

ישיבה גדולה דסופילד קונטיקט

From our Rabbeim on Tomchei Temimim

“We are day-laborers”... the entire Avodah is to develop students who will be solidly grounded, with their hearts and minds dedicated to [Hashem’s] inner intent — it is not enough to study Nigleh, and to cherish holiness by observing Mitzvos, there must also be Divine service within the heart.

Hayom Yom 29 Tevet

In order to bring this self sacrificing love of Torah study and of Mitzvos, accompanied by the “service of the heart” and love of fellow Jews, to a broader spectrum of people, my revered father founded the Tomchei Tmimim Yeshivah in Lubavitch. From that institution, light will spread to Jewish people everywhere, by means of the self sacrifice of its students and alumni, the Tmimim.

Sefer Hasichos 5704, p.169

My father stated that he did not establish Tomchei Tmimim to augment Torah study. Torah study was not lacking among Jews. There were Yeshivas. Tomchei Tmimim was created so that those that learn Torah should be Mentchen.

Sefer Hasichos 5686 p.99

Chassidim did not seek out and accept only students who are already blessed with well developed minds and sensibilities. The key requirement has always been that students be Baalei Avodah.

Likkutei Dibburim 4, p.713:b

The Lubavitch Yeshivah Tomchei Tmimim was founded on the... principles: Truth; Love; Loyalty; Devotion... The Love that existed between the students was remarkable; the loyalty and devotion between the students and administration was to the fullest extent. Only this type of conduct could produce... such students as Tomchei Tmimim produced.

Sefer Hasichos 5694, p.363

Primiyus is the ultimate intent and foundation upon which everything stands. The student’s true desire is for the fulfilment of Mitzvos and Learning Torah to be with a Chayos Primi.

Igros Kodesh Rashab, vol.1, p.255

Every person has their specific Avodah... it must be true, without fooling themselves or others. Then it will bring them salvation. Their Avodah must constantly be with a full true heart.

Igros Kodesh Rashab, vol.1, p.256

Their Avodah should be internalized so that it affects a Bittul, a complete subjugation to Elokus, bringing about a submission of their materialistic instincts and natural character traits.

Igros Kodesh Rashab, vol.1, p.256

A Chassid is one who goes beyond the letter of the law. Meaning, he does not do things for his personal benefit, he does them to bring Elokus into the world.

Hemshech 5672 vol.II, p.773

The American born Chassidim have great, sublime qualities. However, they “think” that America is different.

Sefer Hasichos 5706, p.53

Mussar teaches one how not to eat; Chassidus teaches one what to eat and how to eat.

Sefer Hasichos 5700 p.152

In the Alter Rebbe’s time, there was a saying common among his Chassidim: “The piece of bread that I have is yours just as much as it is mine.” And they would say “yours” before “mine.”

Hayom Yom 15 Iyar

My father gave directives about how to educate and guide these young men so that they should be willing to sacrifice themselves for the sake of Torah, Mitzvos and Ahavas Yisrael... “We have a Yeshivah which will give expression to the Baal Shem Tov’s path of self sacrifice – as expounded by the Alter Rebbe and all the Rebbes of Chabad – for the knowledge of G dliness and for the love of a fellow Jew.”

Sefer Hasichos 5701, p.161

ישיבה גדולה דסופילד קונטיקט

From the introduction from the Frierdiker Rebbe to Kuntres Eitz Hachaim and Kuntres Ho Avodah

... Some mistakenly feel that in order to draw the youth nearer to Torah and Mitzvos, we must shower them with praise and refrain from harsh words, warnings and demands. The reverse is true; one hearing these words perceives that they are contrived, and this false approach will not draw them nearer to our Torah, the Torah of truth, and the commandments of the true G d.

A time will come when the young generation will cry out to its leaders, especially to the school administrations:

- **Why did you not compel us to follow the correct path?**
- **Why didn't you tell us the entire truth – the truth of the Living Torah?**
- **Why didn't you show us the way of life as it applies to our daily lives, and tell us: How to pray daily before Hashem. How to study His Torah... With awe, with fear... How to fulfill His commandments... With joy and a glad heart.**

What will we say and how will we justify ourselves on that day?

Yeshivah administrations must organize our work, especially the curriculum of our schools and rules of conduct, so that the Yeshivas will not simply be places where they learn dryly, how to be a scholar, a rabbi, a teacher, etc. Rather it should be a place of education, where a student learns and experiences how to be a complete Jew, in Body (Mitzvos), Spirit (Prayer), and Torah – so that all who see him recognize in him the connection of the three aspects: the Jew, the Torah, and the Holy One Above...

Previous Rebbe's Signature

From the Rebbe - Parshas Ki Sisa, 5740

The Rebbe discusses this introductory letter from the frierdiker rebbe, and emphasizes its relevance

Not as those who mistakenly say... that the Avodah of Davening – was relevant to the time that the Kuntres Hatfilah was written, and 9 10 years later, when Kuntres Ho Avodah was written, or at most to the period of the Rebbe Rashab. In our time however, it is entirely irrelevant.

Anyone who says this is simply ignoring the fact that the one who published the Kuntres Ho Avodah and Kuntres Hatfilah, with his introduction... was my father in law, the Rebbe...

... There are those that say that since I haven't written tens of letters and made an uproar about Davening at Farbrengens... that proves that it is unimportant.

But there are in fact tens of letters and many Farbrengens from the Rebbe, my father in law, where he does make an uproar about Davening, and likewise with the Rebbe Rashab – so what is your excuse that you are not doing anything about your Avodas Hatfilah?! ...This is not the place to negate such foolishness and silliness.