SEFER SHEMOS WAS DEDICATED לזכר נשמת מאטיל בלימא בת יוסף & ליב זעליג בן צבי דוד

Parsha Knowledge

STORIES & INSPIRATION ON THE WEEKLY PARSHA

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Parsha Sponsor: Carole Batsheva Kahana

בֹא אֶל־פַּרְעֹה...

"Come to Pharaoh..." (Shemos 10:1)

In this week's Parsha, Hashem told Moshe Rabbeinu to face Pharaoh. The pasuk says, *Bo el Pharoh*, Hashem commanded Moshe to come to Pharaoh. There is a big question here. Grammatically this pasuk doesn't make sense. Shouldn't the pasuk should say *lech el Pharaoh*, go to Pharaoh? Why does the Torah say *come* to Pharaoh?

I heard a beautiful answer from my father, Rav Yitzchok Fingerer – an answer that can give us tremendous Chizuk. The Kotzker Rebbe says that Moshe Rabbeinu was very intimidated by Pharaoh. Moshe was scared and almost despondent. He was at his wit's end. Moshe didn't want to go to Pharaoh - that's where the challenges and hardships were. He was very scared. The Kotzker says that when Hashem told Moshe to come to Pharaoh, Hashem was saying, come to Me - I'm where Pharaoh is. Hashem was telling Moshe, that he was not alone. Hashem was saying, "I'm by Pharoh and I'm waiting for you. Come to me. I'm with you and I will never forsake you. I am where the challenge is." That's why the pasuk doesn't say go to Pharaoh. If the pasuk said go to Pharaoh, it would mean that Hashem was telling Moshe to leave His presence and to go on his own. Hashem was saying, "Come to Pharaoh. You are not alone. I will be there for you. I am with you, and I will always be with you!"

The lesson is so profound. We all go through struggles, hardships, and hard times. During these dark times, we may think that we are by ourselves. We may feel alone and forlorn. However, we must know that we are never alone. Hashem is with us. Even if it seems bleak and dark, even if it seems ominous and insurmountable, Hashem says come

to Me! I am with you! I love you! I care about you! We must know that we are never alone. Hashem will always be with us even when life doesn't go the way we expect it to be.

When Rav Moshe Sherer zt"l was a young boy, he got very sick. He needed a special kind of medicine which was quite expensive. His mother gathered whatever money she had and went to the pharmacy. She begged and pleaded with the pharmacist telling him that her young son was very sick, and she desperately needed the medicine. The pharmacist agreed to give her the medicine for all the money that Mrs. Sherer had. Mrs. Sherer left the store carefully holding the precious medicine when she suddenly tripped on the curb. The bottle fell along with her and smashed on the floor. All the precious and

expensive medicine was gone. Mrs. Sherer was broken. She had no more money, and she wasn't sure if her son would live without the medicine. She got up and she decided to go back to the pharmacy and beg for help.

With tears in her eyes, she returned to the pharmacy with the broken bottle and no money to pay for the replacement. She came in and started crying, showing the pharmacist the broken bottle. When the pharmacist looked at the broken bottle his face turned white. He started stammering. After a few long moments, he told Mrs. Sherer that he made a huge mistake and that he had given



Rabbi Moshe Sherer zt"1

her the wrong medicine. If her son had taken it, he probably would have died. After regaining his posture, the pharmacists gave her the right medicine for free, along with many apologies. The medicine helped the young R' Moshe Sherer have a full recovery.

When Mrs. Sherer dropped the bottle, she almost gave up. She never would have imagined that she had gotten the wrong medicine which would have endangered her son's life. When she dropped it, it saved her son's life. It was the best thing that could've happened. We don't always see it right away but many times the greatest light can be found in the bleakest situations. We never know Hashem's plan. All we can do is have trust in Him. Hashem loves us and knows what's best for us.

Have a Great Shabbos!

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