

*“I feel bad I can’t continue to play with you right now Yitzy, but I must go to shul to daven. What’s shul and what’s daven? Shul is Hashem’s house and davening is when we talk directly to Hashem. Isn’t that amazing? Your father is going now to an appointment to talk directly to the Creator of the entire world, who is the only one who decides everything that will happen in the world; who will be healthy, who will be safe, who will have money and everything else. Could you imagine? I’m not merely going to talk with a big tzaddik, I’m going to have a most personal conversation with the Creator of Heaven and Earth. Millions of malachim who could each turn over the whole world with their great power, tremble before Him as they merit to say ‘Kadosh kadosh kadosh,’ sometimes only once in their lives, but I am going to speak to Him right now one on one!”*

*Yitzy had heard variations of this speech many times since the age of two until today, his fifth birthday. They really made him proud of who he was and so happy to be a frum Jew who has such an unbelievable opportunity to be close to the Creator. It made the concept of Hashem in general so real to him.*

*What a tragedy it was when that all went out the window on this day, his first time going to shul! What happened? His father took him to shul, and it was clear from the way people were davening and talking in shul, that his father didn’t really mean what he had always told him!*

Davening in shul three times each day is the greatest tool we have to strengthen our ability to actually feel and live the emunah we know, which is the definition of bitachon and the foundation of all the mitzvos in the Torah, as the Gemora states (*Makos 24a*): “*Chavakuk* came and established them [all 613 mitzvos] on one, “And the righteous, will live with his beliefs.”

However, with this greatest of gifts comes the greatest of dangers, for by being callous with it, not only will we not reap its limitless benefits, but it could become a great detriment to our feeling and living the emunah we know!

*Established By:*