

## הלל ושמאי קבלו מהם. הלל אומר, הוי מתלמידיו של אהרן, אוהב שלום ורודף שלום, אוהב את הבריות ומקרבן לתורה

כהן גדול the אהרן of מידות teaches us to learn from the exemplary הלל.

### אוהב שלום

How can each of us "love peace"? – By appreciating its value! שלום is essential - it is the special ingredient that holds together all the ברכה in a person's life.

*Imagine two siblings in an angry fight over the last piece of dessert at the Shabbos table - neither one is willing to be מוותר... and now, the special atmosphere of Shabbos and the delicious טעודה is ruined for everyone... - all because of a lack of שלום.*

Without שלום, we're numb to all the ברכה in our lives: our precious families, our wonderful friends, all of our abundant comforts, and the stunningly beautiful world around us!

### ורודף שלום

אהרן would pursue peace, and even chase people for it.

The following is a fabulous tip for life that רש"י teaches us about keeping peaceful relationships with others. When someone does something against us, the greatest tool we can use to keep our relationship intact, is to be דן לכף זכות. Instead of getting angry with the person, thereby destroying שלום, think to yourself, **IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL**; Either, what happened is:

1. The person was compelled to hurt me – example - *she snapped at me and hurt my feelings because she was having a frustrating day...*
2. The person meant well - example - *the teacher thought I knew the answer and that's why she called on me; of course she wasn't trying to embarrass me!*

It is a מצוה of גמילות חסדים to bring peace between others involved in dispute – and uniquely, it applies even if both people

### אוהב את הבריות

אהרן loved people! He loved all people simply because they were "בריות" - they were created by Hashem!

*It's important for us to look and find the redeeming qualities in all people. Knowing that Hashem created a person means that the person has value.*



### ומקרבן לתורה

אהרן was successful in bringing the Jewish people closer to Torah.

What were אהרן's special "kiruv" tools??

If אהרן would see someone acting not in accordance with the Torah, he would befriend him warmly, pretending not to be aware of his עבירות. The person would be ashamed and think to himself, "What would my friend אהרן think if he knew I acted this way??" - ...and he would do תשובה!

**Practically, when we have love and concern for people, then when we offer advice for them on how to live a more fulfilling life, they will be receptive to our input, because they'll know that we have their best interests in mind.**



We can think of ברד, the plague of hail in Egypt - it was a miracle! The hail was a mixture of fire and ice! Unbelievably, in order to do רצון ה', they didn't extinguish each other!

Like the hail in Egypt, through dedication to 'רצון ה', people of opposite temperaments can be united. Each of us has our own unique personalities, preferences and perspectives; individuals think differently from one another, we like things to be done a certain way... it's not always easy to get along with others! In order to work together with others, we need to be אוהב את הבריות - to see the good in others, to practice וותרנות, and to daven for סייעתא דשמיא to be successful...

**"עושה שלום במרומיו הוא יעשה שלום עלינו"**