

פרק א', משנה ו

יהושע בן פרחיה ונתאי הארבלי קבלו מהם. יהושע בן פרחיה אומר:
עשה לך רב, וקנה לך חבר, והוי דן את כל האדם לכף זכות

1. Appoint a Torah teacher for yourself

Having an experienced רב who is available to teach Torah and give Torah-based guidance throughout one's life is crucial!

What would you answer if someone asked you the following question:
"I learn lots of Torah; what do I need a Rav for?!"?

2. Find yourself a friend...

...even if you have to *buy* one!

Healthy friendships are built on the give-and-take of caring and sharing. A friend is so important; without a friend, one cannot live!

- As it is said of תנא חוני המעגל who was a תנא:
"או חברותא או מיתותא"!

♥ What can we do to strengthen our friendships?

♥ What are good ways to initiate new friendships?

♥ What are qualities to look for in a friend?

3. Judge people favorably

When a situation calls for judging someone favorably, we should react similarly to how we'd react when we lose something important to us: First we check in places where it's likely to be, then we look in other places where it may possibly show up. If we still haven't found it, we turn over every unlikely place, "just in case"!!

Judging favorably is not just a "nice thing to do"! It's one of the 613 מצוות:

"בצדק תשפוט את עמיתך"

Remember the lady on the airplane who thought the "rude" passenger next to her was "sharing" her cookies, yet they turned out to be his, and he was the one genuinely sharing...?!

