



Parshas Behar/Bechukosei

Shmuz by Rabbi Shimon Max

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In this week's parsha, Parshas Behar, the Torah tells us about the mitzvah of shemita. The posuk (25, 4) calls the shemita year a "Shabbos La'shem". **The Sforno explains that it's called a Shabbos La'shem because the farmers aren't busy with their fields so they have time and "will be inspired to get closer to Hashem in some way".**

Rabbi Max asked: we're talking about farmers, who tend to be less learned than most. And the Sforno says that "they will be inspired to get closer to Hashem in *some way*". These farmers aren't going to be shteiging away or running around all day doing chesed, they'll probably daven once a week, maybe doze through a shiur or two. If so, how do these insignificant little things warrant an entire year being dubbed "Shabbos La'shem"?

Rabbi Max answered that we see a tremendous idea: that even little actions that we think are insignificant are tremendously choshuv to Hashem! We can use this idea to help us in many ways. We should realise that we are amazing and doing amazing things! If we feel down or bad about something that we did, we should have the attitude like Vilna Goan writes as quoted by the Rosh Yeshiva that we need to feel שמח בחלקו even in regard to רוחניות. And at the say time we of course should feel מתי יגיע מעשי למעשה אבותי. And to always remember that we are incredible! **Even an inspiration to get close to Hashem in "some way" is enough to call a whole year "Shabbos La'shem" - a Shabbos for Hashem!**