Not only that, saying "Baruch Hashem" draws down even more of Hashem's goodness . The words " ברוך ה' appear numerous times on the board below-can you count how many?

/ -----

11

1



Hint: You can count the praise phrase by turning at any point in any direction-left. right, up or down-as long as each letter is connected to the next in the right order!

Э

-

Last Look

------

-

9

הודו לה' ני-טוב

1-

1

-

/----

11

GRACIAS A D-OS



# MESSIBOS SHABBO

We should understand that the Torah and Shavuos is not just history or information or a educational subject - it's for me and for daily life, Its how I live and how I try to keep the lessons for myself every day.



Do not be jealous

Numbers, numbers

This week is number 10.

If there's that many men.

From Adam until Noach

everywhere,

And from Noach until Avraham, when we became a nation. We know we give maaser-We know there's a minyan, one tenth we give to poor, these all sound so familiar, This week is special do you know What 10 you should recall, Can you tell us what it is And also name them all?

Honour your parents

there were 10 generations, we've learned this all before. How many of the Aseres Hadibros do you know?

#### **OPENING GAME**

Someone in this room: One player goes out and is "It", the leader asks a question - "Which dibra do you think is important and why?" each player in the circle answers the question. Then "It", comes back and the leader says, the question and says one player answered \_\_\_\_\_, so "It" has to guess who it is. If "It" is right, that person goes out, if not that player will respond, no it wasn't me but another person said \_\_\_\_\_, you keep on guessing until they guess the right person.

Now play a different round with different topic eg: who is your favourite person in tanach, what is your favourite story in parsha, each player answers the question. Then "It" comes back and the leader says the question and says one player answered \_\_\_\_\_\_, so the

"It" has to guess who it is ...

אתה בחרתנו מכל העמים You have chosen us from among all the nations

#### אהכת אותנו ורצית כנו You have loved us and desired us

#### ורוממתנו מכל הלשונות,

And raised us above all other people

#### וקדשתנו במצותיר

And You have made us holy with your mitzvos

#### וקרבתנו מלכנו לעבודתך,

And brought us close, our King, to serve You

#### ושמר הגדול והקדוש עלינו קראת

And have called us by Your great and holy name.

#### Heart of a Niggun ♡Ξ

The niggun אָתָה בְחַרְתַנוּ is actually composed of two distinct melodies. "The first part is soft and steady, reflecting the avoda of a tzaddik who feels constantly close to Hashem and is able to serve Him with pleasure and serenity," the Rebbe once explained. "The second part of the niggun, by contrast, is fast-paced and frantic, reflecting the avoda of a baal teshuva. Unlike the tzaddik, the baal teshuva does not feel serenely attached to Hashem; in fact, he feels very far away. The fast, repetitive pace of the second part of the niggun reflects the wild, intense avoda of the baal teshuva as he desperately runs to return to Hashem."

#### Story of a Song

The Rebbe taught this niggun on Simchas Torah תשכ"א (1960), On Simchas Torah תשכ"ה (1964), the Rebbe announced, "We have finished the seder of teaching a new niggun after hakafos. So now we will sing an old one." And the Rebbe began to sing אַתָּה בַחַרְתַנוּ.

#### Did You Know?

This niggun is sung at davenning on Yom Tov in 770, and was often sung at the Rebbe's farbrengens, especially on Simchas Torah and Shavuos.

at vour Shabbos tabl

Take a musical journey each Shabbos as

r Rebbeim with the

Everyone has a part of Torah that they really like: their favourite character, their favourite story. Torah needs to be a favourite, something that you want to take home with you not just learn about in school. 

Hold up the picture on this page, of the thief and tell a story about a man who decides to rob a house. He spends days planning, watching the family members come and go, taking note of what lights go on at which time of the day and coordinating his best escape route.. on the night of the robbery, he puts on his gear, and sets out to complete his operation. As he is turning the corner to arrive at the unlucky house of the night, he offers up a quick prayer, "dear G-d, help me be successful tonight, help me find all their valuables and money. Make sure that no one wakes up or finds me. Help to escape quickly and quietly. Thanks G-d! I owe you one.."

#### **Discuss:**

#### WHATS WRONG WITH THIS STORY? Why does the thief daven to Hashem?

If he believes in Hashem and believes that prayer is effective, why does he steal?!

How can he so blatantly violate one of Hashem's commandments and ask for Hashem's help in it?!?! - the stories of the Torah need to play out in our lives!

#### WORKSHOP

What parts of Torah can we take home with us every day?

Call out the descriptions of something that we learn about/daven for, and have the participants come up with how to make it apply every day.

1. We sing Hareini Mekabel, accepting the mitzvah of Ahavas Yisroel, every day in Morning davening.

**2.** Torah asks us to greet one another 'bsever panim yafot' with a happy face

**3.** Yitzchok was ready to give up his whole life for Hashem at akeidas Yitzchok- what can I give up?

**4.** We sing 'Az Yashir' every day- thanking Hashem for rescuing us. What can I be thankful for daily?

5. We learn about honouring our parents in the Aseres Hadibros- What can I do specifically in my home?

6. We know that one mitzvah is all it takes to tip the scale and bring Moshiach- what can I do about it?



## DVAR TORAH

The girls from Bunk Ten were hiking down a mountain trail. After a while, they came to a clearing with cliffs on either side. "Hello," shouted out Mia. "Hello, Hello," came the answer as Mia's

voice bounced back and forth from cliff to cliff. Soon the entire bunk was doing it. The valley became filled with the echoing of the campers' voices as each one tried out his vocal chords.

"Why do some echoes last longer than others?" Leah asked his counselor, Rachel. "It depends on how loudly you shout," Rachel explained. "Creating an echo is like throwing a ball against the wall; the harder you throw, the harder the ball bounces back. So, the louder you call out, the more powerful are the sound waves and the more powerfully they will bounce back when they meet something hard which they cannot penetrate. When the sound waves bounce back, they create an echo.

"Calling out in the mountains is liking throwing a ball in a ball court where you have one wall in front of you and one wall behind you. The ball will continue bouncing back and forth until its strength ebbs away. Here too, the voices continue to bounce from one cliff to another until they lose their strength. The stronger the voice, the longer it will continue to echo."

"Wait a minute," Leah said. "I remember, you said that when Hashem gave the Ten Commandments, He spoke and there was no echo. Hashem surely spoke very loudly. According to what you just explained, His voice should still be echoing throughout the world."

"Now, that's a great question," Rachel replied, smiling. "But you forgot one thing. I said that sound waves bounce back when they meet something they cannot penetrate. Our sages explain that there was a miracle and Hashem's voice did not have an echo. It did not bounce away from the world. Instead, it sounded from one end of the world to the other, and the world absorbed Hashem's voice.

"When Hashem gave the Ten

Commandments, He intentionally changed the rules of nature. His voice changed the world, making it ready to receive holiness. Ever since then, doing a good deed blends in with the nature of the world; it helps the world follow the voice of Hashem which it accepted at the time of the giving of the Torah."

"The same is true when we study the Torah. We are not just learning laws and ideas. We want the Torah to seep into us and be absorbed in our innermost selves, changing the way we think and feel. The Torah should not bounce back, away from us. It should become part of our nature."



### **STORY - SAVED BY THE COFFEE CUPS**

Many years ago there lived in Tunisia a worthy Jew named Matzliach. He was a great lover of Torah, though not an outstanding Torah scholar. He was not very rich, but generous in his charity contributions, and he was a G-d-fearing man. Matzliach the Antique Dealer, as he was known, for he was a dealer in old wares and antiques, was well respected in the community. He was particularly praised for his special custom in connection with Shavuos. Every year he would invite ten Torah scholars to his home on the first night of Shavuos, for whom he prepared a fine feast. After the feast they would all recite tikkun and study Torah all night, in honour of the great festival that celebrates Matan Torah.

It all started many years before, when Matzliach learned for the first time about the origin of the Jewish custom to stay awake on the first night of Shavuos. He was greatly surprised to learn that on the night before that great day when Hashem was to give the Torah to the Jewish people, they did not stay awake. Indeed, they slept soundly, so that when Hashem descended on the mountain early in the morning to give the Torah to His chosen people, they were not there! So Hashem let loose thunder and lightning, which woke them up and sent them hurrying to the mountain.

Not that the people were not eager to receive the Torah. On the contrary, they had been counting the days—forty-nine days, seven full weeks—from the day after they departed from Mitzrayim, eagerly awaiting the great day when the Torah would be given to them. Yet the night before that great event, when one would have expected them to be too excited even to think of sleep, they slept more soundly than ever! Did they want to be well rested, refreshed and wide awake for the great moment of the divine

#### revelation?

Be that as it may, it was a letdown. And so it became the custom of Jews everywhere to make up for it and stay awake the night of Shavuos, and in this way "correct" the wrong impression. This is what tikkun means—"correction".

Well, Matzliach and his guests certainly observed this custom in a fine way, and it impressed and inspired the whole community. There was not a Jew in Tunisia who did not stay up that night. Old and young gathered in the shules to recite tikkun and learn Torah all night, and special refreshments were served to help keep them awake.

There came a time, however, when Shavuos approached and Matzliach found himself in a difficult situation. Business had not been good, and Matzliach simply had no money, not only for his usual feast, but not even for the needs of his own family in the way of food and wine for the festival. Sadly he told his wife, Mazal, about his predicament, and she was greatly distressed.

"It is not so much our own need that distresses me," the good woman explained, "but the fact that you cannot keep your fine custom. It is sad to think about it." "But what can we do?"

"Well, I still have my precious earrings," Mazal said, taking them off from her ears. "Here, take them to the pawnbroker and get a loan till things will improve. You should be able to get enough for the festival meals and for your usual feast."

"G-d bless you," Matzliach said gratefully. He took the earrings to the pawnbroker and obtained a tidy sum of money against them. As he was walking home cheerfully, Matzliach met the venerable Rabbi Hai Tayeb, chief rabbi of Tunisia. Matzliach greeted the rabbi respectfully, and the rabbi returned the greeting, obviously pleased to have met him in the street.

"You saved me a trip," the rabbi said. "I'm going around collecting for our poor, so they, too, can celebrate the festival of Shavuos with joy."

Without hesitation, Matzliach put his hand in his pocket and gave the rabbi the money he had just received from the pawnbroker. The smile with which Matzliach gave the money pleased the rabbi no less than the donation itself.

"G-d bless you to do many mitzvos and good deeds," the saintly rabbi said, as they parted. Slowly Matzliach continued his way homeward. "What am I going to tell my wife?" he wondered. Suddenly he heard his name called. "Matzliach! You're just the man I want!" The caller was one of the royal servants of the Bey of Tunisia.

"His Majesty sent me out to buy a set of antique coffee cups. I have no idea where to get them. But you are an antique dealer. Get them for me, and you will be amply rewarded," the courtier said.

"I will try my best," Matzliach promised. If there were such cups, Matzliach knew where to find them, and find them he did. The dealer Matzliach went to was pleased to get rid of them; he had had them too long, and despaired of ever selling them. Now he was pleased to sell them to Matzliach on credit, for he knew the Jewish antique dealer as a trustworthy man.

Walking through the marketplace, Matzliach met the courtier again, for he was shopping for other things. "Did you manage to find the right cups for me?" the courtier asked eagerly. "Thanks to the One Above, I did."

The courtier took Matzliach with the cups to the royal court, and introduced him to the Bey.

The king was very pleased with the cups. "Just what I wanted," he said. "I know that the Jews are now busy with preparations for their festival. I am pleased that you took time out to find me these lovely cups. By the way, how are you doing with your preparations for the festival?"

"The truth to tell, Your Majesty, I have not yet bought a thing."

The king immediately ordered one of his servants to send to Matzliach's house two sacks of fine flour, a jug of olive oil and two choice live lambs. Then he asked Matzliach what he owed him for the cups. Matzliach told the king what he paid for them, and his usual commission.

"What? That's all you paid for these precious cups?" the king said, much surprised. "Well, the ruler of Tunisia is not looking for bargains. You shall be paid their full value!" Matzliach left the king's palace with a very large sum of money. Walking briskly home, whom should he meet if not the chief rabbi, again.

"I can now afford to double my donation," Matzliach said happily, as he handed the rabbi an amount equal to his first generous donation."Rabbi, your blessing was fulfilled," Matzliach said, and told him how Hashem was kind to him.

"Thank G-d, we both did very well today," the rabbi said. "Have a happy Yom Tov." And a happy festival it was indeed for Matzliach and his good wife Mazal. And what made them happiest of all was that this year, too, they were able to observe their custom of celebrating tikkun-night as ever before.





## SUNDAY ISRU CHAG 2:00PM JIST MAY

LINK AVAILABLE FROM 1:00PM WWW.CHABADYOUTH.ORG/VIRTUAL