

5/19/17  
Beit Midrash  
Rivkah

Sugya

**Statement:** Both your dignities and your shortcomings should be said quietly in order for one to be humble in every sense.

- One should keep their dignities quiet as not to brag.
  - **Masha!** למשל למה הדבר דומה? One time a student received an accomplishing grade and went around the school bragging about it loudly. It made his classmates very angry since they felt about about the shortcomings of their own grades. And then they beat him up.
    - If one reaches an accomplishment, it would be bragging to speak of it loudly because it makes others feel bad about their own shortcomings.
  - **Challenge:** But should you not express your dignities loudly so others can celebrate with you? **Hekesh:** מה like a Simcha should be celebrated because it gives you dignity, אף so should your other dignities be celebrated.
    - **Response:** הרי, a Simcha should be celebrated since it has communal values, but there is a difference between communal celebrations and individual pride; one's personal dignities and personal achievements should not be spoken loudly since it is bragging.
- In addition you should keep your shortcomings quiet as not to attract unnecessary attention and pity.
  - **Shakla Vtarya- Challenge:** But should you not express your shortcomings loudly so others can support you in times of need?
    - **Response- Prooftext:** דכתיב, "And Aaron was silent" (Leviticus, Ch.10, v. 3). When his sons died because of their sin, it might seem obvious that Aaron would mourn from grief and for the shame that came upon him. But instead, he was silent, realizing that it is the way of the Lord.
  - **Challenge:** But this is a case of an important figure deciding to be silent. Aaron had to be silent since had Priestly work to do for Yom Kippur. But should an ordinary person be silent in times of grave mourning?
    - **Response:** הרי, there is a difference between mourning and shortcomings; although one wears their mourning literally on their clothes and on their sleeves, one should not wear their individual failures and insecurities on their sleeves because it attracts unnecessary pity and therefore comes across as overbearing.
    - היכי דמי, if one were ashamed of a physical insecurity like their weight, it would be unfair to speak of it loudly, because it is self-pity and it additionally makes others feel bad about their own weight in comparison.
- **Resolution:** To be humble, you must not brag about your achievements or attract pity for your failures- it is immodest.