

Know Everything

“Eli, do you want to come out and play ball?”

“Not right now, Shimi. I’m learning Torah.”

“Wow. You are a serious student. It’s seven o’clock in the evening and you are still learning. Did you get a late start this morning?”

“No. I was up early. I am learning so seriously because this is the last week before Shavuus. I want to prepare myself for receiving the Torah.”

“Eli, I thought we received the Torah 3500 years ago on Har Sinai.”

“We did, Shimi. On that day all of the heavens opened up, and Hashem revealed all of the spiritual worlds and all of the wisdom of the Torah to Moshe Rabbeinu and the Jewish people. That day became infused with holiness and a spiritual endowment for receiving Torah wisdom. That holiness still exists today. If we prepare ourselves properly, we can receive the same Torah that they did back then, 3500 years ago.”

“But I still don’t understand, Eli. We have the Torah. We study the Tanach, the Mishna, the Gemora, and the Halacha. What is left to receive?”

“We have so much, Shimi. But we’ve lost even more. The Ramban zt”l explains in his introduction to Sefer Bereshis that the Written Torah contains all of the knowledge of the universe.”

“How is that?”

“If we knew how to properly read and understand all of the letters, the crowns, the thickness of each part of each letter, and the spaces in between them, we would see amazing things. We would know the entire history of the world. We would know the deepest secrets of science and nature. We would know the nature of all the spiritual worlds. All of this and more is contained in the Torah.”

“Wow. That is truly awesome. How can we understand the Torah so well?”

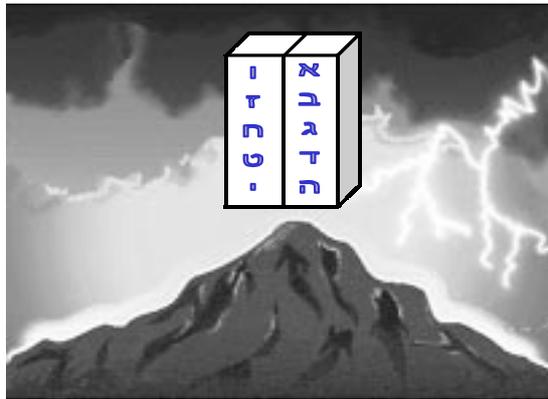
“We have to prepare ourselves. If we are on the spiritual level of the Har Sinai generation, then we will see what they saw. We will understand what they did.”

“Now I see why you are learning so seriously, Eli. You want to prepare yourself. You want to receive the whole Torah. You want to know everything.”

*Kinderlach . . .
Imagine knowing everything.
Knowing every Gemora, every
Halacha. Understanding everything
that is happening. Knowing all of
history, science, medicine, music, and
every subject. It is all there in the
Torah. We just have to learn how to
read it. Shavuus is the day for that.
We just have to prepare ourselves.
Show Hashem how much you love
and want His Torah. Then He will
give it to you. Hashem gives Torah
to those who want it.*

New! New!

“Okay Aharon, let’s begin



learning. *Eilu metzios shelo. Vi'eilu chayav li'hachriz.* (Bava Metziah 21a).

“You seem pretty excited about this Gemora, Yossie.”

“I am, Aharon. How can you tell?”

“You’re smiling, your voice is happy, and you’re singing the words!”

“You’re right. I’ll tell you something, Aharon. This Gemora is great. I love it.”

“Can I ask you something, Yossie?”

“Sure.”

“How many times have you learned this Gemora before.”

“Hmmm. Let me think a minute. . . At least twenty times; maybe more.”

“Twenty times!?”

“At least.”

“And you are still excited about it? What’s your secret? How are you so motivated to learn a Gemora that you’ve already learned twenty times?”

“You know Aharon, the Keli Yakar zt”l has a wonderful Devar Torah on this subject. This week is Shavuus, the Holy Day that celebrates the giving of the Torah on Har Sinai.

There was a special *korbon* (sacrifice) brought on Shavuus, which was not brought any other day of the year – the ‘*Mincha Chadasha*’ (New Grain Offering).”

“Why was it called ‘*Mincha Chadasha*’ Yossie?”

“The Keli Yakar explains that the name is a hint that the Torah should always be new to us; as if we received it today on Har Sinai.”

“You’re right, that is a beautiful Devar Torah. However, the Torah is really 3500 years old. Besides that, you already learned it twenty times. How can you see it as new?”

“You are 100% right, Aharon. It is not simple. Truthfully, no two learning sessions are alike. No matter how many times you have gone over a Gemora, you learn something new each time: a new insight, a new way of looking at the *sugya* (subject), a new *kasha* (question), a new *teretz* (answer).”

“How does it happen, Yossie? Automatically?”

“No, Aharon. You have to work at it. You have to approach each Gemora with a fresh attitude.”

“That’s what I’m asking you. How do you do that?”

“Just think about it. Each time you learn it, you know it better. The better you know it, the more you understand. The Torah becomes sweeter and sweeter as your understanding deepens. You

appreciate the wisdom and depth of the Divine Knowledge that Hashem has given to us.”

“Wow. That is impressive. You can’t get that from just one time through.”

“Not at all. You have to keep going over it. Okay, let’s begin.”

“Yossie, I’m ready. I even have a new tune for this new Gemora. *Eilu metzios shelo. Vi'eilu chayav li'hachriz.*”

“Aharon, you’re singing is music to my ears.”

*Kinderlach . . .
On Shavuus we learn the whole
night. Think of how many times you
can go over the Gemora. Each time it
gets sweeter and sweeter. Each time a
chiddush (new Torah thought). Work
at it. Make that Torah new. Who
knows? Maybe you will merit to offer
the Mincha Chadasha in the Beis
HaMikdash!*