



BE A MENTSCH



Be Encouraging!

פְּרִשֵׁת צוֹ

Being a Mentsch means making others feel special in many different ways! In this week's Parsha, פְּרִשֵׁת צוֹ, Hashem commands Moshe to talk to Aharon and encourage him to become the כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל since encouragement is appreciated by everyone and makes them feel supported.

According to Rashi, Hashem first told Moshe to make Aharon feel honored by using words, "Tell Aharon that he was chosen to become the messenger of Hashem to serve in the מִשְׁכָּן." Afterwards, Moshe was to also help dress Aharon into the בְּגָדֵי כֹהֵן, and make him feel distinctive by clothing him in the clothing of a כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל. Once this was completed, Moshe had to pour the שֶׁמֶן הַמִּשְׁחָה on to Aharon's head and put the oil between his two eyes. By putting oil on Aharon, Moshe made him קָדוֹשׁ as a כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל in the same way as all the כֹּהֲנֵי הַמִּקְדָּשׁ were made קָדוֹשׁ. This made Aharon special since no other person was anointed with the שֶׁמֶן הַמִּשְׁחָה.

The Gemara tells us that 2 drops of oil fell on to Aharon's beard and remained there for the rest of his life. By this miracle, Aharon felt unique that ה' wanted him to be the כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל. From here you see how much effort was made to make Aharon feel special as a servant of ה'. In fact, the Gemara in שבת פה: tells us that when Moshe Rabbenu went up to שָׁמַיִם to receive the Torah, he was challenged by the מְלָאכִים. They did not want the Torah to be given to human beings. Hashem tells Moshe to answer them. When Moshe expressed fear, Hashem said to Moshe. "אָחֳזֵז" מְלָאכִים "בְּכִסֵּא כְבוֹדִי וְעִנֵּה לָהֶם תְּשׁוּבָה" Take hold of My Throne and then reply to the מְלָאכִים. Hashem encouraged Moshe to overcome his fear and proceed.

We too should try to make other people feel honored and encourage them when they are selected to lead the Jewish people!

Have a Great Shabbos!