

Parshat Beha'alotcha
Appreciating Every Moment
Rabbi Heiligman
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The beginning of this week's Parsha discusses the lighting of the Menorah in the Mishkan. It was a special mitzvah given to the Kohanim who served in the Mishkan and the Beit Hamikdash. However, when he was alive, only Aharon Hakohein lit the menorah. The verse states that "Aharon did so." Rashi asks the following question: Isn't obvious that Aharon lit the Menorah as we was commanded? Rashi answers that the verse is praising Aharon. During the forty years that the Jewish people traveled in the desert, Aharon never once missed a chance to perform this special mitzvah. He lit the menorah every day with such enthusiasm; it was as if he lit it for the first time. Aharon still lit the menorah with zeal even when he was tired from traveling in the desert. When it comes to performing Mitzvot, it is not just a matter of going through the motions, but it is also thinking and appreciating the opportunity to serve Hashem. As we approach the summer months, may we accept upon ourselves to perform Mitzvot with more enthusiasm.

Parsha Questions

- 1) What special mitzvah was given to Aharon? (to light the menorah)
- 2) The 14th of Iyar is called _____ (Pesach Sheini)
- 3) Why would someone need to celebrate Pesach Sheini? (he was tamei and couldn't bring the Korbon Pesach of the 14th of Nissan)

4) What were the Chatzoros? (two silver trumpets)

5) When were they used? (to tell the B'nei Yisrael that there were about to travel, to gather them or to announce that they were being attacked by enemies)

6) Who spoke lashon Hara about Moshe? (Miraim)

7) What happened to her? (She got tzaraas)

E.C. Who made the Chatzoros? (Moshe himself)