

# THE Kibbitzer

Issue 81



## Who was the teacher in the first place Avraham settled? Elon.

You get it? Elon Moreh is the first place Avraham settled when he's Israel. Moreh means teacher. Elon was the teacher. With puns, education comes first.

### RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

**D**ear Rabbi. I thought the members of the shul were nice. Then, I started going to Kiddish. I noticed some violence. What other kinds of violence should I watch out for?

Shalom My Dear Pupil. I have been fighting this violence for years. Other than big fights with the Gabai, when he gives the wrong person an Aliyah, you must watch out for some older members who sit next to you and want your armrest. Here is other kinds of shul violence I've been fighting.

•*Hit You to Say Hello* I don't know what it was. He said 'hello' and hit me. He said 'Rabbi' and whack. I don't fully understand what is going on in their minds. They think they're being friendly by hurting you. I told him, 'Your friendliness injured me. There's no reason to whale on me to say "Shabbat Shalom."' Lesson: Don't be anybody's buddy. When you're their buddy, they hurt you. You want to be an acquaintance or a distant relative. I've even witnessed hugs from close cousins. They squeeze hard. If you're loved, you get nuggies.

•*COVID Elbow* I thought that's how people say 'hi' now. These older men

are attacking people with their elbows. I got one to the chest. He wasn't even a buddy.

•*Kiddish Elbows* Approaching the Kiddish table... Some congregants get violent when it comes to kichel. The closer you get to the babka and herring the more violent it is. They claim their spot with their elbows. Fran I poked me in the eyes when I got near the Danish.

•*The Hand Squeeze* I didn't realize how much ego is behind a 'Good Shabbis' handshake. One shake with an older member lasted three minutes. He wanted me to cower. I held on and didn't give in. There was no 'Good Shabbis' said. We just stared at each other squeezing. Finally, when he let go, we walked away. He gave a little nod. He finally respected his rabbi. The weak ones, who are afraid that you'll defend yourself and squeeze back, take their free hand and cup the handshake with it. It's another power move.

•*Seat Elbow* The shared armrest. That's a fight. The guy next to you won't look at you, but he'll throw elbows... And watch out for children when candy is being thrown. They're throwing elbows too. Until there is less violence in shul, be sure to protect yourself.

### SERMON OF REBUKE- VAYEIRA

**S**habbat Shalom My Pupils... Kaddish is making people sick. Your Kaddish is such a downer, The monotone is depressing. We need a more upbeat Kaddish. You visit the sick... I know we all feel sick after hearing that Kaddish...

You visit the sick. You welcome guests. You do a decent Kaddish. Kids don't run on the Bima. And you host correctly. Zerizut. You hurry to do Mitzvahs... You visit the sick like the angels, and you act fast, like Avraham... I don't know how fast the angels walked. They didn't stop off for a drink on the way... You don't visit the sick fast. You do it...

Avraham couldn't move and he moved faster than the Chazin... It's a long Davening.

(Bereishit 18:6) 'And Avraham hurried to the tent to Sarah, and he said, "Hurry up... and make cake." And Avraham ran to the cattle...' He didn't make his guests wait, like with your long depressing Kaddishes... You didn't even serve meat. It was Beyond Burger. That's not meat... It's a vegi-patty... Avraham didn't deceive his guests... That is where the tradition of men manning the grill comes from... Avraham was sick and he was less lazy than you... The only people running in this shul are the kids... They're excited to jump on the Bima and slide down the handrails... The banister is not monkey bars. Be a parent....

*Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha:*

The congregants got the wrong message. They started doing everything faster. The Amidah was done in thirty-five seconds. Working on Kaddish synchronizations isn't easy. If there's a good mourners' choir, the depressing drone will be overshadowed. The rabbi had the Kaddish people practicing in acapella form. The board suggested a band to back them up. Fools.

## SHUL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We are asking parents to donate a slide, so the kids have something to do when they come up for Adon Olam. Many of the congregants are not happy that the kids are running around the Bima and sliding down the handrails. A slide in shul will help with decorum. The kids know that you wait in line for the slide.**

**Kids must not show off their candy in the front of the shul. Many congregants are getting jealous and jealousy is forbidden. From now on, if the kids are bringing candy into shul the youth director has to bring sour sticks for everybody. Candy men cannot discriminate against the elderly either.**

**We're changing the Shul Kaddish sayer. He's depressing everybody. People are walking away from Kaddish too depressed.**

**Visit the sick. Something people in this congregation should do. It's an announcement because nobody does it.**



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