



# דער רבי וועט געפינען א וועג...

לזכות  
הת' מנחם מענדל שיחי'  
לרגל הגיעו לעול מצות  
כ"ה כסלו נר א' דחנוכה ה'תשע"ט

נדפס ע"י  
הרה"ת ר' לוי יצחק  
וזוגתו מרת מרים יוכבד  
ומשפחתם שיחיו  
גאלדשטיין

# Mission Accomplished

AS TOLD BY HATOMIM ELAZAR COHEN (ASHKELON, ISRAEL)

I was *niskarev* to the Rebbe and Chassidus during the time of my *bar mitzvah* through the efforts of Rabbi and Mrs. Mendel Wolf, the shlichim in my neighborhood in Neve Ilan, Ashkelon. In my unique situation, I needed to buy both pairs of tefillin, Rashi and Rabbeinu Tam, on my own, which was very difficult. Ever since then, I have committed to helping others buy Rabbeinu Tam tefillin, an expense of 1,000 NIS. *Baruch Hashem*, I was always able to raise the money, until one day in Shevat 5775\*, when a friend of mine in the yeshiva in Ashkelon asked me to help him buy a pair.

I was in a bind. Less than a month ago I had collected considerable money for Chanukah *mitvzoim*, and Purim was right around the corner, so I felt uncomfortable soliciting such large amounts of money from the same people so soon. I told my friend that I can help him with the money around Yud-Alef Nissan time, and I planned to save up money for the next 10 weeks to put together the necessary funds.

During a farbrengen on Yud Shevat (which occurred on a Thursday night) it occurred to me that I had made a mistake. The Rebbe wants every *tomim* in Tomchei Temimim to



own his own pair of Rabbeinu Tam tefillin, yet here I am delaying it for two months. “This is not *lechatchila ariber!*” I said to myself. Right then, I decided to make the effort to raise the money the next day on *mitvzoim*.

The next morning, Yud Shevat, I wrote a *pan* to the Rebbe mentioning the issue and committed to finish up the project by 15 Shevat. The Yidden I met on *mitvzoim* that day responded enthusiastically to my request and before Shabbos I had managed to collect 700 NIS.

Sunday evening, 12 Shevat, I wrote an email to Amos Azaria, a wonderful Yid who has a construction business and always donates to worthy Yiddishe causes. I explained that although he had only recently donated large sums to help out my *mitvzoim*, and he had also recently gotten married, this project was very special and urgent and perhaps he would consider donating the remaining 300 NIS.

Monday and Tuesday passed with no answer from Amos. Wednesday night I was very worried. Amos usually responded to my messages quickly, and this time four days passed with no response. I was also under immense pressure to collect the needed funds before 15 Shevat and I had no one else to turn to.

I suddenly remembered the story of Rabbi Yisroel Deren, the Rebbe’s shliach to Stamford. He had arranged a *siyum sefer Torah* and a large concert in the early days of his shlichus and the reservations for the event were very low.

On the Shabbos before the event, remembering the story of Reb Mendel Futerfas who wrote a *pan* to the Rebbe in his mind while he was in Russian prison, Rabbi Deren did the same, and the event the next day was a phenomenal success. (See *Derher Tammuz 5778*.)

I decided to do the same. On my way to the dormitory I thought in my mind, “Rebbe, please help me. You know that I pushed myself beyond my limits only to bring you *nachas ruach*. There is no way that I cannot give my friend 1,000 NIS tomorrow for his Rabbeinu Tam tefillin. Please help me!” I immediately felt encouraged that it will all work out.

Five minutes later (!) I received a phone call from an unknown number. Amos’s brother Idan was on the line.

“Hi, Elazar. Amos and his wife are on vacation in Thailand. He received an email from you on Sunday, but did not immediately respond to you because of the time difference. He feels so sorry that he forgot about your message until literally five minutes ago. He just sent me a WhatsApp message asking me to transfer the money to you and to let you know about it before you go to sleep.”

I was stunned and elated. Mission accomplished! 📌

## YOUR STORY

Share your story with A Chassidisher Derher by emailing [stories@derher.org](mailto:stories@derher.org).