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"Total Control"	1
Story: The Deep Sea Divers	2-3
Hayom Yom updates	4 - 5
Fun page	6

NEWSLETTER

Boys division, Grades B2 - B8

Total Control

*Tayere Talmidei Hatmimim sheyichy*u,

A chossid who once came to the Baal Shem Tov to ask him how a person could control himself from looking and watching inappropriate behavior? The Baal Shem Tov told him to go to the city of Odessa and to learn the answer to his question from a certain chossid who lived in that city.

When the person got there he met his host who was a simple person who worked as porter by the docks. After watching the person for a few days he noted that his host was a fine person with Yiras Shomayim, but he was stunned at the fact that the Baal Shem Tov sent him there because there was apparently nothing that he could really learn from this simple Yid!

After a few days of staying at the house, he was alone, and he noticed a window high up near to the ceiling and he climbed up to see what was on the other side of the window. When he looked through he was shocked and horrified by the way the people that he saw through the window, the neighbours, were behaving and the inappropriate things he saw disturbed him very much.

When his host came home from the docks that evening the chossid confronted him and he asked him how he allowed himself to live among such despicable people who acted in such ways and he described to his host some of what he saw through the high up window.

The porter looked at the chossid and then told him that he was very surprised at him - here he has been living in this house for 20 years and it never even entered his mind to look through that window to see what his neighbours were doing, yet this chossid had been in the house for a few days and already went looking there!

The chossid now understood why the Baal Shem Tov sent him to Odessa and he appreciated the sincerity and self control that this simple Yid had. There was a lot he could learn from this porter!



His host was a simple Chossid who worked as a porter on the dock...

Parshas Bechukoisai starts off speaking about the mitzvah to follow the chukkim. The Rebbe explains that chukkim represents the area of Torah that needs to become "chokuk" and engraved in our minds, meaning being careful to control our thoughts, and to keep focused on appropriate and correct things by keeping mitzvois in "machshova".

The possuk then continues and speaks of "guarding" ("Tishmeru") the mitzvois, which is referring to guarding our tongues and being in control of how we talk and keeping miztvois with our mouths. Finally, the possuk concludes and speaks about keeping mitzvois in action and doing the correct and appropriate things as we should.

It comes out from this explanation that in this first possuk of the parshah the Torah is referring to being in control of the three "Levushim", the three types of "clothes" that we use to be involved with the world around us.

The Alter Rebbe explains that just like we are in control of our clothes and we choose what we wear and we can change what we wear, the same is true for our "spiritual clothes" and we need to constantly be in control of what we are thinking about, what we are saying, and what we are doing.

Sometimes this means being in control to push ourselves to be involved in good things with our "levushim", and sometimes it means to be in control and to stop ourselves from doing bad or inappropriate things with these "levushim".

Dear Talmidim, it is hard to always be in control of our machshova, our dibbur and our maaseh – our thoughts, our speech, and our action, but, if we try hard, we could succeed and the Aibershter promises that if we keep these levushim "clean", He will give beautiful and wonderful brochos. Let us do our part and then the Ribono Shel Olam will do His!

Wishing you a wonderful Shabbos,

Rabbi Yaacov Ringo

Principal Boys Older Division

In connection with 50 years since the Rebbe launched the "Mivtza Tefilin" campaign, we bring you this Story.

IY"H in the coming weeks we will share more inspiring stories to celebrate this special milestone.

The Deep Sea Divers

At the end of Iyar 5727, following the miraculous victory of the Six Day War, the Rebbe intensified his "*tefillin* campaign," instructing Chassidim to take to the streets and invite Jews to fulfill the mitzvah of *tefillin*.

The idea of approaching non-religious strangers in the street with a request to do a religious act, and such one at that, was unheard of at the time. No one knew exactly how to "take" this new directive from the Rebbe. In Lubavitch communities across the globe, the Rebbe's Chassidim talked about virtually nothing else. Many of these discussions took place at *Farbrengen*'s.

At a farbrengen in Kfar Chabad (the Chabad-Lubavitch village in Eretz Yisroel) was Rabbi Mendel Futerfas, the *mashpia* of the central Yeshiva, who had spent many years in Soviet prisons and labor camps for his Jewish outreach activities. The discussion went on all night long, with everyone at the Farbrengen trying to explain the importance of the Rebbe's new campaign.

Then Reb Mendel remembered something he had heard in Siberia fifteen years earlier. During his years in the gulag, with barely a single Jewish Sefer to nourish his soul, Reb Mendel tried to learn a lesson in Avodas Hashem from everything he heard and saw (in accordance with the famous teaching of the Baal Shem Tov) -- and usually he succeeded.

But there was one story -- said Reb Mendel to his fellow Chassidim at the farbrengen that night -that, try as he might, he could not figure out what was its spiritual point... until now.

One of the prisoners in the labor camp had been a deep-sea diver in the Czar's navy, and was talking about his adventures: "It occasionally happened that one of the ships of the Czar's navy would sink, sometimes because of a storm at sea, or because it struck a rock, or sometimes in battle.

"Now, ships are worth a lot of money, just the metal and the equipment alone were often worth millions, so the navy developed a means to lift the ship from the ocean floor so it could be towed to shore and repaired or at least partially salvaged. And that's where I came in.

"What they would do is, situate two towing-ships on the sea above where the sunken ship was. Each ship would lower a long, thick chain with a huge

PAGE 3

Е **3**

hook on its end, and I would dive down, attach one hook to the front and the other to the rear of the sunken ship. Then the towing-ships would pul in their chains, lift the sunken ship from the ocean floor, and tow it in to shore.

"Now, this was all good and well when the sunken ship had been under water for a month or so, but after that the ship began to rust and the hooks would bring up only huge chunks of iron, leaving the rest of the ship behind. lifted in one piece, without falling apart."

"Only now am I beginning to understand the meaning of this story," said Reb Mendel that night in Kfar Chabad. "The ship is like the Jewish people, rusting and falling apart because they have been submerged in Galus for almost two thousand years.

"The Rebbe's idea is to save the ship and we are the Rebbe's deep-sea divers. Trying to pull up the

"So someone developed a brilliant idea. The two tugboats, instead of lowering just one chain each, would spread a huge inflatable rubber mat over the place where the sunken ship was. Inside the mat was a large flat sheet of steel with hundreds of steel cables attached to it.

The cables ran though special airtight holes in the rubber bottom of the raft in a way that no water could get in and no air would escape. At the end of each dangling cable was a hook.

"My job was to go down with a few other divers, lower the mat, spread it over the sunken ship, and

attach the hooks to as many places as possible. Then a motor on one of the two tugboats would pump air into the mat and slowly inflate it. It began to pull upwards until... WHOOPA! The entire ship rose to the surface and could be towed to dry land. Because there were cables attached to so many parts of the ship, the disintegrating ship could be whole thing up with one or two big hooks won't work. We need to attach a cable to every single Jew... bind *tefillin* on as many Jews as possible, and then when enough "hooks" and "cables" are attached... WHOOPA! Hashem will pull us all up together."



"My job was to go down with a few other divers,

lower the mat, spread it over the sunken ship, and

attach the hooks to as many places as possible....

It began to pull upwards until... WHOOPA! The

entire ship rose to the surface and could be towed

to dry land"

The first היום יום Raffle

For those that did their minimum amount of Hayom Yom's this past week

The prize is a set of the Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch with Nekudos!

Participating in this weeks raffle are:

Cadaner, Mendel (19)

- Cadaner, Levi (19)
- Cadaner Yosef (11)

Chanowitz, Mendel (11)

Shneur, Cohen (30)

Feldman, Dovber (24)

Fischer, Yossi (20)

Herbstman, Mendel (19)

Jacobson, Gavriel (11)

Langsam, Shimon (38)

Laufer, Mendel (30)

Laufer, Leibel (11)

Leeds, Yehuda (19)

Mintz, Levi (26)

Rosenblat, Nachi (19)

Wilhelm (Oslo), Mendel (36)



The winner is **Gavriel** Noach Jacobson (B2)

Everyone keep up the great work, continue making your way towards the goal.

And remember there is a weekly raffle fro those that learn a minimum of new Hayom Yom's.





Clowning around

Mendel Wilhelm from Oslo, Norway poses as he prepares to perform stunts for the virtual Lag B'omer parade!

Thank you fifth grade for all the work you put in for the parade!!!



Learning in the park.

Leibel Katz using every extra moment to learn new Hayom Yom's, even during a soccer game!

Keep up the good work!!!



At the Lag B'omer Parade in Los Angeles

The announcer at the great parade shouted "here come the Rebbe's kinder from Shluchim Online School" and one of the loudest cheers erupted from the crowd of thousands. Representatives from across California and Nevada joined the parade, getting a chance to meet each other and celebrate Lag Bomer together in the spirit of Ahavas Yisroel.

Parsha word find By Mendel Katz

o p

L

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d

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s

Find the following words:

d y

n

g

c z w w f b

words:	z	v	f	r	u	i	t	d	u	b	С	s	а	х	р	g	n	у	m	у	i
	q	f	с	р	Ι	с	х	х	z	q	w	е	v	b	Ι	n	i	0	j	f	t
BharBechukosai	z	у	р	0	r	f	i	f	t	у	g	v	S	t	а	d	S	v	а	х	у
Shemita	d	u	t	u	i	р	b	h	d	j	k	е	а	r	n	t	u	e	z	х	w
Yovel	d	у	v	i	Z	f	j	k	Ι	b	С	n	r	t	t	f	С	Ι	d	s	а
Seven	f	g	b	х	а	g	j	r	С	n	u	k	r	s	i	d	х	z	h	у	u
Fifty	0	h	а	v	S	s	t	n	k	р	Ι	0	w	i	n	g	t	е	j	0	р
Fruit	а	r	f	у	u	v	0	С	j	u	Ι	d	s	а	g	t	m	g	i	j	m
Plowing	h	v	h	u	t	i	d	k	z	d	f	q	e	w	r	i	g	Ι	h	b	С
Double Parsha	S	h	С	n	m	v	b	t	u	d	u	0	i	S	t	х	g	u	t	j	m
	r	u	Ι	m	k	0	i	р	d	h	s	r	С	а	t	d	х	z	У	t	u
Harvesting	а	d	t	b	h	k	i	а	r	Z	f	С	v	С	0	n	t	s	а	j	u
Planting	р	х	z	0	р	е	n	t	0	р	u	b	Ι	i	с	t	z	f	j	u	b
Farm	е	у	k	Ι	р	0	f	b	t	h	n	g	r	r	j	k	u	С	b	а	u
OpenToPublic	Ι	h	е	g	0	f	r	е	е	Ι	Ι	0	С	а	t	v	h	r	b	m	r
JewishSlave	b	с	У	j	i	z	d	Z	z	z	g	С	у	u	h	b	р	m	С	u	0
GoFree	u	р	а	b	j	е	w	i	S	h	S	Ι	а	v	е	b	С	d	е	f	g
	0	h	i	j	k	Ι	m	n	0	р	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	х	у	Z	v
	d	g	у	j	h	а	r	v	е	s	t	i	n	g	0	b	у	m	u	у	0



א קלאץ קשיא

What disappears if you say it's name?



Answer: Silence