

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU ASK FOR

Leib ben Shmuel Hakohane

While many of us tolerate sickness, we habitually abhor cancer. My wife works in a cancer hospital. She used to come home emotionally drained each day, but now that she concentrates on successes, she is better able to tolerate cancer.

Nevertheless, it seems to me as if people in the know are the ones who fret the most.

In any event, the day of the procedure started with much apprehension. The doctor had wanted to aspirate a lump in my wife's breast. My wife knows what happens. After the sample is taken, they analyze it. If it's benign, the woman goes home whole. If not, they immediately perform surgery, usually a mastectomy, but occasionally a lumpectomy; I guess it's patient specific. The patient just hopes that the procedure successfully eliminates the cancer. Too often, however, the ... well, you know. Knowing well that patients in a cancer hospital fret over their condition, they were now threatening my wife with becoming a patient.

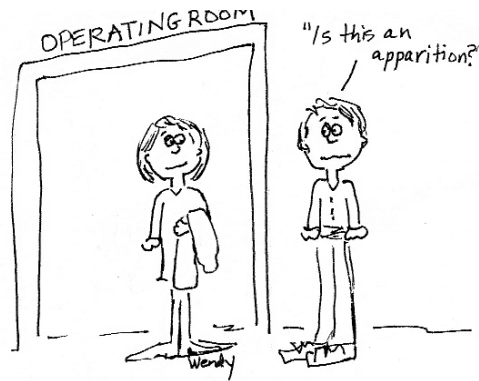
On that fated day, we traveled to the hospital, from the Bronx to Brooklyn. Inside, my wife was taken for her biopsy, and I went alone into the waiting room. I had a plan. My plan was to ask G-d for the best possible outcome. At this time, what else could I do?

I looked at the clock--9 AM. I had already estimated that a biopsy would take no more than an hour, including the analysis. So if she was back in an hour, by 10 AM, I knew she was whole and okay. Otherwise she might have to undergo a lumpectomy, so I figured another hour for that--11 AM, two hours. Those options failing, a mastectomy would surely take no more than three hours total, noon. I guessed that she was in their hands now, so I prayed to the One and Only G-d for the best possible outcome. Then I rested. It was already a long day.

10 AM came, and I stared at the wall clock. When my wife did not return within the hour, I felt the need to pray again. Of course, I prayed for the best possible outcome, although I was suspicious that something more was happening. I saw others asking the women at the waiting-room desk for information about their loved ones.

Seeking solace, I also asked a woman at the desk, but in my case she had no information. It's tough to receive no information. I wanted my wife home, whole and healthy--I wanted to feel well about her health--but I received no useful information.

I watched the clock, even as I tried to distract myself with the magazines offered. At 11 AM, I knew that two hours had passed. If she went in on time, then the rational hope for nothing-to-happen died. I prayed again. No change in my prayer--for the best possible outcome. Why change what I ask for now? Yes, I am aware that the rabbis say when approaching a village under attack that we are not allowed to pray that nothing happened. In the case of the village, I



reasoned, one can see the attack; but, in my case, I assured myself, I cannot see any attack. So I felt justified asking for nothing to happen to her. Of course, I asked at the desk, but they denied having any information on her. I was frightened and started to think that maybe they lost her.

When I saw the clock strike noon, worry engulfed me. According to my anticipated schedule, at three hours, the hope for the small procedures was over. I immediately calmed myself, and prayed for the best possible outcome. I started to feel silly. Shouldn't I follow my original anticipation and ask for the simplest remaining procedure? I decided not to ask for

any particular intervention--that was their problem. I had my own. Again, I prayed for the best possible outcome for her.

At 1 PM in the afternoon, I went back to the desk. They seemed piqued at me. No, they assured me, they didn't have any information. I figured if anybody had the right to be angry, it was me. As my mind raced, considering all options, I thought they had lost my wife in the system somewhere--my wife or her dead body. Nevertheless, I calmed myself and prayed to G-d for the best possible outcome for my wife. Even so, I was starting to think that I was being silly. What could they be doing with her for over four hours? I refused to think about that.

I read the clock--2 PM! I realized that I had to start worrying about our kids. They would soon be getting off the school bus in the Bronx. I would have to leave soon to intercept them. I wondered how I could tell them that the hospital had lost their mother. It didn't seem right to lose a patient to a biopsy. In the time remaining, I prayed for the best possible outcome for her. I refused to desert my resolve, although I realized that I would soon have to desert my wife at the hospital.

It is amazing how stubborn and stupid people can be. By people, I mean me. I was praying to G-d, and refused to accept that anything bad could happen to my wife. And then this happened. Through my teary eyes, I recognized my wife, standing outside the waiting room away from people, with her coat draped over her arm. "Is this an apparition?" the thought immediately entered my mind. I blinked and blinked to make the apparition disappear, but it did not disappear. So, I walked up to it, and as I took her hand, I knew she was real.

I asked her what happened. She was piqued and did not hesitate to show her annoyance. The technicians had wasted her time. They could not find any lump, and consequently, there was no procedure. She was very upset. I, however, was not upset at all; I was relieved.

We hurried to the car, to go home for our children. But not before I took time to thank G-d for the best possible outcome. After all, that is what I had asked for, wasn't it?

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

ENGAGEMENTS

Natalie Bitton and Adam Herbst

MARRIAGES

Ariel Goldstein and Gabriel Amzallag

Mazal Tov to parents Kim and Raymond Amzallag

Adina Beth Neustein and Simon Brief

Mazal Tov to parents Caryl Alterbaum Brief and Ben Brief

Dr. Lynn Davidman to Neal Horrell

Rivkah (Olga) Urquijo and David Gorin

Aliza Greenbaum and Shmuel O'Connor

Mazal Tov to parents Hadassah and Bill Greenbaum

Shoshana Frydman and Dr. Marc Wilkenfeld

BIRTHS

Blanche and Yedidiah Buchwald, on the birth of a boy, Aharon Netanel

Mazal Tov to grandparents Aidel and Ephraim Buchwald

Vicky and Daniel Ekstein on the birth of a baby boy, Aaron Michael

Mazal Tov to grandparents Marta and Joseph Braun

Tamara and Yehoshua Friedman on the birth of a girl, Meital Miriam

Mazal Tov to grandparents Valerie and Scott Shore

Emily (Holton) and Seth Gerszberg, on the birth of a girl,

Aviva Meira

Basya Chaya and Yair Dovid Guttman, on the birth of a girl, Michal

Mazal Tov to grandparents Yehudis and Moshe Ashin

Steven and Monica Hafif, on the birth of a boy, Jack



Amy and Mitchel Kase, on the birth of a girl, Lily Sarah

Meryl Degan and Albert Louzon, on the birth of a boy, Ayden Dov

Tova and Josh Marmor, on the birth of a girl,

Jacqueline Emma (Yaakova Emma).

Rebecca Dreisinger and Jose (Yosef) Melendrez,

on the birth of a girl, Sofia Ruth (Tzofiah Idit)

Chana and Yaakov Shore, on the birth of a boy, Eliyahu.

Mazal Tov to grandparents Valerie and Scott Shore

Ariella Sofia, on the birth of a grandson, Micha'el Natan

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Yosef Ashin

Mazal Tov to parents Yehudis and Moshe Ashin

Jonah Ullendorff

Mazal Tov to parents Allison and David Ullendorff,

and grandmother Regina Ullendorff

Gershon Shlomo Eichen,

Mazal Tov to parents Drs. Dawne and Matthew Eichen

CONDOLENCES

Neil Goldberg, on the loss of his father, Bernard Goldberg

Natasha Kim, on the untimely loss of her brother, Hyo Nam Kim

The family of Gary Rosenberg

Marc Weiner, on the loss of his father, Melvin Weiner

SPEEDY RECOVERY/REFUAH SH'LAIMA

Mark Fisher, Moshe Chaim ben Chana

Regina Ullendorff, Rachel bat Feige

CONGRATULATIONS

Mona Charen, received the Eric Breindel Journalism Award.

Daniel Diker, appointed Director of Strategic Affairs at the

World Jewish Congress.

Drs. Chava and Steve Kaplan, honored at Jewish Heritage Center,

Queens.

Louis Parks, honored at the Bet Chaverim Synagogue, Westport, CT,

Summer Gala.

Dr. Jennifer and Meir Solomon, guests of honor at the Clifton

Cheder's annual dinner.

TODAH RABBAH

Dr. Leonard Davidman for his devoted leadership of the

Beginners Service through the summer.

Irwin Mandel for cleaning the tallitot for the Beginners

High Holiday Services.

TZITCHEM L'SHALOM (TO LIVE OR STUDY IN ISRAEL)

Karen Blaustein and family

Karine and Michael Block and family (from Paris)

Heftziba and Mark Chase and family

Jacob Kornblatt

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Wed September 8, 2010 - 29th of Elul
EREV ROSH HASHANA
 Eruv Tavshilin
 Selichot/Morning Services 6:00 & 6:45 AM
 Light Candles 7:00 PM
 Mincha 7:05 PM

Thur September 9, 2010 - 1st of Tishrei
ROSH HASHANA
 Beit Midrash 7:30 AM
 Main Sanctuary 7:45 AM
 Ballroom 7:45 AM
 Beginners 9:00 AM
 Tashlich 6:00 PM
 Beginners Mincha 5:40 PM
 Mincha 7:00 PM
 Yom Tov Candles after 7:50 PM
 Daf Yomi after Ma'ariv

Fri September 10, 2010 - 2nd of Tishrei
ROSH HASHANA
 Beit Midrash 7:30 AM
 Main Sanctuary 7:45 AM
 Ballroom 7:45 AM
 Beginners 9:00 AM
 Daf Yomi 6:15 PM
 Candlelighting 6:56 PM
 Mincha 7:00 PM

Sat September 11, 2010 - 3rd of Tishrei
Ha'azinu SHABBAT SHUVA
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Mincha & Shabbat Shuva Drasha 6:35 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends 7:56 PM

Sun September 12, 2010 - 4th of Tishrei
TZOM GEDALIAH
 Fast begins 5:21 AM
 Selichot/Morning Services 6:30 & 8:00 AM
 Mincha 6:40 PM
 Fast ends 7:42 PM

Mon September 13, 2010 - 5th of Tishrei
 Selichot/Morning Services 6:40 & 7:15 AM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 6:50 PM

Tue September 14, 2010 - 6th of Tishrei
 Selichot/Morning Services 6:30 & 7:15 AM

Wed September 15, 2010 - 7th of Tishrei
 Selichot/Morning Services 6:30 & 7:15 AM

Thur September 16, 2010 - 8th of Tishrei
 Selichot/Morning Services 6:30 & 7:15 AM

Fri September 17, 2010 - 9th of Tishrei
EREV YOM KIPPPUR
 Selichot/Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Mincha 1:45, 3:00 & 4:30 PM
 Candlelighting 6:45 PM
 Kol Nidre 6:50 PM
 Daf Yomi after Ma'ariv

Sat September 18, 2010 - 10th of Tishrei
YOM KIPPPUR
 Beit Midrash 7:30 AM
 Main Sanctuary 8:00 AM
 Ballroom 9:00 AM
 Beginners 9:00 AM
 Mincha Main Sanctuary 4:45 PM
 Ma'ariv/Yom Tov ends 7:45 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 6:40 PM

Wed September 22, 2010 - 14th of Tishrei
EREV SUKKOT
 Eruv Tavshilin
 Candlelighting 6:36 PM
 Mincha 6:40 PM
 Begin meal in Sukkah after 7:25 PM

Thur September 23, 2010 - 15th of Tishrei
SUKKOT
 Morning Services 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Mincha 6:40 PM
 Yom Tov Candles and begin meal in Sukkah after 7:36 PM

Fri September 24, 2010 - 16th of Tishrei
SUKKOT
 Morning Services 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Candlelighting 6:33 PM
 Mincha 6:40 PM

Sat September 25, 2010 - 17th of Tishrei
CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 8:00 & 8:45 AM
 Mincha 6:25 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 7:33 PM

Sun September 26, 2010 - 18th of Tishrei
CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT
 Morning Services 6:45 & 8:15 AM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 6:30 PM

Mon September 27, 2010 - 19th of Tishrei
CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT
 Morning Services 6:45 & 7:30 AM

Tue September 28, 2010 - 20th of Tishrei
CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT
 Morning Services 6:45 & 7:30 AM

Wed September 29, 2010 - 21st of Tishrei
HOSHANA RABA
 Eruv Tavshilin
 Morning Services 6:15, 7:00 & 8:00 AM
 Candlelighting 6:24 PM
 Mincha 6:30 PM

Thur September 30, 2010 - 22nd of Tishrei
SHMINI ATZERET
 Morning Services 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Mincha 6:30 PM
 Yom Tov Candles after 7:24 PM
 Ma'ariv/Hakafot 7:24 PM

Fri October 1, 2010 - 23rd of Tishrei
SIMCHAT TORAH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 8:30 AM
 Candlelighting 6:21 PM
 Mincha 6:25 PM

Sat October 2, 2010 - 24th of Tishrei
Bereshit
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 5:25 PM
 Mincha 6:10 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 7:21 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 6:15 PM

Fri October 8, 2010 - 30th of Tishrei
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Candlelighting 6:10 PM
 Mincha 6:15 PM

Sat October 9, 2010 - 1st of Cheshvan
Noah ROSH CHODESH
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:40, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 5:15 PM
 Mincha 6:00 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 7:10 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 6:05 PM

Mon October 11, 2010 - 3rd of Cheshvan
COLUMBUS DAY
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:50 AM

Fri October 15, 2010 - 7th of Cheshvan
 Candlelighting 5:59 PM
 Mincha 6:05 PM

Sat October 16, 2010 - 8th of Cheshvan
Lech Lecha
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Ahdut Service 8:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 5:05 PM
 Mincha 5:50 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:59 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 5:55 PM

Fri October 22, 2010 - 14th of Cheshvan
 Candlelighting 5:48 PM
 Mincha 5:55 PM

Sat October 23, 2010 - 15th of Cheshvan
Vayera
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 4:55 PM
 Mincha 5:40 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:48 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 5:45 PM

Fri October 29, 2010 - 21st of Cheshvan
 Candlelighting 5:39 PM
 Mincha 5:45 PM

Sat October 30, 2010 - 22nd of Cheshvan
Chay Sara
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 4:45 PM
 Mincha 5:30 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:39 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 5:40 PM

Tue November 2, 2010 - 25th of Cheshvan
ELECTION DAY
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM

Fri November 5, 2010 - 28th of Cheshvan
 Candlelighting 5:31 PM
 Mincha 5:35 PM

Sat November 6, 2010 - 29th of Cheshvan
Toldot
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 4:35 PM
 Mincha 5:20 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 6:31 PM
 Move clocks back one hour
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:30 PM

Sun November 7, 2010 - 30th of Cheshvan
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 8:30 AM

Tue November 8, 2010 - 1st of Kislev
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Thur November 11, 2010 - 4th of Kislev
VETERANS DAY
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:50 AM

Fri November 12, 2010 - 5th of Kislev
 Candlelighting 4:23 PM
 Mincha 4:30 PM

Sat November 13, 2010 - 6th of Kislev
Vayetzya
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:30 PM
 Mincha 4:15 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbatends 5:23 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:25 PM

Fri November 19, 2010 - 12th of Kislev
 Candlelighting 4:18 PM
 Mincha 4:25 PM

Sat November 20, 2010 - 13th of Kislev
Vayishlach
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:25 PM
 Mincha 4:10 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:18 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:20 PM

Thur November 25, 2010 - 18th of Kislev
THANKSGIVING DAY
 Morning Services 7:00 & 8:30 AM

Fri November 26, 2010 - 19th of Kislev
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candlelighting 4:14 PM
 Mincha 4:20 PM

Sat November 27, 2010 - 20th of Kislev
Vayeshev
 Daf Yomi 7:00 AM
 Bible Class 8:30 AM
 Morning Services 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:20 PM
 Mincha 4:05 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 5:14 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:20 PM

Wed December 1, 2010 - 24th of Kislev
 Mincha & Maariv 4:20 PM
 Light Chanukah Candles after 5:01 PM

Thu December 2, 2010 - 25th of Kislev
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Light Chanukah Candles after 5:01 PM

HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES
 at the Manhattan Day School
 310 West 75th Street
 (bet. West End Ave. & Riverside Dr.)

ROSH HASHANA
 Wed., Sept. 8, 7:05 pm
 Thur. & Fri., Sept. 9 & 10, 9:00 am
 Thur., Sept. 9, 6:40 pm
 Fri., Sept. 10, 7:00 pm @ LSS

YOM KIPPUR
 Fri., Sept. 17, 6:50 pm
 Sat., Sept. 18, 9:00 am

Tickets
 LSS Members \$75, Non-Members \$125

SAVE THE DATES
Special Event
 Sukkot Shopping: Wed., Sept. 22

Beginners Parties
Sukkot, Simchat Bet Hashoeva:
 Tue., Sept. 28, @ Kehilath Jeshurun
Chanukah: Mon., Dec. 6

Beginners Shmooze - Free
 Mon., Nov. 1, 8:15 PM

Beginners Shabbat Luncheon - \$20
 Sat., Nov. 6, 12:30 PM

Beginners Chanukah Shabbaton
 Fri. - Sat., Dec. 3-4