

לזכות החייל בצבאות ה' השליח מנחם מענדל שיחי' לרגל יום הולדתו **י"ד מנחם אב** Ъ

נדפס ע"י הוריו הרה"ת ר' דוד וזוגתו מרת **פערל גאלדא** ומשפחתם</mark> שיחיו מינרמול

דער רבי וועט געפינען אַ וועג

WRITTEN BY: RABBIL EVI GREENBERG







AS TOLD BY
RABBI BORUCH SHOLOM DAVIDSON
AND NESANEL ZHIVALYUK

ф

(Bala Cynwyd, PA)

Rabbi Boruch Sholom Davidson: In the summer of 5782 we arranged a community trip to the Ohel as one of our *peulos* at Chabad of the Main Line. Baruch Hashem, a nice group joined us for the three-hour trip by coach bus; I had prepared a program for the ride, including videos of the Rebbe, stories, and some learning content. This was on Sunday, 25 Tammuz. After the Ohel, we had a program nearby, and the entire project was a beautiful success.

On a personal note, during that trip I was focused on an important juncture in our Shlichus. Approximately two years earlier, during Covid, we started a minyan in our backyard for the Yidden living in our neighborhood, and by now we were ready to officially open a satellite of Chabad of the Main Line in Bala Cynwyd, called "Bala Chabad." We needed to move out of our backyard tent to a proper space before Tishrei, but nothing was available in the neighborhood where we had seen our success. In my *tzetel* I asked the Rebbe for a bracha that we should succeed in setting up a proper Chabad House before Tishrei.

There was a building near our home that seemed a perfect fit but when I had researched the matter some months earlier, the management said they were not interested in renting the space.

On the morning of 19 Av, I walked into the building's management office to explore the matter further and met the company's Chief Financial Officer who was happy to

O A Chassidisher Derher / Elul 5784 *⊞ 5782-2022

chat. During our conversation, I mentioned the idea of using the space for services during the High Holidays. Though not Jewish, as a religious person, he found the idea very meaningful and said he would ask the owners on my behalf.

I continued visiting him over the next few days and eventually I was introduced to one of the property owners. On 28 Menachem Av, they agreed to allow me to use the space, not just for Rosh Hashanah, but on Friday nights as well, and any other time I wanted for the next six months.

Throughout this time, I updated the Rebbe on our progress. On Tuesday, 3 Elul, I notified the Rebbe that I would receive the key to the building that day. Immediately, I placed a Tzedaka Pushka, a Tanya, and several other *seforim* in the space to dedicate it as a Chabad House.

Since the building had not been used for a long time, it needed a new AC system and other updates, so I reached out to Nesanel Zhivalyuk, a Lubavitcher chossid in our community who works in real estate, to get his professional assistance in preparing the room for use on Rosh Hashanah.

On Thursday night, Nesanel came over with his HVAC technician and at one point I left them there so I could lead the minyan for Mincha, as I was still in *aveilus* for my father. Afterward, I went to the supermarket and bought Nesanel and his technician something to eat in appreciation for the time they were investing in our new Chabad House. When Nesanel offered me some cash as payment for the food I refused to accept it. Instead, he placed the pile of single dollar bills from his pocket next to the Pushka for the first ten visitors to use for Tzedaka.

On Sunday morning, 8 Elul, while walking with my children in the neighborhood I decided to show them the new space. Once inside, as I was fiddling around with the alarms, my son Mendel found the pile of dollars Nesanel had placed next to the Pushka three days earlier and called out to me, "Tatty! Is this a dollar from the Rebbe?"

I rushed over and sure enough, the dollar he was holding had the following words written on the top edge:

נתקבל מכ"ק אד"ש ט' שבט בביקורי עם חבר כנסת ...

"Received from the Rebbe 9 Shevat during my visit with the member of Knesset ... " [the name was smudged out and I could not decipher it.]

On the middle of the dollar bill was written: כפליים - a double portion of blessing.

Clearly, a dollar someone had received from the Rebbe had been discovered in the brand new Chabad House about which I had written to the Rebbe during my last visit to the Ohel and had materialized so miraculously over the last few weeks! I cannot describe the feelings I felt... The power of the moment was so intense I started dancing with my children out of sheer joy. The Rebbe had just sent me such a clear sign of his *brachos* for our new Chabad House, and my excitement was boundless!

I realized the dollar had come from Nesanel's pocket. He had not been to the Rebbe before Gimmel Tammuz and certainly did not receive any dollars from the Rebbe. I assumed he was unaware of the precious treasure he had in his possession until the past Thursday evening, so I immediately called him with the news.

Nesanel Zhivalyuk: When Rabbi Davidson called me that Sunday morning I put him on speaker so my wife could hear about it directly from him. The news was exhilarating for us for several reasons.

The community trip to the Ohel we had joined a month earlier was unique for me. While I have been to the Ohel many times before, this was the first time we had joined an organized trip. Traveling by coach



bus, together with the community, with Rabbi Davidson sharing inspiration for hours, was the perfect way to prepare for being at the Ohel.

Also, whereas in the past everything in my life had been going well, and I usually wrote to the Rebbe about general things and requested general *brachos*, this was the first time that I had some pressing issues on my mind which I shared with the Rebbe and for which I requested specific *brachos*. Some family members were seriously ill, and my business had taken a drastic turn for the worse. Most importantly, my wife was pregnant with twins after two recent miscarriages. The circumstances of her pregnancy made the doctors extra cautious, and they were giving her a hard time regarding her preferences, which was causing her much stress.

Now, several weeks later, a dollar from the Rebbe with the words כפליים לתושי' written on it (double = twins) was in our hands! I don't think I had ever held a dollar from the Rebbe or even seen one until then. At that moment I felt as if the whole world was lifted off my shoulders, and I was certain all the problems would work out for the best. With the dollar in our possession, we felt that we received a direct *bracha* from the Rebbe and all of our worries and anxieties just melted away. Baruch Hashem, during Sukkos

my wife gave birth to beautiful, healthy, twin girls.

While we were gratified to have this special dollar, clearly it belonged to someone else and we wished to return it to its original owner. In fact, the week we discovered it, my wife was listening to a parsha class by Rabbi YY Jacobson which was all about the mitzvah of Hashovas Aveida. He even mentioned specific examples of when one is obligated to return a lost object. If one finds a dollar bill in Times Square, there is no need to return it, but if there are significant markings on it, one is obligated to try to find the owner. With the encouragement and recommendation of friends, I contacted JEM with a photo of the dollar, but after some research, they were unsuccessful in tracking down the owner.

In the meantime, we framed the dollar and placed it prominently in our home.

To be continued...

YOUR STORY

Share your story with A Chassidisher Derher by emailing stories@derher.org.