



# SIMCHAT SHMUEL

BY RABBI SAM SHOR  
DIRECTOR, TORAH INITIATIVES,  
OU ISRAEL

Our *Sedra* opens with *Avraham Avinu*, aged 90 years old, sitting, recovering from his recent *brit mila*, outside his tent during the heat of the day. Our *Chazal* explain that *Avraham* is sitting outside his tent, anxious to welcome guests, that despite his discomfort and recovery from his recent "surgical" procedure, he is literally sitting and waiting for an opportunity to welcome visitors into his home. Of course, the guests that arrive, are none other than the *malachim* that *Hashem* sends his way to cheer *Avraham* up, to enable *Avraham* to do that *maaseh chesed* he is longing to fulfill, as well as ultimately to share with *Avraham* and *Sara* that they will finally be blessed with a child.

In a stirring and beautiful teaching, **Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Horowitz zy'a**, known as the ***Patiker Rav***, points out that there are four eternal lessons to be learned from this story as to how one should perform the *mitzva* of *hachnasat orchim*, the *mitzvah* of welcoming guests into our homes.

The first message- *Avraham* is waiting outside his home, seeking opportunities to be hospitable, rather than waiting for someone to knock on his door or ask to be welcomed. Each one of us must ask ourselves, how can we emulate this *mida*-to literally actively seek opportunities to do *chesed* and to welcome others into our homes.

The second point, *Avraham Avinu* of course had many servants. When these travelers arrive to visit them, it is he and *Sara* themselves who engage in welcoming the guests, in making sure they are comfortable, that they have shade and that they can freshen up. It is *Sara* herself who prepares a meal for these visitors. All this teaches us that *hachnasat orchim* should be done ourselves and not simply through an emissary. Each one of us should look for opportunities to be kind and welcoming to others, and to express that kindness, directly, ourselves.

The third message we can learn is that one should not interrogate our guests, or bombard them with questions to see if indeed they really are in need of our hospitality and assistance. Our *Chazal* point out that *Avraham Avinu* intuited through his prophetic capabilities that these guests were *malachim*, that they really were not in need of any physical comforts or sustenance, yet this does not impact or limit *Avraham* in any way in terms of his desire to treat them with kindness and dignity, nor does it limit him in anyway in the way his



**SUNDAYS**  
Weekly Webinar  
9 pm Israel/2 pm EDT



**TIPS FOR OLIM**  
28 minutes of tachlis



Register: [olimpaveway.com/all-events](https://olimpaveway.com/all-events)

 @olimpaveway

warmth and hospitality is extended.

Finally, these special guests ultimately reveal to *Avraham and Sara* that they will miraculously be blessed with a child! This, explains the *Patiker Rav*, teaches us the most profound message of all regarding the *mitzva* of *hachnasat orchim* and any act of *chesed*, - in reality our guests end up giving us much more than they receive!

**The Midrash** teaches us that since *Avraham* exerted himself, even as he recovered from his *brit mila* at such an advanced age, to welcome these guests, to feed them, invites them to rest under the shade of the branches, we, the descendants of *Avraham*, merit the *mitzvah* of dwelling in the *sukka*, sitting not only beneath the shade of the branches, the *schach* we lay upon the *sukka*, but also to dwell in the shade of divine protection and serenity which the *sukka* represents. This penultimate example of *Avraham's* great *chesed* and *hachnasat orchim*, ultimately has a lasting impact for all subsequent generations of the Jewish People.

May we be blessed to heed the *Patiker Rav's* powerful words, emulate the ways of *Avraham Avinu*, and find fulfillment in a life filled with *chesed* and *hachnasat orchim*. ■



**JD DOC**  
ISRAEL

## VISITING ISRAEL?

## Need A Doctor?

**FAMILY DOCTOR WITH 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE**

**Call Now** 02-3721158

216 Jaffa Street  
Jerusalem

www.jdocisrael.co.il

**YOUR VISIT, YOUR LANGUAGE**  
ENGLISH • HEBREW • FRENCH

**CLINIC APPOINTMENTS**  
FROM ₪300 EX VAT

**Your Health, Our Priority**

<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>BEITH HAKEREM, JERUSALEM</b> <b>3 Rooms   71 sqm   1st floor out of 3</b> Sunny apartment with new kitchen, storage, parking. Quiet area, perfect for families, wheelchair accessible. <b>₪ 2,970,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>MITSPE YERICHO</b> <b>7 rooms   220 sqm   3 floors</b> 3-story home with rooftop and safe room, 4 bedrooms, solid build, expansion potential, ready to move in. <b>₪ 3,800,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>NACHLAOT JERUSALEM</b> <b>2 rooms   45 sqm   1st Floor</b> Charming 2-room, 4 sqm balcony, A/C, elevator, quiet street, modern kitchen. <b>₪ 2,290,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>RECHAVIA, JERUSALEM</b> <b>3 rooms   2.5 floors   75 sqm</b> Rare 3-room apartment in Rehavia near Sha'ar Chesed. Bright, private, renovated, 2 sukkah balconies, <b>₪ 5,350,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>KATAMON, JERUSALEM</b> <b>3 rooms   80 sqm   Ground floor out of 3</b> Renovated apartment full of light. Spacious sukkah balcony, bars, parking used as a storage <b>₪ 4,050,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>GIVAT MORDECHAI, JERUSALEM</b> <b>98 sqm   4 rooms   Balcony</b> Like-new apartment in Lev Ha'Ir, Givat Mordechai – central, quiet, and bright with an inner courtyard balcony. <b>₪ 3,690,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>NETANYA</b> <b>5 Rooms   126 sqm   3rd floor</b> A lovely apartment on a quiet street, close to the sea, synagogues, hotels, and restaurants. <b>₪ 3,685,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>ZAYIT, EFRAT</b> <b>6 rooms   approx. 160 sqm</b> Spacious penthouse duplex, large sukkah balcony, parking & storage. Bright, renovated, well-maintained <b>₪ 4,850,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>DAGAN, EFRAT</b> <b>6 bedrooms   Garden with sukkah   Parking</b> Spacious semi-detached home with stunning views. Large kitchen & living room   Option to expand basement. <b>₪ 8,900,000</b>
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>TAMAR, EFRAT</b> <b>160 sqm   6 rooms + attic (option for extra rooms)</b> Spacious semi-detached home in a prime location. 150 sqm garden with fruit trees   Private parking. <b>₪ 5,850,000</b>



Discover Solomon Ridge – upscale living in the heart of Zayit, Efrat.  
 Spacious apartments, breathtaking views.

**ESTIMATED COST: ₪ 1,990,000**  
 For a ~95 sqm apartment with parking and sukkah balcony.



**NOAM HOMES**  
Real Estate Professionals

+972 52-587-8788  
 office@noamhomes.com  
 www.noamhomes.com