

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



Likkutei Sichos, Vol. 24

Shoftim, Sicha 3

— By Mrs. Chanie Gourarie, Chabad Toms River

On the first day of school, I sit in my seat quietly,
And fill out a worksheet titled, "All About Me."
I fill out my name, favorite color and hobby,
But if you want to know who I really am, just look at a tree.

"A person is a tree of the field," the Torah does say,
There is a part of me that is like a tree in every way,
It's my Middos, my character traits, like being kind or getting angry,
They reveal who I really am and tell my story.

Just like a tree starts out small,
And slowly grows to become so tall,
So too our character traits are immature when we are younger,
They grow and develop as we grow older.

A tree doesn't move around,
It is attached to the ground.
It takes a lot of effort and toil,
To uproot it and plant it in different soil.

The same is true with our character and nature,
To change them isn't an easy endeavor,
Since they are rooted in each person's soul,
To refine our character traits to serve Hashem is our goal.

Through winter's chill and summer's burning heat,
Trees stand firm, their attachment can't be beat.
When we work on our Middos we can be sure,
That even when we are faced with challenges our Yetzer Tov will win the war!

The strong roots that we see give us another clue,
About our roots who are Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaakov Avinu.
Their Middos we inherit, it's in our DNA,
To serve Hashem, they paved the way!

Unlike fish that are completely surrounded by water to stay alive,
Trees don't just stay in the ground to survive,
But rather they sprout from the ground and thrive,
To grow tall and produce fruit for others they strive.

From the earliest age we go to school or Yeshiva,
And are surrounded by Torah,
Although to make a living we must leave the walls of the Yeshiva physically,
We must stay connected to the Torah constantly.

Those that are like a fish and are so lucky,
That their profession is to sit and study,
Must know that immersed in Torah they can't only stay,
They too need to go out into the world and help another Jew every day.
