



“Remember It's Only Half Time”

October 2016

Did you ever find yourself in a position where you are being used as a sounding board for a friend and you find yourself actually being richer and more inspired by just listening? After attending one of our roll calls,

I was approached by a dad who said "I had a tough weekend, I just sent my first daughter off to college, and I am not sure who has it harder to say good-bye, the parent or the child. But the toughest part was reassuring her that she'll be okay on her own. I tried to remind her that she will face challenges and tribulations, but with faith and prayer, it is easier to climb the mountain called life". I was thinking to myself, don't we all worry about our 'tomorrows', always worried how things will turn out?

It reminded me of a great story, I heard from a friend of mine, a Doctor of Psychiatry, whose expertise is treating substance abuse. He said "Rabbi let me share with you a story that will put a smile on your heart".

"Remember its Only Half Time".....The Doctor continued, "One day I attended a meeting of recovering alcoholics. The speaker was a young woman of thirty-five. She had started drinking alcohol at twelve and using drugs at fifteen.

This led to delinquent, rebellious, decadent behavior. A troubled teenager to say the least. In spite of suffering the consequences of living on the street, she was a slave to her drug addiction.

At twenty-six she found her way into Alcoholics Anonymous and, and at the present was nine years clean and sober.

I had heard similar stories countless times, and this one did little for me. But I have never been to a meeting that I didn't try to take away something of help, which I could share with others.

What I took away from this meeting has served me well, because toward the end of her talk, the woman said, "I must tell you something else before I finish.

I am a football fan, an avid Jets fan. I'll never miss watching a Jets game. One weekend I had to be away, and did not want to miss a game, so I asked a friend of mine to please record the game on her VCR, so I could watch it later.

When I returned, she handed me the tape and I thanked her profusely. As we were about to part ways she said, "By the way, what a tough game, but in the end, the Jets won".

"I started watching the tape, and it was just horrible! The Jets were being pummeled. At half-time they were behind by twenty points.

Under other circumstances, I would have been a nervous wreck. I would have been pacing the floor and hitting the refrigerator, I would have been totally out of control.

But I was perfectly calm, because I knew, at the end the Jets were going to win.

She continued, "ever since I turned my life over to G-d, I no longer get uptight when things don't go my way. I try to remember that football game, I may be twenty points behind at half-time, but I know the game is not over and that in the end, it's going to turn out o.k."... End of story.

The Doctor continued and said, "This woman may not have qualified as a saint, but I envied her faith."

A most important lesson in life, when life throws you a curved ball and you miss the catch and when you are shown more than you can understand, remember it's only "half-time", the game is not over, hang in there, keep praying and have faith. A lesson worth remembering, you never know when it will come in handy.

And now for a bit of humor to keep you smiling:

A mechanic was removing a cylinder-head from the motor of a Harley motorcycle when he spotted a well-known cardiologist in his shop. The cardiologist was there waiting for the service manager to come take a look at his bike when the mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hey Doc, want to take a look at this?"

The cardiologist, a bit surprised, walked over to where the mechanic was working on the motorcycle. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked,

"So Doc, look at this engine. I open its heart, take the valves out, repair any damage, and then put them back in, and when I finish, it works just like new.

So how come I make \$39,675 a year and you make over a million when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The cardiologist paused, smiled and leaned over, then whispered to the mechanic... "Try doing it with the engine running." ...lol...lol....

Never miss an opportunity to share a laugh. If you have any good humor to share, please make sure to forward a copy my way.

A special note to all members of the flock of the Jewish faith, as we are about to celebrate the New Year, may you all be blessed with a "Shana Tovar", a happy, healthy and blessed New Year. May the coming year be one of your best ones yet.

On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, thanks to each of you for the Holy and noble work that you do, our City couldn't survive without you. May G-d bless you and keep you safe. Should you need an ear to listen or a shoulder to lean on, don't hesitate to give us a call.

May G-d bless you and keep you safe. Amen!

Compliments of your Police Chaplain

Rabbi Moshe Wolf 773-463-7840 or e-mail moshewolf@hotmail.com