



Toras Avigdor

Junior

Adapted from the teachings
of Rav Avigdor Miller z"l

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Endless Tefillah

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Parshas Lech Lecha

Endless Tefillah

Chezky reached up and rang the doorbell of Bubby's apartment. Since Zeidy was nifter, it wasn't as easy as it used to be for her to get things done and it was Chezky's turn to spend the day with her helping her around the house.

The front door opened and Bubby stood there with a smile. "Perfect timing, Chezky! Come inside, I was just making breakfast." "I know you like pancakes," she added with a wink.

Chezky followed Bubby and the smell of freshly fried pancakes into the kitchen and watched as Bubby flipped the pancakes over so that they shouldn't burn. He was about to ask Bubby how she was feeling but he noticed that she was davening. Chezky was confused because his mother always told him not to do other things while davening, but maybe Bubby was very busy today so she didn't have the time to daven before he came over?

Bubby finished davening just as the last pancake was ready and she sat down with Chezky to eat a delicious breakfast. It was fun to hear Bubby tell him all about the things going on in her life. Chezky was amazed – he had only one doctor for everything but his Bubby had all different types of doctors for all different kinds of stuff and she always had funny stories about her doctor visits.

After breakfast, Chezky helped Bubby with the laundry. As they moved the wet clothes from the washing machine to the dryer and put a new load in, he saw that Bubby was davening again! "Could she be davening Mincha already?" Chezky wondered. Totty always said they couldn't daven Mincha until the afternoon, but maybe Bubby had a different minhag? After all, she was always telling Chezky that things were very different in Europe.

Once the washing machine was running, they left to go visit Bubby's best friend Sylvia. A month ago she had fallen down and broken her leg and now she was stuck in bed so Bubby tried to visit her a few times a week. As they walked down the block to catch the bus, Chezky noticed that Bubby was davening AGAIN! It couldn't possibly be maariv - it was still the morning!

Finally, as they sat down on the bus and Bubby finished davening, Chezky couldn't hold himself back any longer. "Bubby," he asked, "were you just davening?"



“Yes, Chezky, I was,” Bubby said with a smile as the bus moved along.

“And were you also davening when we were doing laundry? And when you were making breakfast?”

“Yes, I was.”

Chezky didn’t want to sound chutzpadik, but he just needed to understand. “Do you daven Shacharis, Mincha, and Maariv in the morning in case you want to go to sleep early?”

Bubby started to laugh. “No, no, my boychik’l,” she said. “I davened Shacharis at neitz this morning, probably before you even woke up, and I’ll daven Mincha later after Totty picks you up. But last week I heard a beautiful shiur from Rav Avigdor Miller about Sarah Imeinu and since then I’ve been davening as much as I can all day long, even between the regular tefillos.

“What did Rav Miller say?”

“Well,” said Bubby. “He asked a very good question. Isn’t it sad that Sarah Imeinu had to wait for so many years until Yitzchok was finally born? It must have been very hard for Sarah to wait so long for her first child and I’m sure she davened and cried out to Hashem every day **and she did that for almost a hundred years!** Can you imagine such a thing? Davening for a child for a hundred years?! Why did Hashem make her wait for so long?”

“Bubby,” said Chezky as the bus slowly moved along the crowded street. “That’s a really good question. I remember before my birthday when I wanted to get a new Playmobil helicopter set and I davened to Hashem one time and that was it. I can’t imagine davening for a hundred years!”

“Exactly,” said Bubby. “But Chazal say that Hashem made Sarah wait on purpose because ‘He loves it when His people daven to Him.’”

“He loves it?!” said Chezky, “But that’s not a reason to make Sarah so sad for so long! And it’s not a good reason to make me wait another year for my Playmobil set.”

“Well,” said Bubby. “That’s because you don’t understand the answer. Hashem doesn’t love it because it helps **Him**. He doesn’t need our davening at all. He loves our tefillos because it’s better for **us**! The more we daven, the more we think about Hashem and that makes us great. He loves when we become tzaddikim and we accomplish in this world.

“And that’s why Hashem is so happy whenever we ask Him for help, no matter what it is. Whatever we’re doing – if we’re making pancakes and we want them to come out good, or if we’re doing laundry and we want everything to come out smelling clean and fresh, or if we’re walking to catch the bus and we don’t want to miss it, and even if we’re waiting for the birthday present we want – we should **always** be davening to Hashem, and asking Him for help. That’s the way to become close to Hashem.”

Have A Wonderful Shabbos



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