

SICHA STORY

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



Likkutei Sichos, Volume 16

Bo - Yud Shevat (*First Sicha of the week*)

- Rabbi Yossi Nemes, Metairie, Louisiana

This Sicha discusses the holiness of food items of the Rebbeim, shared with Chasidim. We include a representation of stories on this theme. At the end of the sicha it discusses the importance of Chinuch of children being real and consistent, even regarding minhagim, and even where it will demand sacrifice from the child, as we see in the stories of the Friediker Rebbe's upbringing. We bring a few stories of the chinuch of the FR in this regard.

Chatof...grab and eat, grab and drink

Each year with the approach of Passover, some of the elder Chassidim would receive a special gift from the Tzemach Tzedek: three matzos, a bottle of wine, marror, and other Seder necessities.

One year, the Tzemach Tzedek appointed a messenger to deliver the items to Rabbi Yekusiel Liepler, a well-known chassid. When the messenger arrived, Rabbi Liepler was engrossed in a profound mystical meditation and did not seem to realize that someone had appeared before him.

Extending the Passover package, the messenger said, "The Tzemach Tzedek asked me to deliver this gift to you." Hearing where this package came from, Rabbi Liepler excitedly grabbed the package, and immediately consumed all its contents. After all, this is a gift from the Rebbe! Who am I to let it sit idle?

On Erev Pesach, Rabbi Liepler went to the court of the Tzemach Tzedek and inquired why he had not received a special Passover package that year. "What do you mean?" they said to him, "we sent you a package!"

“Ah!” replied Rabbi Liepler, “Now that you mention it, I do remember receiving a package! When I received the package from the Rebbe, I devoured everything in it. It helped me understand the Chassidus that I was engaged in at that time...”

(Needless to say, Rabbi Liepler received more Passover supplies for his Seder later that evening.)

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When the Rebbe told this story by Farbrengen he said the lesson of the story is that when you have a Shlichus from your Rebbe, to do something, do it right away and do not delay...

Kos Shel Bracha needs Lishma

In 5730, Rashag’s mother passed away during Chol Hamoed Sukkos, so the aveilus began on Motzei Simchat Torah. He left 770 right away to remove his shoes and begin sitting shiva. However, during kos shel bracha, the Rebbe was looking for him.

Later, when the Rebbe visited him for nichum aveilim, Rashag explained that he had left early to remove his shoes immediately after maariv. The Rebbe replied that he could have davened maariv after kos shel bracha, and given the wine to someone else to drink. The Rebbe added that leaving early constituted a problem since it was a public display of aveilus (which is prohibited on Yom Tov). In the end, the Rebbe said that he would give him some wine that had remained in his room.

Rashag said that he had sent a bochur to get kos shel bracha on his behalf. “Which bochur?” the Rebbe asked. Rashag motioned to a bochur standing there. Addressing the bochur, the Rebbe asked, “In what way did you ask?” “For Rabbi Gurary,” the bochur said. Turning back to Rashag, the Rebbe motioned with his hand, “There are many Rabbi Gurarys...”

A bullet lodged harmlessly

Between Sichos of the Farbrengen, Shabbos Pekudei, RC Adar Sheni, 5781, the Rebbe suddenly turned around and called over Reb Mordechai Mintzberg, from Yerushalayim, and gave him wine from the Rebbe’s Becher and instructed him to say L’chaim.

On Monday, Gimmel Adar, R’ Mordechai was on a bus in Williamsburg where he was shot in the next. Amazingly he was not injured and no damage was done to any arteries. The next Sunday he came back to 770 and merited to go into Gan Eiden Hatachton. The Rebbe blessed him with a long life and mot to hurry to take out the bullet....

Stories of the Frierdiker Rebbe's Chinuch

(see also

https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/42749/jewish/A-Rebbes-Education.htm)

On one particular Sukkos, while sitting by a farbrengen of older Chassidim late at night, the Frierdiker Rebbe fell asleep in the sukkah. Seeing her son sleeping in the sukkah, Rebbetzin Shterna Sara entered to take the Frierdiker Rebbe home.

The Rebbe Rashab countered that the Frierdiker Rebbe be left sleeping. Rebbetzin Shterna Sara answered: "Is this the meaning of the words 'Keracheim av al banim—as a father has mercy on son'? It doesn't say 'Keracheim eim—as a mother has mercy,' but focuses on the father."

The Rebbe Rashab answered: "Yes, this is the real mercy of a father to his son." "But the weather is bound to make him fall ill," Rebbetzin Shterna Sara responded. "He won't get a cold. Let him sleep between Chassidim, and the warmth will last for generations!"

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Many fascinating stories and anecdotes are told from the trip to Yalta with the Rebbe Rashab, when the Frierdiker Rebbe was six years old,

One particularly interesting episode happened on Yom Kippur, as the Rebbe Rashab was studying with Reb Shneur Slonim, the teacher of the Frierdiker Rebbe:

The Rebbe Rashab told the Frierdiker Rebbe: "One that holds onto the Rebbe's 'door handle' will see success in all his endeavors." "I want to hold onto the Rebbe's door handle," replied the Frierdiker Rebbe. "Where is it?"

The Rebbe Rashab answered: "Daven with the Rebbe's nusach from the siddur, and without mistakes—this is the Rebbe's door handle."

The Frierdiker Rebbe later explained that as a child he was taught how to read at a young age and his melamed was not careful, so he would say the words of davening by heart. This was the meaning of his father's remark.

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On Rosh Hashanah of 5648 [1887], when I was a child of seven and several months, I visited my grandmother and she treated me to a melon. I went out to the yard and sat with my friends on a bench directly opposite my father's window, and shared the melon with my friends.

My father called me in and said to me: "I noticed that though you shared the melon with your friends, you did not do so with a whole heart." He then explained to me at length the concept of a "generous eye."

I was so deeply affected by my father's words that I was unable to recover for half an hour. I wept bitterly and brought up what I had eaten of the melon.

"What do you want from the boy?" asked my mother. "He's only a child!" Father replied: "It is good this way. Now this trait will be ingrained in his character." This is education, concluded the Friediker Rebbe!
