

## Parshas Mikeitz

December 26 2024 - Kislev 25 5785

Yeshivas Torah Ore would like to take this opportunity to wish talmidim, parents, alumni, friends and all of Klal Yisrael a Happy Chanukah!

## PARSHAS MIKEITZ RABBI MORDCHE GURWITZ

This week's Parsha begins with Paraoh having two dreams none of which his wise men were capable of offering an acceptable interpretation. Whereupon Paraoh's butler approached and related his past jailhouse experience of Yosef HaTzadik successfully interpreting dreams. As a result, Paraoh orders Yosef's release in the proverbial blink of an eve and Yosef the Dreamer was destined to become Yosef the Ruler.

The Chofetz Chaim notes that the pasuk makes special mention of Yosef being rushed, to teach that salvation of Hashem comes in the blink of an eye. Sometimes a person finds himself in a situation in which he cannot imagine how the situation is going to be rectified. From one moment to the next, light appears at the end of the tunnel and salvation comes in a flash.

Although we understand how we instantaneously stand to gain at any given time. The next step is how to capitalize on the salvation that presents itself. As such, what can we glean from Yosef's actions in this moment? How did he handle this sudden and shocking moment of unpreparedness?

Yosef's actions are a powerful textbook performance on how to own life. He proclaims that Hashem will interpret Paraoh's dream, proceeds to listen to the dream, interpret the dream, and offers sage advice to Paraoh. He does not wallow in his past despair, worry about his unpreparedness, and let the past 12 years drag him down. Rather he embraced this moment, however shocking and unexpected as it was, and rose to the occasion to bring out the best in himself. He seized an opportunity, focused on the reality, and utilized the given situation to its fullest. He subconsciously said - this is my life right now and I will do my best.

Isn't a lot of life filled with these moments? We go about our business, based on our own frail human calculations, expecting the world to follow along our predetermined path. When all of a sudden, we're pulled off that



Heartfelt Mazel Tov wishes to:

Avraham Shimon Weinreb on his recent engagement.

Rabbi Dovid Lipman on his son's wedding.

path and find ourselves face to face with the most unexpected circumstances. Unexpected losses, unexpected joys, people in need, opportunities to help, risks of hurting – the list goes on and on. Inevitably, life doesn't go as planned.

There are countless times in life when we encounter shocking moments of unpreparedness. This parsha doesn't only reaffirm our belief that salvation is instantaneous, but it also guides us how to act when we are called to play the unscripted parts of life.

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