

# WORDS OF WISDOM FROM RABBI YITZI

לרפואה שלימה ליוסף יצחק בן ברכה

## PARSHAS YISRO

### Doing and Listening

In Parshas Yisro, in preparation for the giving of the Ten Commandments, Hashem says to the Jewish people: "And now, if you will truly listen to My voice, and you will keep My covenant, then you will be a treasure to Me..."

The giving of the Ten Commandments is considered the marriage between Hashem and the Jewish people. What can we learn from here about our relationship with Hashem? How could this help our personal relationship?

The verse stresses two parts of a relationship, listening, "if you will truly listen," and doing, "and you will keep My covenant."

In response to our acceptance of the Torah, we said, "naaseh vinishma," "we will do, and we will listen." So, again, you have doing and listening.

Our relationship with Hashem manifests itself in two ways. First, there is "doing," which means doing mitzvahs and acting in accordance with His laws. Then there is "listening," hearing Hashem's voice; He is sharing part of His essence with us.

The first commandment starts with the word "Anochi," "I Am." Anochi is an acronym for Ana Nafshi Ksavis Yehavis. I have written My essence and given it (to you). Hashem wants us to know Him, and so He embedded His essence in the Torah.

**G-D WANTS MORE THAN JUST ACTIONS. HE WANTS DEPTH TOO.**

Sometimes we get so caught in the doing part, we lose all joy and meaning in what we are

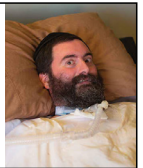
doing. It becomes a soulless action. Hashem wants more. He wants us to know Him, to know what His purpose in creating the world is. He wants more than just actions, He wants depth too.

Chabad Chassidic teachings help you develop this area of our relationship with Hashem.

These two elements are necessary in our personal relationships as well. First, there has to be the doing part, without which a couple simply can't function. However, the listening part is vital to develop a strong, deep, and meaningful relationship. Without listening, the relationship will eventually begin to feel hollow, which is followed by hurt and anger.

Many husbands work hard providing for their family, yet they get the feeling that their wives seem unhappy. Listening could very well be the issue. Learning how to listen will make your relationship more meaningful, and her smile will return.

*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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