

Education and Support:

- When Caring Counts Most – Book
- Comfort Courage and Clarity – Book
- Comfort Courage and Clarity Support-Group Handbook
- Personal Perspectives from R' Aharon Margalit – CD
- Reaching Beyond Ourselves Rabbi Nachman Seltzer – CD
- Kibbud Av V'Eim Magnet – Free
- Yizkor Card – Free
- Don't Waste the Wait Card – Free **New!**
- Hakofos Companion – Free
- The Rosh Hashanah Companion – Book

End-of-Life through Shivah:

- Final Prayers – Free
- Basic Laws of Aninus – Free
- The Concise Laws of Shivah – Book
- Condolence Cards
- Cremation or Burial – A Jewish View – Book
- The Complete Burial Service – Free
- Mishnah Charts – Free
- The Shivah Visit – A Practical Guide – Free
- HaMakom Poster

From Shloshim through Yahrtzeit:

- The Yahrtzeit Companion – Book
- Kaddish Companion – Free
- Prayers When Visiting a Grave – Free

Kids & Teens:

- I Wish Someone Would Have Told My Friends – Book **New!**
- I Wish Someone Would Have Told Me – Book
- May the Neshamah have an Aliyah – Teachers Manual
- I Lost Someone Special – Book
- Mishnayos Review Charts

Learning:

- MiMishnas Lomdei HaChevrah – book **New!**
- Mishnas Chayim I, II – Book
- Shishah Sidrei Mishnah Poster

Nichum Aveilim:

- The Neshamah Should Have an Aliyah – Book
- To Comfort and be Comforted: A Guide to the Mitzvah of Nichum Aveilim – MP3
- To Comfort and be Comforted: A Guide to the Mitzvah of Nichum Aveilim – DVD
- To Comfort and be Comforted: A Guide to the Mitzvah of Nichum Aveilim – Book
- Shik Mir Pekelach – CD – Free



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CHEVRAH LOMDEI MISHNAH
NEWS

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Shik Mir Pekelach – Ripple Effects



*In a dream at night
the Alter did appear,
To his son from a World
where all is clear.
"Shik mir pekelach,"
implored Reb Nosson Tzvi.
"Send packages
from your world to me."
"Shik mir pekelach,"
the neshamah cries.
It's the best way I can hope
to further rise.
Higher and higher, passing
through the Heavenly gates,
With the zechus that only limud
haTorah creates.*

(Excerpt from the song *Shik Mir Pekelach*, sung by Simcha Leiner)

So many people have been touched by the heartfelt words of Chevrah Lomdei Mishnah's moving musical composition about the ability to positively impact the *neshamos* of our loved ones in the next world.

Having recently lost their beloved father, Reb Yaakov ben Chaim, z"l, the Levitz family very much wanted to act on this concept and include as many family members as possible in gathering *zechusim* on behalf of their father/grandfather.

An artistically inclined student of Reb Yaakov's daughter designed a whimsical notepad depicting children throwing gift boxes heavenward to illustrate the concept of sending *zechusim* to the *niftar* in *Shamayim*. The notepads were distributed to the *niftar's* grandchildren, who were encouraged to use them to record *mitzvos* they performed *l'iluy nishmas*. The notes were then gathered and

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used to create a beautiful poster. The grandchildren were also given charts filled with gift boxes to keep track of *mitzvos* they did in their grandfather's *zechus*; after performing 50 *mitzvos*, they sent their charts to their grandmother, who rewarded them with a prize.

One family's inspiration became a unique project with everlasting impact.

Shik Mir Pekelach is available as a free CD from www.ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org, or by contacting us at (732) 364-7029 or info@ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org.



Just Released – MiMishnas Lomdei HaChevrah

Volume one of Kuntres MiMishnas Lomdei HaChevrah showcases a compilation of *divrei Torah* by our esteemed team of *yungeleit*, inspired by the *mishnayos* and other topics they are learning. Some of these pieces explore subjects related to mourning, including whether it is proper for the *aveil* to respond *amein* when someone recites the *HaMakom* prayer and why we learn particular *mishnayos* on a *yahrtzeit*. Delve into this collection and enjoy a stimulating variety of pieces, the outgrowth of many hours of dedicated learning on behalf of Chevrah Lomdei Mishnah patrons.

Order your copy from www.ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org or by contacting us at (732) 364-7029 or info@chevrahlomdeimishnah.org.



Advance Preparations, Unforeseen Merit

Several years ago, an elderly *talmid chacham* had the forethought to set up a plan for his future eternal merit. Concerned that his son, due to health issues, would be unable to consistently recite Kaddish, he sponsored eleven months of Kaddish recital through us – to be done in his merit when the time came. He also put much thought into other merits for his future, and although not a man of means, arranged for the completion of *seder Taharos* in time for his *sheloshim* and the rest of *Shishah Sidrei Mishnah* to be completed for the first *yahrtzeit*. Understanding well the value of Kaddish recital and Mishnah study, he took the initiative to ensure that his *neshamah* would benefit from these *zechusim*.

About a year later, this *talmid chacham* passed away, and even before the *kevurah*,

his children called to remind us of our commitments for their father's *neshamah*. We are gratified to be currently fulfilling his wishes.

INCREDIBLE POSTSCRIPT TO THIS STORY

But that wasn't the end of it. There is an incredible postscript to this story:

Several months after we began learning on

behalf of the abovementioned gentleman, we were approached by a woman who had recently lost her mother. She lived in the same neighborhood as the aforementioned man and was friendly with his daughter as well. She had a copy of his agreement with Chevrah Lomdei Mishnah, which had been included in his paperwork, and requested that whatever we were learning on his behalf, we should learn on behalf of her mother's *neshamah* as well. She knew that this man was a *talmid chacham*, had great respect for his decisions and presumed that whatever he had requested would also be of great benefit for her mother!

Not only is this *talmid chacham's* forward thinking benefiting his own *neshamah*, but now he has the *zechus* of benefiting the *neshamah* of someone who passed away after him!

Relief from Grief Podcast

Mrs. Sherri Mandell, author of *The Blessing of a Broken Heart*

Mrs. Toby Klein, Director of Little Links

Mrs. Lori Palatnik, Founding Director of The Jewish Women's Renaissance Project

Mrs. Tali Arieff, LCSW

Mr. Meir Silverstein, LCSW

Mrs. Risa Rotman, author of *Terror and Emunah in Har Nof*

What do these people – and many others – have in common?

All of them have been featured on Mrs. Miriam Ribiat's podcast, Relief from Grief, which is focused on helping listeners find *chizzuk* and comfort in the knowledge that they are not alone.

? *Mrs. Ribiat, what led you to create this podcast?*

MR: Following the release of my book for teens who have lost a parent, *I Wish Someone Would Have Told Me*, we got a significant amount of feedback that adults were finding it helpful too. Unquestionably, there is a great need for support and encouragement in this area, and *hashkafically* appropriate resources are limited.

I did some research and found that while there are many Jewish-themed podcasts available, there are none solely dedicated to Jewish mourning. This podcast is a way to encourage an unlimited number of people who have been touched by loss.

? *Can you share some of the topics your interviewees have addressed so far?*

MR: We are trying to address a wide range of experiences, and our speakers reflect that. We've talked about the importance of expressing your feelings – not keeping them bottled up inside, even when there's nothing concrete to do about them; the balance of being there for family members and not feeling guilty when you can't; *emunah*; how children process loss and how it affects them as they grow up; grief experienced by those who don't have to sit *shivah*, like extended family (grandchildren, in-law children) or close friends. And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

? *How can listeners access the Relief from Grief podcast?*

MR: Either through the Chevrah Lomdei Mishnah website or other major podcast services.



Don't Waste the Wait

Now available – a Yizkor card for those waiting outside during Yizkor.

You can easily maximize the time spent waiting by following along on this card, pre-printed with a *perek* of *Tehillim* and a short Mishnah, as well as the *tefillah* to dedicate the learning *l'iluy nishmas* a loved one.

Order your free copy from www.ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org, or by contacting us at (732) 364-7029 or info@ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org.



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I Wish Someone Would Have Told My Friends

WHEN A TEEN'S CLOSE FRIEND EXPERIENCES THE LOSS OF A PARENT

Friends. Friendship. Acceptance. Approval. For many teens, this is what life is all about. Indeed, more than any other stage in life, it is during the teen years that friends seem to take center stage.

So what happens when a teen's close friend experiences the loss of a parent? How might it affect her relationship with her friend? What are her responsibilities to her friend? How should she process her own feelings if the parent was someone she knew well?

In an effort to reach even more teens who have been affected by loss, Mrs. Miriam Ribiat has built upon her enthusiastically received book for teens who have lost a parent, *I Wish Someone Would Have Told Me*, and produced a booklet geared for **friends** of teens who have lost a parent.

It was late one evening when Ayala heard the heartbreaking news: Shuly's father had been niftar.

After deliberating for a while whether she should call her friend, Ayala picked up the phone. But Shuly didn't want to talk. When Ayala went to be menachem aveil, she felt like a stranger. Shuly barely looked at her and spoke to her even less.

Ayala felt bad. Wasn't this her best friend? Hadn't she been there for Shuly throughout her journey with her sick father? Why was she just ignoring her now?

It was okay for Ayala to admit that she was hurt. But she also needed to understand that Shuly was hurting even more. Her life had just changed so dramatically. She had been thrust into a whole new world.

The new booklet, *I Wish Someone Would Have Told My Friends*, explores

many important topics, including showing support, following the friend's lead, communicating effectively, the importance of speaking up and getting help for oneself when necessary, opportunities for growth, the day of the *yahrtzeit* and so much more. An earlier version has already been distributed at the most recent LINKS Shabbaton this past December, so that girls who have lost a parent can share it with their friends.

The booklet is a valuable resource for parents and educators to offer to teens in their lives whose friends have experienced a loss. It is currently available from www.ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org, or by contacting us at (732) 364-7029 or info@ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org.

