



The Greater Washington Community Kollel

# SHABBOS DELIGHTS

## TORAH MINUTE

### IN MEMORY OF RABBI KALMAN WINTER ZT" L

Moshe continues to exhort the people to keep the mitzvos and avoid the temptations that would surround them in their new home. This would bring them blessing and protect them in the Land. Among Moshe's pleas, he tells the nation that G-d "does not show favor, nor does He accept bribes." It is difficult to understand the necessity for stating something so obvious. How could someone possibly think that he could bribe G-d?

Possibly, Moshe is addressing the following attitude. One might think that, because he is punctilious in the observance of the commandments between man and G-d, he is absolved from concerning himself with the welfare of his friends and neighbors. After all, he is constantly engaged in Divine service, fulfilling the mitzvos with the utmost care and devotion.

Conversely, another, who is engaged in great acts of kindness, or undertaking communal responsibilities, might think that he is pardoned from the mitzvos between man and G-d. He is caring for G-d's very children - certainly it is of little concern if he cuts some corners in the observance of Shabbos or Kashrus.

To this the Torah says that G-d does not accept "bribes." The mitzvos are not a list of do's and don'ts to be bartered and traded. Rather, G-d, in His infinite wisdom, gave us the mitzvos, each one of which is necessary and imperative for our fulfillment - both individually and collectively. Only when we fully embrace the Torah do we merit to truly be G-d's "children."

Have a wonderful Shabbos!  
*Rabbi Menachem Winter*

## TABLE TALK

### POINT TO PONDER

***And what He did to Dosan and Aviram the sons of Eliav the sons of Reuven, when the earth opened its mouth wide and swallowed them and their households, and their tents... (11:6)***

Korach was the one who initiated the machlokes (argument), and caused the earth to open its mouth. Why didn't Moshe make reference to Korach? Why did he only mention those who joined into the machlokes and not those who instigated it?

### PARSHA RIDDLE

***Which posuk in this parsha is used in shemoneh esrei?***

Please see next week's issue for the answer.

**Last issue's riddle:**

***What day of the year is Tu B'Av compared to?***

**Answer: Yom Kippur**

## TIMELESS WISDOM

***He afflicted you and let you hunger, then He fed you the manna that you did not know... in order to make you know that not by bread alone does man live, rather by everything that emanates from the mouth of G-d does man live (8:3).***

Rav Salimon Mani zt"l explained this posuk based on the following incident:

There was a couple who were very poor. The husband served as a letter writer for the community, putting to use his nice handwriting and use of the language. One Erev Shabbos there was no food in the house, and no money with which to buy food. Seeing that there was nothing for him to do, the husband told his wife, "I am going to the Bais Medrash to learn, as there is nothing for me to do about our situation anyway."

After learning for a few minutes, a messenger arrived in the Bais Medrash from his wife, saying, "There is someone here that needs a letter written, please come." He went home and wrote out the letter, and was paid for his work. Now that he had some money, he quickly went to the store to buy their Shabbos needs. Upon his return he noticed that the letter had been forgotten on the desk. On Sunday, the man returned and said, "It ends up I do not need the letter; you can rip it up."

The wife was perplexed, "Obviously Hashem wanted us to have the money, and therefore He set up this situation for this person to ask you to write a letter for him, even though the letter would not be needed. But I do not understand - why did Hashem leave us without money at first? He could have sent this person earlier in the day, and we would not have had the pain of being without the money." Her husband replied, "If Hashem would have sent the job immediately, we would not have noticed the providence in the job. In order for us to recognize Hashem's assistance and greatness, He needed to leave us hanging for a little."

This is what this posuk says, Hashem afflicted us in order that we should know and recognize that everything comes from Him.

## KIDS KORNER

### WHO AM I?

#### #1 WHO AM I ?

1. I was for Yaakov.
2. I was for Moshe.
3. The Snake bites me.
4. I am for trampling.

#### #2 WHO AM I ?

1. I am the second of three.
2. I am every morning and evening.
3. I have blessings.
4. I have curses.

### LAST ISSUE'S ANSWERS

**#1 Aseres HaDibros** (I am not an app, but am on tablets; I appear twice; I was commanded once; I was given twice.)

**#2 The Four Sons** (Of me there are four; we ask different types of questions; we need different types of answers; we are discussed at the seder.)

*Please see next week's issue for the answers to this week's questions.*

All children 13 and under who answer a "Who Am I?" correctly will be entered into a raffle to



Please visit [www.gwckollel.org](http://www.gwckollel.org) to submit your answers.

**The next raffle will be held on September 30!**

Answer as many as you can because each correct answer will entitle you to another raffle ticket and increase your chance of winning!

## KOLLEL BULLETIN BOARD

***Stay tuned for the forthcoming Elul Semester schedule!***

**There are a number of exciting new opportunities coming up at the Kollel.**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**THE GWCK GALA DINNER WILL BE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16!**

**Join a class or find a chavrusa for the new semester!**

**Elul Semester begins Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.**