



# **Parshas Bo**

## **A Parsha Story for the Shabbos Table**

In parshas Bo the Jewish people are for the first time given a mitzvah as a nation, the mitzvah of Rosh Chodesh. Rosh Chodesh is an important mitzvah for Klal Yisrael because we are compared to the moon – it reminds us that, just as the moon goes through cycles where it disappears and comes back, so too we may have times where we feel distant from Hashem, but we can always do teshuvah and come back.

Aryeh was engrossed in building what might have been his largest ever Lego robot destroyer. Many hours had gone into this creation, and it was almost done. Being engrossed in his robot destroyer, of course, meant that he was *not* engrossed in the mishnayos he was supposed to be reviewing for homework.

This point had not escaped his father.

“Oh Aryeh?” he chirped from the other room. “How are those mishnayos coming?”

Aryeh barely looked up from his destroyer. “Um, yeah, they’re going fine,” he replied.

“Oh, are they?” asked his father, who was now standing over Aryeh and the lego robot destroyer, looking distinctly unconvinced. Aryeh looked up.

“Eh, well, they *will* be going fine, as soon as I get to them...”

Aryeh’s father did not look impressed. “I don’t understand, Aryeh. You used to be so into your mishnayos. You were totally on top of them. Lately, it seems like you’ll do anything to avoid learning them!”

**To receive the weekly parsha story, sign up at [www.knafayim.com/parsha](http://www.knafayim.com/parsha).**

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE! PLEASE CONTACT [INFO@KNAFAYIM.COM](mailto:INFO@KNAFAYIM.COM) FOR INFORMATION.

*K'nafayim is a non-profit organization that offers free and low-cost family services to the frum community in Baltimore, including marriage and family counseling, dating coaching, abuse prevention education, and more.*

*For more information go to [www.knafayim.com](http://www.knafayim.com).*

"That's not true!" protested Aryeh.

"Yesterday you actually cleaned up your room rather than learning! Something's up."

***What do YOU do when you're trying to avoid doing something you don't want to do?***

Aryeh stared at his toes. "Well, look Dad, it's just, it's so hard. It's so much work. I used to like it because it was just a few mishnayos I had to remember and I was totally crushing it. But I'm just... not feeling it anymore."

Aryeh's father sat down beside him. "You know, I totally get that. It's *not* easy. Especially trying to keep up your learning over the long term. But you know what? That's normal."

"It is?"

"Yeah, sure. Everyone goes through cycles in their avodas Hashem. Sometimes you feel totally energized and ready to learn, ready to daven, ready to do whatever you gotta do. And then sometimes you feel not so into it, and it's hard, and you really have to push. I have the same struggle sometimes."

"Really?"

"Sure do. Just like a robot destroyer doesn't win every battle, but if he's a *good* robot destroyer, he'll pick up again after he loses one and keep at it. There are times we're feeling it and times we're not. And if you keep at it, you'll get back into your groove. Don't give up."

Aryeh pondered for a moment as he adjusted a lego piece on the robot destroyer's Laser Destructo Gun. "Well... then can you go over the mishnayos with me now?"

"Sure can," replied his father. "Let's put some *ameilus* into it and get you back on track!"

***Why did Aryeh not want to learn mishnayos?***

***What's something you sometimes find hard and sometimes find easy?***

***What are some ways you can encourage yourself to keep going when you find it hard to do something you have to do?***

## ***Good Shabbos!***

**Did you benefit from this parsha story?  
Consider donating \$1 as a thank you!**

*Got feedback to share? We'd love to hear it!*  
[info@knafayim.com](mailto:info@knafayim.com)

