



# OUR MIRACLE!

## A GROUP OF STUDENTS

8 Adar 5720

*On 8 Adar 5720, a group of college students gathered in the Rebbe room for a yechidus. During the yechidus they asked the Rebbe many questions about Chassidus, kiruv, Eretz Yisroel and a number of other topics. The Rebbe answered them in great detail. Included below are a few selections of that yechidus edited by the Rebbe in English. The full transcript can be found at [chabad.org/392177](http://chabad.org/392177), or in Hebrew in *Toras Menachem* vol. 20, p. 394.*

The Rebbe started off the *yechidus* with a short *sicha*, saying that the meeting is taking place in an auspicious time—the year of the Baal Shem Tov’s 200th *yahrtzeit*. The Baal Shem Tov taught, in word and by example, the importance of educating Jewish children. He would teach young children that Hashem isn’t an abstract concept, but that Hashem is near to each and every person, and every person can bring him or herself close to Hashem.

The Baal Shem tov lived in a time when the Yidden were in despair, following the pogroms of Chmielnicki *ym*’s. The Baal Shem Tov showed them how to live a life of Torah and mitzvos, notwithstanding the persecution.

In our time, too, the Rebbe said, following the terrible Holocaust, during which Hitler *ym*’s wiped out one-third of the world’s Jewry, we must all reach out and spread Torah and the observance of mitzvos around the world.

*The students proceeded to ask a number of questions, and the Rebbe answered each question after it was asked.*

**Question:** The Rebbe said that one should spread Torah. How and in what manner is this to be done?

**The Rebbe:** Everyone must do as much as possible in his immediate surroundings by speaking with other people in a way that shows his certainty and confidence in the matter, for confidence is a characteristic of the youth specifically. An older person is often beset with doubts and hesitations, while the young are sure of themselves. It is this characteristic that we must utilize in spreading Torah and Mitzvos, and everyone must work at 100% capacity.

Every means must be employed: the newspaper, the radio. But, above all, the most vital is the personal example we set in our everyday living.

**Question:** What was the role that the Baal Shem Tov played in the Chasidic movement?

**The Rebbe:** We can understand what the Baal Shem Tov did by the simile of the relationship of an electric powerhouse with a lamp that is connected to it by a wire. In order to light his lamp, one must find the right switch, or push the correct button. The soul of every Jew is a part of and is connected with G-d Almighty, but in order for one to enjoy the great benefits of it, the correct switch must be found or the proper button pushed. It was the Baal

נדפס לזכות הורינו  
ר' פסח ושרה יהודית שיחיו נוסכונים  
בקשר להתחלת  
שנת הארבעים לנשואיהם  
ביום בדר"ח תמוז, ה'תשל"ט

נדפס ע"י ילדיהם  
ר' עקיבא לייב וזוגתו רבקה מלכה ומשפחתם,  
ר' חיים יהושע, ר' יוסף יצחק וזוגתו לאה  
ר' דוד שמחה וזוגתו מרים ומשפחתם  
איטא חנה ברכה  
ובעלה ר' אברהם יעקב הלוי ומשפחתם לוי  
הת' זאב וחי' מושקא שיחיו נוסכונים



Shem Tov's mission to explain and proclaim that every Jew without exception is connected with "the powerhouse," and every one of them has a switch in his innermost being, that will be found if searched for.

So too, every one of us in our own work in strengthening Judaism, must try to find the switch in the soul of every Jew. One can never know what will make the connection, perhaps one word. But by this, you open up the well or inner fountain of his soul.

**Question:** Why is Chabad so successful in its activities?

**The Rebbe:** Today everyone tries to understand before he does something. I am not discussing whether this is good or bad, but only stating a fact. Everyone requires proofs and understanding. Chabad Chasidus provides it. It explains aspects of Judaism so that they can be understood by the intellect. As a Chabad Chasid I have a more categorical answer: I have no doubt that Chabad Chasidus is the Truth and Truth must be successful.

**Question:** What is the function of a Rebbe?

**The Rebbe:** As was said earlier, to find the switch in every Jew and help him become connected with the power house.

**Question:** How far does the power of the Rebbe extend in natural law? Does the Rebbe have preferred status as regards prayer?

[Someone added that what is meant is whether the Rebbe can perform miracles.]

**The Rebbe:** This world is not separate from the higher worlds but is another step, the last one, in a long chain of worlds.

Everything in this world comes from and is influenced by the higher ones. A miracle is something that happens which you could not have calculated. When a Jew connects himself through his Divine spark with G-d through fervent

prayer, Torah, and Mitzvos, he can affect things in this physical world "from above"—that means by a way which is beyond calculation. This power is not the prerogative of one Jew but of every Jew.



*Rabbi Gurewitz, of the Brooklyn Hillel Foundation, thanked the Rebbe for the interview and started to leave, but then the Rebbe said:*

Now I want to ask you a question, and at the same time try to perform a miracle.

Everything has a purpose. What was the purpose of our coming together here tonight? Certainly it was not merely to ask questions and receive answers, good or bad. Rather it was to achieve something.

All of us here are young, myself included, and have tens of years yet before us. Since six million of our people in Russia, Poland and Hungary have been lost to us through Hitler, we have a special task to accomplish—the work that they could have done, at least a major part of it.

Everyone counts. No Jew is expendable. We all must work to the fullest capacity, every one of us. In our day-to-day life we must use our full strength to add to the side of good, and by this we will gain a life of happiness and harmony—and all this can be done only through a life of Torah and Mitzvos tested by our 3,500 year history. This obligation lies upon every Jew and G-d has given him the power to carry this through successfully.

And if each of us, beginning tomorrow, should add in his own personal life more Torah and Mitzvos and influence the environment in the same direction, if we all will do this, myself included, this indeed will be our miracle. **T**