

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM RABBI YITZI

PARSHAS KI SEITZEI

Together We Are Strong

In this week's Parsha, Ki Seitzei, we read, "You should not see your brother's donkey or his ox falling on the way and pretend as if you don't see them. You should pick up (the load) with him."

The simple meaning here is to help someone in need.

On a deeper level, it is about seeing someone who has fallen spiritually.

What lessons can we take from here about helping pick up someone who has fallen spiritually?

Many view those less observant than them negatively, ignore them, or even worse, tell them off and denigrate them.

This is a terrible mistake and not the Torah way.

The first thing is to realize that he is your "brother," not an enemy. Treat him with love and brotherhood.

G-D LOVES US MOST WHEN WE ARE TOGETHER.

The next thing is to realize that it is his animal that has fallen, not him. His neshama

is pristine, he is essentially holy and wants to be Hashem's. It is only his "animal," his "physical" situation, nature, and upbringing that put him where he is today.

Then the Torah tells us not to pretend that you don't see him. Ignoring him is a form of

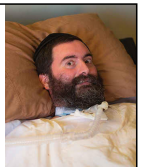
hate towards a fellow Jew, which not only is an essential violation of the Torah, but you will cause him to fall even further.

Finally, help pick up his load with him. By showing him love, you will lift his spirit and strengthen him. Then he will start to pick himself up; you will only need to help.

Now in the month of Elul, we must increase our love towards each other. Overcome and destroy the walls that divide us. Embrace your brother, sister, or friend that you are at odds with. Let us enter the new year united. Hashem loves most when we are together.

Together, our prayers are powerful. Together, Hashem will grant us a good year. Together, He will grant our greatest wish, He will send Moshiach and put an end to this painful, bitter exile.

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.



IN HONOR OF

MOSHE AARON GEISINSKY

AND HIS DEVOTION TOWARDS RABBI YITZI'S WISDOM

הצלחה רבה ובנין עדי עד

· DEDICATED BY ZALMY WEINGARTEN ·

