



BE A MENTSCH

Rabbi Yitzchok Sanders



Inner Courage!

פְּרִישַׁת שְׁלַח לָהּ

In this week's Parsha, פְּרִישַׁת שְׁלַח לָהּ, we learn about the special quality of **inner courage** needed when serving Hashem. This middah is called גְּאוּנָה שֶׁל קְדוּשָׁה, “Proud to be Kadosh”. When the מְרַגְלִים came back from יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶרֶץ, ten of them did not give a good report. Yet יהוֹשֻׁעַ and כָּלֵב, didn't agree. Although they were outnumbered, they were not afraid to say and to do what they felt was proper. Not only did they ignore what the other מְרַגְלִים did, but they decided to give a report of their own. Their report was the true one. כָּלֵב was able to get the whole of בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל quiet because he wanted to stand up for Hashem.

The pasuk says: “וַיַּעֲלוּ בְנֵי כְנָעַן וַיָּבֹאוּ עַד-חֶבְרוֹן וַשָּׁם אָחִימֵן שִׁשִּׁי וְתַלְמִי יְלִידֵי הָעֵנָק”. **The Meraglim** came up Eretz Yisrael from the south and **he** came until Chevron. Rashi comments that only כָּלֵב came to Chevron to daven at מִצְעַרַת הַמַּכְפִּילָה by the קְבָרִים of the אֲבוֹת וְאִמָּהוֹת. The Chasam Sofer asks why was כָּלֵב the only one who came to Chevron? Every Jew goes to where his grandparents are buried. The Chasam Sofer answers that the others were frightened to go there because of the giants mentioned at the end of the pasuk. כָּלֵב made a special effort to go using his **inner courage** and this same strength later helped him silence the Meraglim and the entire בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.

Being a Mentsch means that we do things because we know them to be right. Even if there are a lot of other people who say many things to us, we follow what is right with our **inner courage**. It is our connection to Hashem, which gives us the strength to live by the Torah and feel tremendous happiness and pride in who we are.

Baruch Hashem, you have **almost** completed Third Grade and **very soon** you will be continuing your journey to complete school and you will get to the next stop. **Remember**, at every single stop along your journey, to feel pride in being a Jewish girl. Be proud of who you are, be confident and be courageous!

Have a Great Shabbos!