

**Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce**

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פרשת עקב



*“And these words that I command you today should be upon your heart and you should teach them to your children.” (Devarim 6:6)*

*“And teach them to your children to speak in them with your sitting in your house and with your going on the way and with your lying down and your rising up... (Devarim 11:19)”*

A Rabbi asked a young lady in the audience, “What is your parents’ greatest source of pleasure?” The young lady smiled proudly and answered, “Me!” Then he followed up with a 2nd question. “What is your parents’ greatest source of pain?” A gloomy expression overtook her countenance and she somberly replied, “My sister!” Children often hold the key to both our happiness and our anguish. Why is that so?

Let’s try an experiment. Slump your shoulders, put a scowl on your face and dull the tone of your voice. Now recite lifelessly, “I’m so happy! This is the best day of my life!” Will anyone be convinced by your words? Now throw your shoulders back. Put on a winning smile and shout with enthusiasm, “I am so miserable! This is the worst day of my life!”

Which is more credible, your words or your posture? I believe that this test demonstrates that actions trump words and tone trumps text.

Johnny’s father received a call from the principal. The principal told him, “We have to talk about your son’s behavior!” The father insisted on knowing what he had done. “When the principal informed him, “Your son is stealing pencils from the other kids in school.” The father shot back defensively, “I don’t know why he should need to steal pencils from the other kids in school. I bring home all the pencils he needs from the office!” Aha!

A story is told of a fellow who had decided to put on Tefillin as his son’s Bar Mitzvah approached. His son told him, “Dad, I want to do just like you. When I’m 47 years old I too am going to start to put on Tefillin!”

There was once a student in a Hebrew Day School many years ago was a chronic complainer to the point of being a nuisance and distraction to the class. His every move was accompanied by some exaggerated exclamation, “You almost banged my whole head off!” It was puzzling. Where were all these statements coming from? One day the principal saw his mother getting out of the car in front of the school. When she slammed shut the car door she exclaimed emphatically, “The door almost tore my whole arm off!” She continued her melodramatic monologue all the way into the school. Aha!

A great woman and mother of a remarkably successful family shared with me three keys to her having raised such a wonderfully functional Torah family. 1) She spent personal

time with each child. 2) She made sure to find out what they were up to and with whom. 3) Her husband always had a Sefer – a Torah book in his hand!

The Chasam Sofer learns this pasuk which is scribed and scrolled and affixed to door after door throughout our homes, “And you should teach your children to speak in them” as an instruction in “how to”- accomplish that parental task. Children will learn mostly through observing the manner in which you sit in your house, go on your way, lie down and rise up. Those actions will speak volumes in volume. As one child told his parents, “Your actions are so loud I cannot hear what you are saying!” When speech and action are congruous though then there can be a lasting educational impact.

The first parsha of Shema reads, “You should place these words upon your heart and (then) teach them to your children...” Why? Children read the heart. They know all too well by tone and by deed what we hold sacred. Parents announce with perfect articulation, “This is who I am and this is what I do.” Similarly at Har Sinai we heard, “I Am HASHEM... that took you out of Egypt”, effectively stating, “This is who I am and this is what I do!” And so it is today the First Commandment of Parenting.

Have a Good Shabbos

Adapted from Rabbi Label Lam

**Zmanim**

**Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 7:00 pm/8:30 pm**

**Candle Lighting: 8:29 pm**

**Shacharis: 8:45 am**

**Zman Kriyas Shema: 9:42 am**

**Pirkei Avos Shuir: 7:25 pm**

**Mincha/Shalosh Seudos: 8:15 pm**

**Maariv/Motzai Shabbos: 9:36 pm**

**Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce**

would like to invite the community to a guest lecture by

**Rabbi Jonathan Rosenblum**

***“The Changing Face of the Israeli Chareidi Community”***

Rabbi Rosenblum will be speaking

Shabbos Parshas Eikev following Mussaf at approximately 11:00 am.

Shacharis: 8:45 am

This week’s Kiddush is sponsored by Leo & Frances Grunwald

and by Yisroel & Malkie Balter.

To sponsor a Kiddush or Shalosh Seudos please email [kiddush@agudahsouth.com](mailto:kiddush@agudahsouth.com) or contact Leon Jakubovic.

All those wish to submit cholim can email [gabbai@agudahsouth.com](mailto:gabbai@agudahsouth.com) or contact one the gabbaim.

Have a Simcha to announce? Email announcements to [mailings@agudahsouth.com](mailto:mailings@agudahsouth.com).