

Bsd

[Part 5]

Chaburah 31 - Even Shleima 1, Rambam Hilchos Deyos, Perek 2

In today's Chabura we begin the fifth part of five parts of the Chabura topics, and we introduce the Hashkafic *yesod* that is probably the most important to know in regard to one's Avodas Hashem.

Everything we've learned about so far, is really not that hard to do: 1- Realize that the Creator of the World only means to have created everything for *our* benefit; 2- Focus on building a Positive and Mutual Relationship with Him; 3- Think about Him while experiencing the permissible pleasures in life; 4- "Give Back" to Him in the form of elevating your own Neshama by allowing yourself to focus your life's efforts on actualizing your innate traits - all of this is not really so hard. Even the last point, that requires effort to actualize who you are in potential, is not so hard to do, since you naturally have satisfaction to be yourself. Therefore, using your innate traits in an actual way will essentially feel pleasant for you.

So where is our place of Avodah? We had learned earlier on, that the reason we come to this world is to "do something for Hashem". That sounds like what we are here to accomplish is not something so easy, yet nonetheless, we are willing to exert ourselves and do it *for* Hashem. Yet what is that thing that we "do for Him" that's so hard - since whatever we discussed up till now are things that, generally, just come natural to every person?

Source: Even Shleima 1

These words of the Vilna Gaon at the beginning of his personal Mussar Sefer, almost seem to take us by surprise. "*All of one's Avodas Hashem is dependent on 'Tikun Hamiddos'?*" How does "Tikun Hamiddos" connect to anything we've learned about until now?!

Source: Rambam, Hilchos Deyos, Perek 2

The Rambam explains to us how "Tikun Hamiddos" works. Every human trait has two extremities: on the one side - extreme use; on the other side - extreme non-use. The goal in "Tikun Hamiddos" is for a person to focus his actions to consistently portray that point which is exactly in the middle between the two extremes. This is well known among many as the "Golden Path" of the Rambam, something that we could describe as "the Middle Way".

Conclusion: According these two Mekoros, the summary of our "work" in Avodas Hashem is to always maintain "Balance" in our actions.

But what does any of this have to do with the Torah and Mitzvos that Hashem sends us here to fulfill? [To be continued *i"y* Hashem].