Care for Everyone

The outcry of Sdom and Amorah is great. Their sin is very grave (Bereshis 18:20). With this, Hashem informed Avraham Avinu that He was going to destroy Sdom. “Will You destroy the isedlik along with the rasha? (Bereshis 18:23). Avraham Avinu pleaded with Him to overturn the judgment. He wanted Hashem to have mercy on the Sdomites. Could it be? Avraham Avinu stood for the opposite of Sdom. He spent his whole life engaged in chessed and sanctifying Hashem’s Name, while the people of Sdom were doing nothing but cruel acts and desecrating Hashem’s Name. One might think that when Avraham Avinu heard that Sdom would be destroyed, he would be happy. His biggest enemies in this world were finally getting what they deserved. However, Avraham was such a caring person, that he wanted them to do tishuvah (correct their evil ways) rather than die. Therefore, he prayed that they might be saved.

Kinderlach... Last week we spoke about how tefillos help prevent trouble from coming. Now we see how to make our tefillos most effective. Daven in the same place. It is even a halacha in Shulchan Aruch Orach Chaim 59:19. Do your part to help defeat the enemies of the Jewish people. Daven in a makom kavuah.

Kinderlach... We are working for the World’s Best Boss. He knows us inside and out. He has given us a job perfectly suited for our talents. Sometimes the job is easy, sometimes it is hard. When it gets difficult, we have to remember one thing. Our abilities are greater than we can imagine. Hashem wants us to develop to our fullest potential. Therefore, He tests us. Pass the test. Move up to the next job level. Great things await you.

A Fixed Place

Where are you going, Shimi? "I am going to daven. Yanky." "But aren’t you going the wrong way?" "There is another shul over there that I am going to today." "You don’t go to the same shul every time to daven?" "Not really, Yanky. Should I?" "Avraham Avinu davened in a makom kavuah (fixed place)." "How do you know that?" "The Torah says, Avraham arose early in the morning to the place where he had stood before Hashem" (Bereshis 19:27). The Gemora explains that he prayed in the same place as before (Berachos 6b)." "Still, what is so important about that?" "The Gemora adds that the Gemara adds that the G-d of Avraham will help anyone who fixes place for davening. When he passes away they will say, ‘What a kind and righteous person.’ Also, his enemies will fall before him." "That is especially important in these times, when our enemies threaten us from all sides. "Exactly, Shimi. Tefillos (prayers) always help. However, when you daven in a makom kavuah they help even more."