

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM RABBI YITZI

PARSHAS BECHUKOSAI

Who Do You Think You Are?

In this week's Parsha, Bechukosai, we read how being in exile Hashem will remember the promise He made with our forefathers. "And I will remember My covenant with Yaakov and also My covenant with Yitzchak and also My covenant with Avraham..."

Why is the order of our forefathers reversed? First should be Avraham, the oldest, then Yitzchak, his son, and finally Yaakov.

Sometimes it seems that all great people lived in the past. We feel that we are not so holy, but our grandparents were holy. "How could I be expected to be great? How could small me make a difference?"

By reversing the order, the Torah is telling us that though our grandparents were great, we possess qualities and abilities that they did not. If we tap into our G-d-given strengths, we can accomplish wonderful things. We can be great as well.

You may then ask, who am I to aspire for greatness?

One of the qualities Yaakov had over Avraham was that he was the descendant of great and holy people. Yaakov was born great. All he needed to do was to reveal what he already was.

**YOU ARE
GREATER THAN
YOU THINK.
GO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE.**

You too, descend from Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov. You don't have to aspire for greatness. You were born that way. All you need to do is reveal who you are.

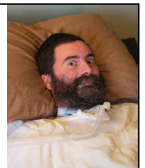
When I was diagnosed with ALS and losing my ability to walk, talk, sing, dance, play the guitar, teach, etc., I was faced with a dilemma: What purpose is there for me? What is there for me to accomplish? What difference can I possibly make?

The answer became clear with the outpouring of love all around me. I saw how wonderful you all are and witnessed greatness from the most unexpected places. It dawned upon me that if my crisis brought out greatness in others, perhaps if I dig deep, I will find some way to make a difference too. I was pleasantly surprised to find that there were still ways for me to make a difference and, what more, even greater than before.

You are greater than you think. Go make a difference.

Dedicated to the memory of Ita bas Shlomo Bistrizky, a woman of valor and mother of a great family.

Despite facing one of life's most difficult challenges, Rabbi Yitzi Hurwitz continues to spread joy and faith to thousands around the globe. Diagnosed in 2012 with ALS, Rabbi Yitzi is now 95% paralyzed and no longer able to speak or breath on his own. Thanks to the miracle of technology, Rabbi Yitzi continues to spread his wisdom through his eyes, focusing on each and every letter of these Torah articles. Rabbi Yitzi, his wife Dina and their seven children are the Rebbe's Shluchim to Temecula, California.



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