

פרשת אמור

May 1, 2026

This week in review!

Last week, the Chevra had the incredible Zechus to visit **Rabbi Eli Mansour** at his beautiful Edmond J. Safra Shul on Ocean Parkway! From the moment we walked in, there was a special feeling in the air. The shul had been set aside just for us, and as we took our seats, you could sense that something meaningful was about to unfold. Within moments, Rabbi Mansour entered and began sharing Divrei Torah, immediately captivating the entire room. The Chevra listened intently—when Rabbi Mansour speaks, people naturally lean in, and this was no exception. His words were powerful, relatable, and deeply inspiring. One of the main messages he shared was the importance of always weighing the “loss” versus the “reward” of a mitzvah. At times, doing a mitzvah may feel like it comes at a cost—whether it’s time, effort, or even money. But what we often fail to see is the true reward. A mitzvah, he reminded us, is eternal. While money comes and goes, the spiritual gain of doing the right thing lasts forever. When a person lives with that mindset, constantly thinking about the lasting value of a mitzvah, it becomes so much easier to make the right choices, both in this world and for the next.

Rabbi Mansour brought this idea to life with a beautiful Mashal that spoke directly to our visit. One might wonder: is it really worth all the effort, organizing transportation, sitting in traffic, finding parking—just to hear a short 15-minute talk? Maybe if it was a long program with a full meal and extended learning, it would seem more “worth it.” But he challenged that way of thinking. Imagine being given 15 minutes inside a vault, with the ability to take whatever you





want—would anyone hesitate? Of course not. Even if it meant traveling for hours, it would be unquestionably worthwhile.

“So too,” he explained, “these moments of Torah are like a vault.” Even a short amount of time filled with genuine Torah and inspiration carries immeasurable, eternal value. It was a perspective that truly resonated with everyone in the room.

In the end, Rabbi Mansour spoke for well over 30 minutes, going far beyond what we expected. He was so impressed by the Chevra that he warmly invited us to return for another visit after the summer, IY”H. We then presented Rabbi Mansour with a new Sefer that the Chevra recently purchased, to give to him as a gift. He really appreciated it! He concluded by giving heartfelt Brachos to the entire group, and after taking a few memorable group picture, we made our way back, uplifted, inspired, and carrying with us the lasting impact of a very special visit.

Back at the Chevra, during our art class with **Fayge**, the guys have been busy creating their very own set of planters in honor of Shavuos. The project has been a fun hands-on experience from start to finish. To create the planters the guys were shown how to mix and pour the plaster into cups, with a smaller weighted cup inserted in the middle to create a space for the plant. After the plaster dried, the pots were carefully removed from the molds. IY”H, we will continue to work on decorating and planting over the next few weeks. The guys are looking forward to bringing them home in time for Shavuos, and everyone will be able to enjoy the beautiful planters they created.

In the kitchen with **Anat**, we baked delicious falafel balls during our baking activity. We blended up the chickpeas with an assortment of spices and we had a chance to roll out the falafel balls onto the oven sheets ready for baking. It came out of the oven looking really professional and it tasted really good. The following



week, we baked apple muffins! First, we started out by peeling many apples and then with the ingredients together, mixed them all up. Each of the guys had a chance with the scooper to scoop out the muffin batter into the trays. When it came out of the oven, we really enjoyed how delicious they tasted. We had some extra muffins, so we packed it up to bring with us on our next trip.

A very happy birthday to **Shmuel Zakon** and **Shamshon Glassman**.

Shmuel and Shamshon each went and picked out their own birthday cakes to celebrate with the Chevra. Thank you for sponsoring the delicious cakes. Happy birthday to you both and may you have many more birthday's in good health and happiness, Ad Me'ah Ve'esrim Shanah!

Special reminder: The Shabbaton is a few weeks away; please remember to send in all the paperwork and payment as per the paperwork sent, so a final count can be made. Please let me know if anyone would like to receive a hard copy of the paperwork. We are looking forward to an exciting and rewarding Shabbos together!

Have a great Shabbos!

Mr. Kerper

A Vort on Parshas Emor:

"You shall rebuke your fellow man and you shall not bear sin because of him." The Chofetz Chaim frequently told public speakers to focus on the great value and beauty of following the Torah way of life. Most people suffer enough already and it is improper to add to their suffering by arousing guilt feelings. What needs to be stressed is the great blessing one will find in following the Torah and the elevation and enrichment of performing good deeds and improving one's character traits. It is a mistake to think that the way to correct others is by embarrassing and humiliating them. This is clearly forbidden even when trying



to correct someone. In trying to motivate someone to do something, there are two possible patterns. You can try to show the person how he will benefit by doing it and therefore he will want to do it for the positive gain. The other choice is to threaten a person with dire warnings of the harm in not doing it. The Chofetz Chaim, who was imbued with great love for Hashem and love for people, stressed focusing on the positive. Let this be your guide. **Rav Eliyahu Eliezer Dessler A"H ZYA** would never censure any of his students in a personal way. Rather, he would give general talks on the benefits of having positive traits and on the harm and loss of negative traits. Someone once complained to the Chazon Ish that Rav Dessler was not showing toughness towards his students. But the Chazon Ish agreed with Rav Dessler's approach. Because it is preferable to draw someone to positive qualities by influencing him to want to have the positive trait rather than forcing someone to act positively. *[source: Growth through Torah]*

Have a wonderful Shabbos.

A few jokes for you...

Q. Did you hear about the guy who got hit on his head with a soda?

A. Don't worry; he was okay because it was a soft drink!

Q. Why did the reporter go to the ice cream shop?

A. Because he wanted to get the scoop! (As told by Moshe Balser)

Q. How much does a chimney cost?

A. Nothing, it's on the house! (As told by Moshe Balser)

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