

## "You Were Also Blessed"



AS TOLD BY

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(RECHASIM, ERETZ YISROEL)

Rechasim is a town in Northern Eretz Yisroel mainly populated by frum Jews and is called "ממלכת התורה בצפון".—
The Torah Kingdom of the North." We moved here on shlichus in Elul 5771\* and our main focus is encouraging the locals to learn Chassidus.

Over time I became friendly with a certain fellow who I will call Dovid¹ despite the fact that he had a negative perspective on Lubavitch. We would meet from time to time in shul or on the street and have friendly conversations but he never accepted my invitations to learn Chassidus.

Dovid and his wife were married for eight years but sadly not blessed with children. They tried everything and

were disappointed with the results.

Every month the shluchim in Eretz Yisroel raffle off a trip to the Rebbe and for Menachem Av 5779 I won the raffle to represent the participating shluchim that month. I booked a flight for Thursday evening to spend Shabbos Mevarchim Elul at the Ohel.

Several days before my departure I met Dovid and offered to mention him and his wife at the Ohel for a *bracha* to have children. He eagerly provided me with the relevant information and thanked me for thinking about him. "At this point I am ready to try anything," he said.

During the month of Teves I met Dovid and he asked

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me if I remembered the exact day I was at the Ohel during my last trip. When he heard that it was Erev Shabbos Mevarchim Elul, he nodded and said, "Baruch Hashem we are expecting our first child!" He clearly associated this surprising and tremendous development with the Rebbe's bracha.

Due to the COVID lockdowns which started after Purim I did not see Dovid until the middle of Sivan when the shuls started opening up. With some hesitation I said to him, "It's awkward to ask this, but has there been any good news yet?"

"Yes!" Dovid said beaming as he shook my hand vigorously. "My wife gave birth to a healthy baby boy two weeks ago!" After eight years of waiting...

A month later I saw Dovid again and suggested that since his son was born due to the Rebbe's *bracha* it would be appropriate for him to have a letter in the *sefer Torah* for children, in accordance with the Rebbe's express wishes. He agreed to fill out the form and pay for the letter but begged me to ensure that his name

did not show up in any Chabad related databases. It should be completely anonymous.

During our conversation I mentioned that my wife had given birth to a baby girl two weeks earlier. "Hold on," Dovid said enthusiastically. "That means you also received a special *bracha* from the Rebbe when you were at the Ohel!"

Although I had not thought of it this way, specifically this fellow—who had just experienced a miraculous *bracha* from the Rebbe and yet was still uncomfortable having his name in a Chabad database—understood that what I had taken for granted was in truth a tremendous *bracha* from the Rebbe. ①

## YOUR STORY

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