

## **Parshas Beshalach**

**Shmuz by Rabbi Yisrael Davidowitz**  
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When the Jews left *Mitzrayim*, *Moshe* took the bones of *Yosef* with him to bury him in *Eretz Yisrael*. In *Sefer Yehoshua* it says that they buried him in *Shechem*. The *Chizkuni* on this week's *Parsha* says that he told them to bury him in *Shechem* based on the gemara in *Sotah* 13b that says because that's where they had sold him into slavery, so that's where they should return him to, and then adds the reason of why *Shechem* and not further in *Eretz Yisrael*, and answers that *Yosef* didn't want be *matriach* them any more he was entitled to.

**He could only ask them to return him to a place that they stole him from!**

One can wonder, how much more effort would it be to bring him anywhere else? It's a whole nation! They could carry him anywhere! And they owed *Yosef* so much, he sustained the entire family for years! Lastly, they were the ones responsible for him even being in *Mitzrayim* in the first place, so why wouldn't he ask them to bring his body somewhere else?!

**We see from *Yosef's* actions how far we must go to not impose on others.**

*Yosef*, who really deserved tremendous *hakaras hatov* from his family, wouldn't ask for an iota more than he technically deserved.

All the more so for us. We shouldn't be so hasty to ask for favors from other people! Asking for, and receiving favors is, in a sense, the opposite of *chesed*. The goal of *chesed* is to try to relieve people from their burdens, whether physical, financial, emotional or otherwise, and imposing on others often costs them physical, financial, emotional, or other added stresses. We should try our utmost to be givers and not takers!