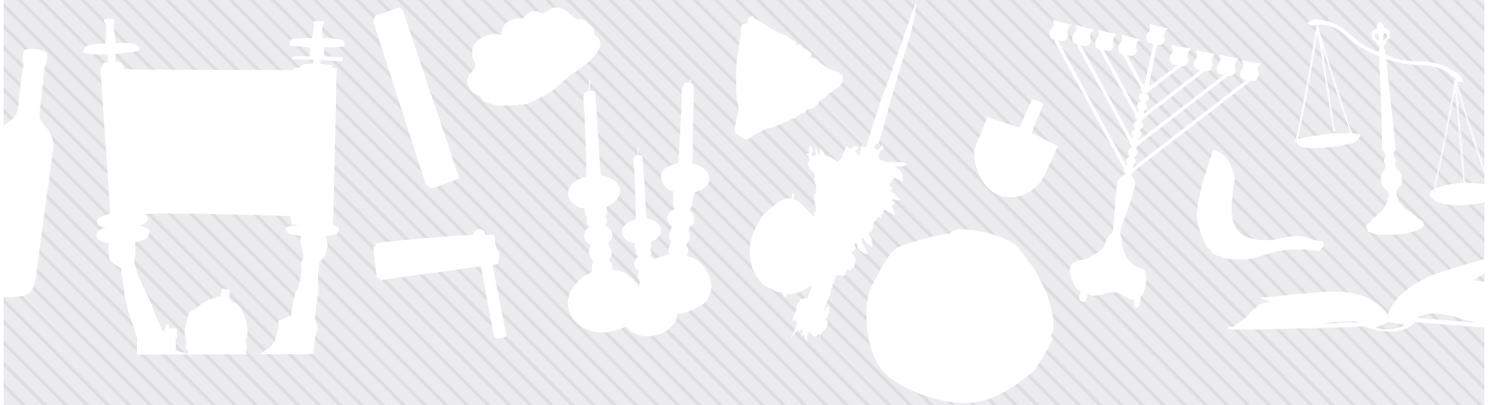


HALACHOS HATZRICHOS

PACKET #28



SAYING SHEMA WITH KAVANA

Shema is supposed to help us realize that nothing exists aside for Hashem. That will help us be ready to do all of His *mitzvos*, no matter what!

In order to feel this, we need to have *kavana* when we say *Shema*.

We make sure to say *Shema* out loud, not just in a whisper, because that helps us have *kavana*.

We also close our eyes and cover them with our right hand when we say the first line of *Shema*. This helps keep us from getting distracted by the things around us. We are able to think about what the words mean, and that the words should bring us to have *Kabolas Ol* and *Mesiras Nefesh*.

See the Alter Rebbe's *Shulchan Aruch*, *Siman Samach Alef Se'if Hey*



AHAVAS YISROEL

When we see other Yidden, we should try to say nice things about them!

When we say something nice about another person, it makes him more excited to do the good things we are talking about. So by saying nice things, we are helping him to become even better!

It also makes Hashem very happy.

Whenever a father sees his children trying to make each other happy, he is very proud of them! It makes him feel good and have *nachas* from all of them.

Hashem is the Father of all of the Yidden! When Hashem sees us saying nice things about each other, it brings Him *nachas* too! It brings down *brachos*, because when Hashem has *nachas*, He wants to give us whatever we ask Him for!

There are some *halachos* about praising other people, which we need to know to make sure we're doing it right.

See Likutei Sichos vol. 5 p. 46 and ha'ara 59



AHAVAS YISROEL

Most people do some not-so-good things, and many good things. It is a *mitzvah* to talk about the good things they do. It helps them to keep doing those things, and to want to do even more! It also makes Hashem happy to hear that Yidden are saying nice things about each other. When Hashem has *nachas*, He wants to give us more *brachos*!

To make sure that what we say ends up being good, there are *halachos* about saying nice things about others.

One *halacha* is that we should be careful that what we say won't make other people say NOT nice things!

If we are with people who don't like the person we want to praise, we shouldn't say anything. By us saying something nice, those other people will want to start saying mean things about him.

Even if everyone we are talking to likes that person, we should be careful not to say too much. If we praise someone too much, people will usually start explaining why that person isn't perfect, and will say not nice things about him.

See the Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch, siman 156 se'if Yud-Beis



AHAVAS YISROEL

When we praise another person, it is good for him and good for us! It is good for him because now he will want to do more special things. It is also good for us, because Hashem has *nachas* to hear us talking this way, and will want to give us more *brachos*!

There are *halachos* that help us make sure that the words we say only help the person we are talking about!

One *halacha* is that we should be careful about praising someone about how he was such a great host. We don't want other people to hear and all start going to be his guest, until he has nothing left!

See the Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch, siman 156 se'if Yud-Gimmel



TZNIUS FOR LITTLE GIRLS

At what age does a little girl have to start wearing *Tznius'dike* clothes and acting in a *Tznius'dike* way?

The Rebbe tells us that based on the *Shulchan Aruch*, a girl needs to dress and act in a *tznius'dike* way starting at age 3.

But it should be in a nice way, we don't have to be mean about it!

See Likutei Sichos vol. 18 p. 448, translated in Beautiful Within

