

Don't Be Blinded By The Bigger Picture

פרשת קרח

We know it is important to see the big picture and not get stuck on things that may seem insignificant. However, it is critical that in seeing the big picture we don't lose sight of the details. This ability to focus on the global impact, while still being attentive to the feelings of each individual, are displayed by Moshe Rabbeinu in this week's Parsha.

The Parsha starts off with Korach, Dasan, Aviram, and 250 members of the Sanhedrin challenging Moshe's leadership, and questioning his appointment of his brother Aharon Hakohen. Upon hearing their complaints the Pasuk states (16:4), "ויפל על פניו" - and Moshe fell on his face. Rabbeinu Bachya explains that Moshe Rabbeinu fell on his face in despair, out of respect for Aharon Hakohen. He says "Moshe saw the slight to his brother and he was concerned for his honor, and therefore he fell on his face." However Aharon did not fall on his face upon hearing them challenge the Kehunah, due to his humility.

The fact that Moshe Rabbeinu was able to be so concerned for Aharon's honor to the extent

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that it caused him despair, while still taking into account everything else that resulted from this devastating episode is truly inspiring. We are told by the Medrash that Moshe Rabbeinu was also devastated due to the fact that he had already pleaded with Hashem three times to spare the Jewish people when they sinned, and perhaps his prayer to defend the Jewish people would no longer be accepted. In addition, the Gemara in Sanhedrin (110) states that Moshe Rabbeinu despaired in response to their accusation against him. They maligned his character by suspecting him of having affairs, and even warning their wives not to be alone with him. In addition, Moshe Rabbeinu

understood the great detriment of arguments and discord. Yet despite Moshe Rabbeinu's fear that he would not be able to defend them, their character assassination, and the devastation of Machlokes, he did not lose sight of Aharon Hakohen's feelings of insult. Feelings that were ever so slight, as Moshe Rabbeinu recognized the depths of Aharon's humility and lack of reaction to this affront to his honor.

We can glean from here a tremendous lesson as we aspire to fulfill the dictum of our Sages, *מתי יגיע מעשי למעשה אבותיו*. Often in facing a crisis, we tend to respond exclusively to the areas that have a wide ranging impact. We see from Moshe Rabbeinu, that while responding to a crisis we need to be careful not to lose sight of each person's personal feelings. Perhaps through strengthening our Emunah in Hashem that He runs the world, we will be enabled to not lose sight of the details, as we will no longer be overwhelmed by the bigger picture.

BASED ON THE WEEKLY SHMUSS GIVEN BY HARAV SHAYA COHEN, ROSH HAYESHIVA ZICHRON ARYEH

לעילוי נשמת גיטל בת הרב אליעזר מנוח
לעילוי נשמת הרב יוסף חיים בן מאיר
לעילוי נשמת רפאל חיים דוב בן ריסא שושנה
לרפואה שלמה יהושע דוד בן אלטא יענטא