

"Keeping Life In Perspective"

February 2022

Recently we were on the streets standing with a group of our embers chatting after a long night of answering radio calls nonstop. It made us proud, as your Chaplains, that no matter what the radio sends your way, no matter how challenging or difficult, the calls are ALWAYS answered. For that, we say THANK YOU! THANK YOU for ALL the Holy work that you do. Society could not survive without you. One of our members piped up and

said the most important task we have these days is "Keeping Life In Perspective", let me share two short stories... here they are.

Carrying The Burden.....

Brenda was a young woman who was invited to go rock climbing. Although she was scared to death, she went with her group to a tremendous granite cliff. Despite her fear, she put on the gear, took a hold on the rope, and started up the face of the rock.

Well, she got to a ledge where she could take a breather and as she was hanging on there, the safety rope snapped against Brenda's eye and knocked out her contact lens. Here she was on a rock ledge, with hundreds of feet of cliff below her and hundreds of feet above her. She looked and looked and looked, hoping it had landed on the ledge, but it just wasn't there. As she hung on a sheer rock cliff, her sight now blurry, she was justifiably upset, so she prayed to the Lord to help her to find the lens.

When she got to the top, a friend examined her eye and her clothing for the lens, but there was no contact lens to be found. She sat down, despondent, with some of the climbers, waiting for the rest of the group to make it up the face of the cliff. She looked out across range after range of mountains thinking of that Bible verse that says, "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth." She thought, "Lord, you can see all these mountains. You know every stone and leaf, and you know exactly where my contact lens is. Please help me."

Finally, they walked down the trail to the bottom. At the bottom there was a new party of climbers just starting up the face of the cliff. One of them shouted out, "Hey, you guys! Anybody lose a contact lens?" That alone would be startling enough, but she was astonished to learn how the other climber found it? It seems an ant was moving slowly cross the face of the rock, carrying the lens!

Brenda told her father (a cartoonist) the incredible story of the ant, the prayer, and the contact lens. He drew her a picture of an ant lugging that contact lens with the words, "Lord, I don't know why you want me to carry this thing. I can't eat it, and it's awfully heavy. But if this is what you want me to do, I'll carry it for you." It would probably do most of us good to occasionally say, "God, I don't know why you want me to carry this load. I can see no earthly good in it and it's awfully heavy. But, if you want me to carry it, I will."

Moral: "God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called."

And here is another quick thought.

"The Peacock And The Crow"

A crow lived in the forest and was absolutely satisfied with its life. But one day he saw a swan. "This swan is so white," he thought, "and I am so black. This swan must be the happiest bird in the world."

He expressed his thoughts to the swan. "Actually," the swan replied, "I was feeling that I was the happiest bird around until I saw a parrot, which has two colors. I now think the parrot is the happiest bird in the world." The crow then approached the parrot. The parrot explained, "I lived a very happy life until I saw a peacock. I have only two colors, but the peacock has multiple colors."

The crow then visited a peacock in the zoo and saw that hundreds of people had gathered to see him. After the people had left, the crow approached the peacock. "Dear peacock," the crow said, "you are so beautiful. Every day thousands of people come to see you. When people see me, they immediately shoo me away. I think you are the happiest bird on the planet."

The peacock replied, "I always thought that I was the most beautiful and happy bird on the planet. But because of my beauty, I am entrapped in this zoo. I have examined the zoo very carefully, and I have realized that the crow is the only bird not kept in a cage. So for past few days, I have been thinking that if I were a crow, I could happily roam everywhere."

Moral of the story: <u>Do not compare yourself with others based on what you see on the outside</u>. You never know what they had to sacrifice to live the life they live now.

A little humor from "The Moshe Files" to keep you smiling...

"The Miracle Doctor"

Doctor Brown who was known for miraculous cures for arthritis and other ailments, had waiting room full of people when a little old lady, completely bent over in half. She shuffled in slowly, leaning on her cane. When her turn came, she went into the doctor's office, and, amazingly, emerged within half an hour walking completely erect with her head held high. A woman in the waiting room who had seen all this walked up to the little old lady and said, " Wow, It's a miracle! You walked in bent in half and now you're walking erect. What did that doctor do?" She answered, "Miracles, shmiracles. . . the Doctor gave me a longer cane."

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On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, may G-d bless you and keep you and keep you safe. <u>Should</u> you need a shoulder to lean on or an ear to listen or perhaps have some good humor to share, <u>do not hesitate to gve us a call.</u>

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