



Toras Avigdor

Junior

Adapted from the teachings
of Rav Avigdor Miller z"l

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The Important People

Wishing

Sarah, Kayla and Basya

much success in dveikus Hashem



The Important People

Wednesday night; Ateres Fruma Freidel Wedding Hall

Moishy found his place card – ‘Cousins’ Table’ it said on it – and he was happy that he would be sitting with all the boys his age and get the kids’ meal. Moishy was almost bar mitzvah but he still couldn’t figure out why adults insisted on eating food with fancy names when they could just have a frank with spicy fries and really enjoy it.

“I plan on being the one to cure coronavirus,” Benjy was telling all the cousins as Moishy sat down. “Could be that one day you’ll see my name on the front pages of all the newspapers!”

“Big whoopie,” said Daniel. “My father was already on the front page twice! His construction company is so famous that he already built the biggest sports stadiums in Los Angeles and now he’s building a skyscraper in Manhattan.”

“Well,” said Avi, “You probably already know that I’m going to be a lawyer like my father. He’s the one who sued the government so that we can keep our shuls open during Covid. I’m going to own my own law firm and we’re going to be the most famous lawyers in the world!”

The cousins all turned to Moishy. “What about you,” Benjy said. “How do you plan on making the world a better place?”

Suddenly Moishy wished he was sitting at the adults table where they wouldn’t ask him such questions. Eating baked salmon with the adults didn’t sound so bad anymore.

“Well, I never really thought about it,” he mumbled as he turned back to his spicy fries.

Later that night, in Totty’s minivan

Moishy sat in the front seat next to Totty as they drove home.

“What’s wrong, Moishy?” Totty asked as they drove home. “You seem very quiet after such a leibedig chasuna.”

“I was just wondering,” said Moishy, “When am I supposed to start thinking about what I want to be when I’m older?”

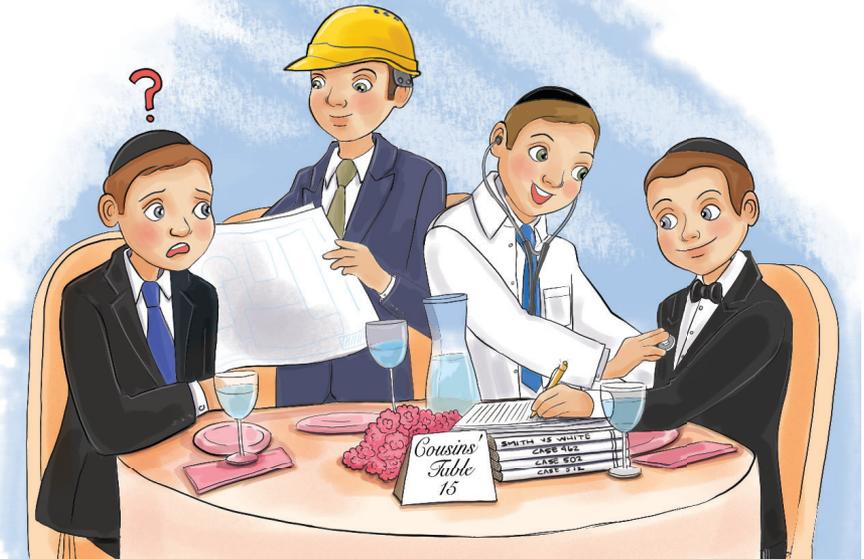
“Why?” asked Totty. “What do you want to be?”

“That’s the problem,” said Moishy. “I haven’t really thought about it lately. When I was in first grade I wanted to be a helicopter pilot for Shomrim. But now that I’m growing up I just thought that I’d learn in kollel for as long as I can just like you did and then I’ll get a regular job.

“That sounds like a wonderful plan!” said Totty but Moishy wasn’t so sure anymore. “At the chasuna all of the cousins were talking about their plans. They’re all gonna be important people who do big things to make the world a better place – and meanwhile I’m just gonna learn in kollel and have a regular job?! I also want to be important!”

“Moishy,” Totty said. “I think the answer to your problem is in this week’s parsha. The pesukim tell us all about Kayin’s grandchildren and how they invented very important things for the world. Did you know that until Yaval invented the tent, people lived in caves? Then Yaval came up with the great idea of a collapsible house that you could take with wherever you went. And because of him shepherds were now able to take their sheep to far away places to graze which meant they could raise large flocks and become much wealthier. The whole world became richer because of Yaval!

“And Yaval’s brother Yuval invented all types of musical instruments. Whenever anybody played the flute or drums or any other instrument, they



used to praise Yuval for adding so much happiness to their lives. And their little brother Tuval-Kayin discovered how to use metals to make all different types of tools that helped make people's lives much easier.

"Trust me, if they would have had newspapers in those days, Yaval and Yuval and Tuval-Kayin would have had their faces on the front pages every day! They were the most famous people in the world in the days of Noach."

"Wow," said Moishy. "That's exactly what I'm saying! Those are the people who are most important in the world!"

"Ah!" exclaimed Totty, "That's exactly what everyone thought! But then Hashem sent the Mabul to teach the world a big lesson. Because who was saved on the teivah? Was it Yaval's family? No! Yuval's family? No! What about Tuval-Kayin? Nope! None of them were saved!"

"Hashem didn't save the 'important people.' Instead He saved Noach and his family. Now, Noach wasn't a famous lawyer and he didn't cure any diseases – he spent his days concentrating on serving Hashem and supporting his family, that's all! People thought that Noach was 'just' a tzaddik. He was OK – nothing wrong with tzadikim – but he wasn't as important as the real builders of the world.

"And that was one of the most important lessons of the Mabul. Hashem wanted to show the world who is **really** important in this world. "I'm going to save the real builders of the world," Hashem said, "the ones who know that serving Hashem is the *most important thing in this world!* Sure we need buildings and inventions but it's those who serve Me by thinking about Me all the time who are the real builders of the world!"

Moishy smiled to himself. Suddenly he wasn't jealous of his cousins anymore. Instead he was looking forward to the next family chasunah where he would sit at the kid's table happily eating his spicy fries, knowing that he did have plans for his life and they were the best plans a Jew could have.

Have A Wonderful Shabbos



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