

# מסכת מועד קטן דרכי

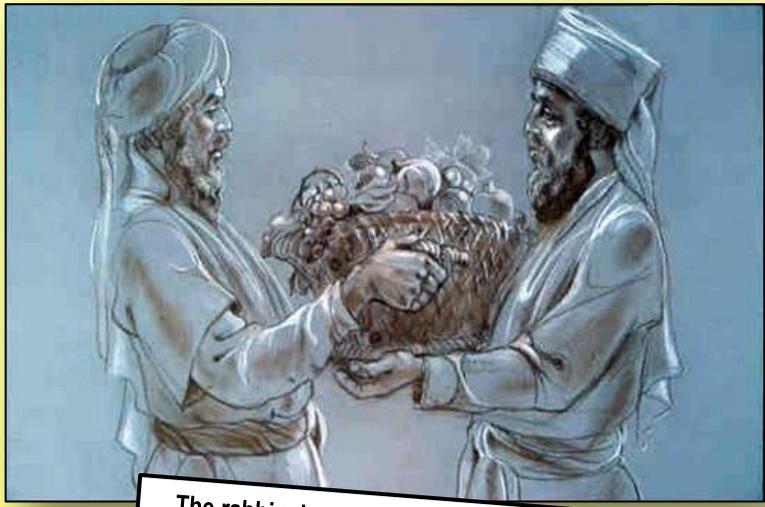
# DAF YOMI<sup>4</sup> KIDS

## Inside the Daf

In the times of the Talmud, the rabbis would take great care to protect the feelings of the poor. Oftentimes the poor would be embarrassed when their poverty was shown in public.

For example, in the times of the Talmud when people would deliver food to a mourner's home, wealthy people would bring the food in baskets of gold and silver and drinks in fancy white glasses. The poor would bring food in baskets woven from twigs and drinks in regular colored glasses. The poor would be embarrassed by this, so the rabbis decreed that anyone who brings food and drinks to a mourner's house should do so in baskets woven from twigs and in regular colored glasses. That way, the poor would not be embarrassed that they could not afford better baskets.

Also, when the rich would die, before burial their faces would be uncovered for



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all to see. The faces of the poor, on the other hand, would be covered since they were often blackened from poor diet and famine. The poor were embarrassed that only their faces were covered so the rabbis decreed that the faces of all, rich and poor, would have to be covered before burial.



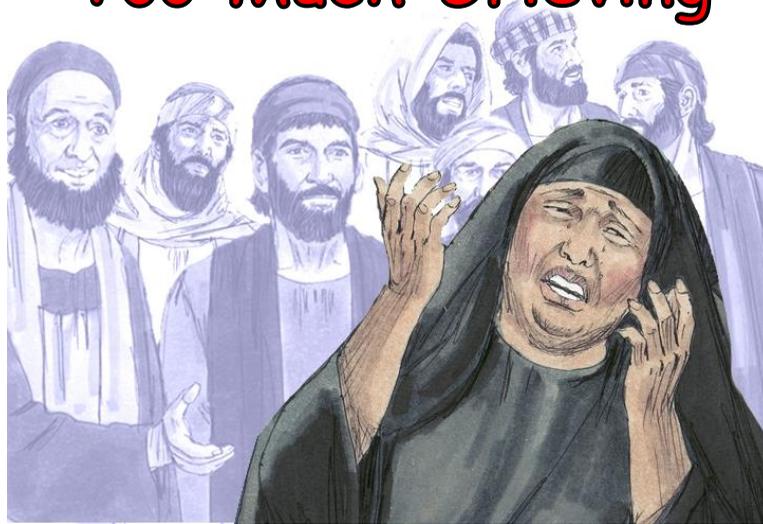
### Did You Know...

היהוה says in the name of הוה that a mourner may not eat his own food on the first day of mourning.

WORD OF THE DAY:  
**לא**  
"NO / NOT"

# Too Much Grieving

It is normal and expected to grieve over the loss of a loved one. But one must be careful not to grieve too much. The prophet ירמיה (Jeremiah) warns, "אל תבכו למת ואל תגדו לו" "Do not cry for the dead and do not shake your head for him" (ירמיה כב,י), Jer. 22,10).



So what is "too much" grieving? The first three days after the death of a close relative is for weeping. Seven days following a relative's death is for eulogizing, remembering the life and accomplishments of the departed.

For thirty days after the death, the mourner does not press his clothes, cut his hair or shave. Grieving the loss of most relatives ends at this time, and for the loss of a parent grieving lasts for a year. Any amount of time after this is "too much" mourning.

In fact, רב יהודה says in the name of רב that anyone who grieves too much over the death of a relative will suffer the death of another loved one.

## A Moment

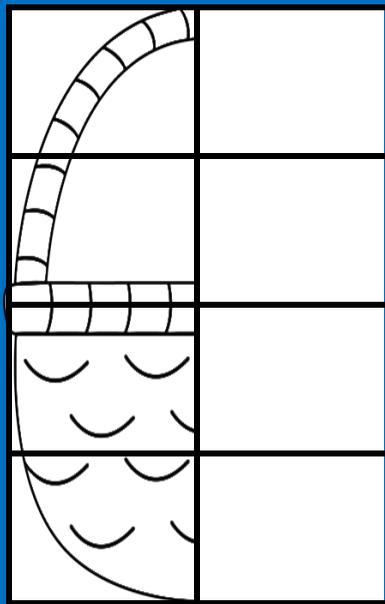
Eric loved birthday parties but there was one part he didn't like too much. That was when the birthday boy would sit at the head of the table and open all of his gifts in front of everyone. Everyone would see who gave what and Eric would always be embarrassed in case his gift wasn't "as good" as someone else's.

At Eric's birthday party, he decided not to do this. When he was asked why, he said, "The גמרא says when someone dies we don't let rich people bring food in fancy baskets in case the poor feel badly that they couldn't afford to give such great baskets. We see we shouldn't do anything that may make people feel badly for not being able to afford a good gift."

## Games

### FINISH IT OFF!

Finish the other half of the basket



### מועד קטן דף כ"ז – Review Questions

1. Why did the rabbis decree that everyone should bring food to a mourner in a twig basket?  
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2. How should one not grieve for a relative?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. When may a mourner not eat of his own food?  
\_\_\_\_\_