GUEST EDITORIAL



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He Hears Us Still

RIVKAH LEIBA GRONER

y husband, Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Groner, and I got married on 23 Kislev 5743 (December 9, 1982). A few months passed and I didn't become pregnant; I had some signs that things weren't right. I went to see a gynecologist who told me that the problem I had could be easily solved with medication, but since I was about to move on shlichus to Australia I should wait until I get to Australia to deal with it, and he would write a letter with his findings and his recommendations to a doctor in Australia.

In the early '80s, children would wait at the door of 770 and as the Rebbe entered or left, he would give them coins to put into the pushke. (This was after the era of yechidus but before the era of dollars.)

My husband suggested I stand there when the Rebbe walks past the children and when the Rebbe stops, I should not say anything, just have in mind that we are going to Australia on shlichus and that we need a brachah for children.

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The Rebbe walked past me, then stopped and turned back to me and said, "Men zol heren besuros tovos!" May we hear good news!

We moved to Australia on *shlichus* and we found a good gynecologist. We gave him the letter from our American gynecologist and the Australian doctor agreed that the problem could be solved with medication, but he suggested we wait just a few weeks for me to settle in to a new country. We made an appointment to come back to that doctor in a few weeks.

We sent this information to the Rebbe and asked for a *brachah*. We did not receive any written or spoken response, but we did get our answer:

Before the appointment, we had the *besuros tovos* that the Rebbe *bentched* us with, and our daughter Chana was born on Shushan Purim.

Eight years later, after we *baruch Hashem* had three children, I had several repeat miscarriages and some unusual and uncomfortable symptoms. For three years I visited doctors and also acupuncturists, Chinese herbalists, and other healers.

At one point during this period, we wrote a letter to the Rebbe and received an answer: "*Ulay nishkechu aizeh protim midinei taharas hamishpachah.*" Perhaps they have forgotten some details from the laws of family purity.

Rabbi Leibel Groner commented, "This is the Rebbe's *aidel* [gentle, refined] way of telling you to review the *dinim* of *taharas hamishpachah*." Which we of course did.

And then we came to the U.S. to visit. By now (December 1990), the Rebbe was giving dollars. We were planning to go past, and again my husband told me, "No need to say a word

to the Rebbe, just when we go past, THINK about what you want the Rebbe to know." I did that. (See photo.) The Rebbe said, "Brachah v'hatzlachah. Besuros tovos." The unusual and uncomfortable symptoms disappeared, and I became pregnant; our daughter Chaya Mushka was born in September 1991.

In 1994, shortly after Gimmel Tammuz, I had yet another miscarriage. By then, international communication had improved, we had fax machines and phone cards, and it was much easier to be in contact with my family in the U.S. Therefore, I knew that around the same time as I had my miscarriage, my sisters also had miscarriages. I wrote a letter to the Rebbe and placed it in *Igros Kodesh*. I read a letter in the *Igros* saying

that *Chitas* brings good health. I decided to start saying *Chitas* every day, no matter what, no excuses. Within a few months, my sisters and I all became pregnant and all of us had healthy children, *baruch Hashem*. My sisters had girls; we had a son, aptly named Menachem Mendel.

Thirty years later, a friend of mine was *davening* for a family member of hers who was waiting to be *bentched* with a child. I sent her videos of the Rebbe telling people to say *Chitas* in order to have a baby. She took it on and hasn't missed a day. *Baruch Hashem*, her relative was *bentched* with a son one year ago on Gimmel Tammuz; he was aptly named Menachem Mendel.

I hope these stories bring home the point that we can still and always communicate with our beloved Rebbe, and he always hears us and helps us. We are never alone with our challenges! 羅

For more from this author, read her Tammuz 2018 article entitled "Where Does Your Inspiration Come From?" on nsheichabadnewsletter. com/archives, search words Rivkah Groner.

