



The Rebbe's Farbrengens

Throughout the past year, the staff at Jewish Educational Media have steadily released full videos of the Rebbe's Farbrengens for each month's Yom Tov or Yoma D'Pagra. This has benefitted thousands of Bochorim and Anash alike. The Farbrengens are viewed in all Yeshivos and in many communities and are literally "*Mechaye nefoshos*"; a pleasure to participate in. Almost like the delight of standing at a real Farbrengen... (if that is at all possible)

Many Bochorim have been asking if this is indeed such a

vital part of bochor's life. "Why can't we suffice with learning the Rebbe's Torah as it has been published and as it appears in its printed form? Must we strain ourselves and stretch our attention-spans to their limits, attempting to follow along as the Rebbe speaks?"

Well, there are many ways to answer this question. It's true, the Rebbe's Torah can be accessed in its printed form, but there is something unique about hearing the sicha coming from the Rebbe directly, in its original form, his own words.



Let us first understand why it's important to learn the Rebbe's Torah in general.

Again, there are many answers to this question and this point can be clarified in more than one way, but let's attempt to touch upon one aspect of the many:

The Rebbe shows us how to fulfill our purpose

Hashem put us into this world for a purpose. We are not

here by mere accident *Chas v'sholom*. The purpose is (as it says in the Mishna and quoted all over Chassidus, especially – literally thousands of times – in the Rebbe's sichos): “*Ani ni'veisi le'shamesh es koini*”. I.e. to serve Hashem by learning Torah and doing Mitzvos, transforming the world into a place where Hashem can have a *Dira B'tachtonim*.

The task we were given is very clear. The problem is that once we're here in *Oilam Hazei* it becomes very difficult to stay focused. Hashem created the world in such a way that what is

true and important becomes concealed, covered over and difficult to recognize. We often don't realize what is expected of us. We tend to forget why we were sent down here and how we are supposed to utilize *Oilam Haze* for the right purposes.

The solution to this is found in the Rebbe's *sichos*. Firstly, it is a constant reminder to stay focused on our mission and not get distracted by the things around us. Secondly, the Rebbe also teaches us **how** to see the things around us as a part of our job to serve the *Aibershter*.

When we learn the Rebbe's *sichos*, we are reminded of what a great privilege it is to be a Yid - we are capable of fulfilling the ultimate mission for which the world was created. True, it's often very difficult - but why should that concern us?

The Rebbe explains to us what a *Neshoma* is and why it came down here. What it means to learn Torah and do a Mitzvah. What is Shabbos, what is a Yom Tov, what should I live with now, what's today's special significance etc.

All of this in such beautiful *oisiyos*, in the Rebbe's words - telling us what our Avodas Hashem means and infusing a true *Chayus* into it.

The Rebbe, leading our generation, knows what people on our level and with our challenges, need. He knows what speaks to us and what motivates us, and gives us the direction. It is clear that the Rebbe's Torah speaks to us personally.

A Bright Light

Let us conclude this point with the famous *mashol* that the Rebbe says very often at Farbrengens about someone who enters into a dark room and can't see anything. The only thing he can do is feel his way around, and even then he can barely tell what things are. He doesn't know if this is a table and he's meant to eat on it, if it's a chair and he's meant to sit on it, or what. Suddenly someone turns on the light; all of a sudden everything becomes visible! Everything is so clear, now you know what each thing is meant for.

The Rebbe's Farbrengen are exactly that. The Rebbe sheds light on every single issue in the world, showing you clearly what everything really is and how to utilize it for Avodas Hashem. Without his words we are simply in the dark.

The primary way that the Rebbe communicated his Torah with his Chassidim throughout the years was through the Farbrengens. There is nothing in the world that can serve as a substitute for listening to the Rebbe himself talk to you. There is no other way to get to "know the Rebbe" and really appreciate what he gives us then by listening or watching Farbrengens.

Besides, when you participate in a Farbrengen it rips you away, at least for a little bit, from the garbage and tumult of *Oilam Haze*. It's really an unbelievable and very real way to feel a connection to the Rebbe.

The Upcoming Farbrengen

The upcoming Farbrengen to be released is Yud-Tes Kislev, 5744. It's a long Farbrengen filled with rich Sichos on a wide array of topics.

Perhaps of the more famous ones is the Sichah in which the Rebbe launched the new "Mivtza" to institute the recitation of "*Hareini Me'kabel*" and "*Ach Tzaddikim*" in all Kehillos. It prompted a major storm in the Jewish world including many interesting accounts and episodes (which will be recorded -*Bli Neder*- in a special edition of "Leben Mitten Rebben" soon to be published).

There was also a very sharply articulated Sichah about the "Mihu Yehudi", and much, much more.

Be sure to participate in that Farbrengen - in body and spirit alike. *Ta'amu ur'u ki tov Hashem!*

