

Likkutei Sichos Poem

By Chanie Gourarie, Toms River

Chelek 16 | Mishpatim | Sicha 1

In serving Hashem there are levels three, To understand them we will use a Mashal of baking a cake that is so tasty. Faith, understanding and a higher faith is how we serve Hashem, It's like baking, understanding and baking again.

> Shabbos is coming, I'd like to bake a cake, But which recipe should I make? I ask my mother what to do, She says, "Here is Bubby's recipe which is tried and true."

> > I trust what my mother does say,

I don't have to invest effort to pick and choose, I can bake right away. It is like our faith in Hashem which is given to us as an inheritance, From birth it is our foundation taught to us by our parents.

About baking there is so much more to know, To baking and cake decorating classes I can go. To understand how to bake and decorate cakes professionally, Takes practice, patience, commitment and months of study.

Unquestioning faith is great but Hashem wants more, Hashem wants us to use our minds and explore, Because when we study Torah and know the reasons why, Our Mitzvos are filled with passion and excitement to fly high. But what happens when the cake does flop, And my mood does drop, and I feel like my baking career, I should stop? I reflect upon my Bubby's recipe and all that I did study, To try again and bake a bigger and better cake it gives me the energy.

The same is true with my relationship with Hashem, When His ways seem to have no rhyme or reason, I use my inherited faith plus all that I understand, To reach a higher level of faith and believe that Hashem is holding my hand.

To the Parshios of Yisro and Mishpatim this all does relate, In Parshas Yisro on a silver platter, we received a revelation so great. But with what we were given we can't be satisfied, We must learn and understand Torah so that our minds will be fortified.

In this way, even if a cake flops or our day seems to go sour, And we don't understand Hashem's ways every hour, We can use our inborn faith and Torah study, To reach a higher level of faith and serve Hashem wholeheartedly.

The faith that we reach after we study is on a level that is so much greater, Than the faith we received on a silver platter. Because when you achieve something on your own it becomes part of you,

This type of relationship, Hashem does truly value.