

## **Charity begins at Home**

*"The world [forever] will be built with kindness." – Psalm 89 - Through kindness and compassion, a woman builds her home.*

***Where there are no acts of kindness and compassion, even if there is Torah and worship, the world crumbles.***

### **My Home**

*A beautiful lesson from the life of Rav Arie Levin of blessed memory*

Rav Arie Levin of blessed memory once rode in a taxi. The driver asked him, "Where is your home?" The Rabbi, now a widower, replied, "I have no home, but if you ask me where my house is, it's on this street at this number" The taxi driver accepted the Rabbi's words at face value and dropped him off at the number that he specified.

A friend who rode with the Rabbi asked, "What do you mean you don't have a home?"

The Rav responded with a tear in his eye, "My wife of blessed memory was my home. Since she has passed away, I have no home, only an address of the place where I live..."

### **Reality check**

- Even if women do great deeds of kindness and compassion outside their homes such as helping the elderly, widows, orphans, and the like, their very first obligation is their home!
- A woman's character and personality are most clearly apparent through her behavior within her home. If a woman does not put her family first then all her outward appearance of charity is only a façade. Her attitude towards her husband reveals who she really is.
- The fact that a woman would show more charity and generosity to those outside of her family members is a blatant sign of **CRUELTY** to her family.
- Compassion to others is **MEANINGLESS** unless she first acts in a giving and compassionate manner to her own family members.

### **A Talmudic principle of concentric circles**

Our sages, of blessed memory teach;

Begin by taking care of the needy in your own home, and only afterwards, see what you are able to do for the needy of your street and only afterwards the needy living in your city. Compassionate deeds must be done in a manner of concentric circles-only when the inner circle is taken care of do we continue on the adjacent outside circle.

## **Twisted Concepts**

So many contemporary concepts have become utterly twisted. The home should be every woman's pride and most significant responsibility, as well as her source of joy and vitality. Her families success is her recognition and prestige, not the certificates on the wall of her den. Her family is a reflection of her-their achievements are her success and their setbacks are her failure.

## **Ways that you can tell if you have lost balance**

- If you return home/re-engage with your family and you find yourself haughtily expecting their praise for your charitable or extracurricular activities.
- Your family does not applaud your work and grumpy overwhelmed family members.

## **Moriahs Challenge!**

Take a REAL and honest look at your life and work to restore the balance. Remember my 2 rules

- 1) Limit your weekly activity away from home to what works best for your family. This is going to vary based on the needs of your specific family.
- 2) Have a "no fly zone" time of the day when you do not allow yourself to engage in distractions such as, chats with girlfriends on the phone or facebook.

Anyone interested in joining in a group gathering online please remember to contact me at [Moriah@AbrahamsDescendants.com](mailto:Moriah@AbrahamsDescendants.com).

Sisters! The balls in our court, are we going to restore the balance to ourselves and re-engage in our families or, are we going to destine our families to not reaching their full potential. The choice is ours.

I pray this message is received in the love that it was sent, until next time. Shalom

Moriah :)