

Ten

Gifts

That You
Can Cash in
Right Now



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## Preface

### Gift of Emuna

In Makos 24a we learn that Chavakuk the Prophet summarizes the entire Torah with the gift of emuna. Hashem granted us a soul which is the essence of who we are which is always connected to Hashem. We have inspiration, intuition and a conscience that are all linked together to the inner faith we have.

Hashem listens to all of our prayers. He watches as we study His Torah and perform His mitzvos, especially when we fulfill the mitzvah to help each other.

We should have faith that Hashem is keeping us alive right now, and He surely is. It is a composite of the Six Constant Mitzvos we are obligated in every moment...

## 1. Gift of Six

Six of the greatest mitzvos should be at our fingertips always:

1- Hashem is the One Who redeemed us from Egypt and from all of the 10 plagues that knocked out the Egyptians.

2- There is no G-d besides Him.

3- He is the One and Only Creator of all, everything else are His creations!

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The solution to deal with all forms of pain/misery/frustration/doubts/fears is to turn to Hashem Who is always nearby. Ask Him, "Please Hashem, I need help in dealing with..."

The easiest and fastest way to use and apply our gift of faith is to study the fourth mitzvah (of the six) to love Hashem Who loves us with an incredible, infinite, eternal love!!!

2. Gift of Love

Consider, Hashem Who loves you daily is always standing right next to you. It is amazing how you will feel by thinking Hashem is right with you and you can fulfill Tehillim 100, "Serve Hashem with joy and love, come before Him with song."

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### Wonderful Methods

We do have to learn to appreciate Hashem's unique and profound ways. We sometimes think we know what we want and hope for, but Hashem always knows better. He really knows what is truly best for us.

His plans provide us with the most wonderful solutions, but sometimes it may take us about ten years to fully appreciate some of the reasons that Hashem chose to help us in better, bigger and more beautiful ways than we could have imagined.

### 3. Gift of a Partner

The Talmud teaches us that Hashem calls Himself our Partner. He is the One with the deep pockets, so to speak, Who has all of the treasures of the universe at His disposal. We should learn to expect opportunities and outcomes that will occur or arrive in a surprising way, when you hope, trust and pray to Hashem. We need to also leave the details to Him.

He knows how to turn water into blood, pull a billion frogs out of a river, create trillions of lice out of the earth, etc. He split the ocean and made a special ocean-view highway for His beloved nation. We need to forget what we think is logic and learn Torah logic. Know and trust Hashem that everything will work out with precision and perfection.

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5- Also fear and respect Hashem,

6- Conquer your evil inclination with discipline to earn Hashem's favor.

4. Gift of Desire

“On the path one desires to go, Hashem will lead him,” Makos 10b.

This Talmudic teaching guides us to learn how to get to merit what we desire... we can choose to study the complete Shas, to get a certain job, to find a mate or to have children, etc.

Start thinking about what you might explain to your Best Friend - Hashem, why you want these goals and what you're willing to do to merit them on Hashem's terms. Keep thinking about and start doing the list of suggestions Hashem teaches us in His Torah and Talmud of what we should do to merit all of the above!

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To get started, review what Hashem desires from all of us - to become great in Torah study, prayer / service and kindness to all. Ask yourself, “Where should I start and how can I grow in these three areas of success.

## 5. Gift of Imagination

Mesilas Yeshorim begins his great sefer with the paramount teaching that we were created only for the purpose of rejoicing with Hashem...

You can imagine all kinds of amazing fireworks created and displayed by Hashem at the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai to signify the appealing enjoyment of spiritual ecstasy with closeness to Hashem.

Every mitzvah you do should be a fun experience with peaceful pleasure of connecting to Hashem.

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Be careful what you truly pray for, because Hashem may make it happen for you.

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With Hashem, everything is possible. He is eager and waiting to help us as we are taught in Tehillim 81, "Open your mouth wide and He will fill it up!!"

## 6. Gift of your Value

The Talmud, Sanhedrin 37a, teaches this daily obligation -

“One should always say - ‘The world was created because of me’.” Each of us has an integral role to play in benefiting the entire world.

Hashem in His goodness recreates His world every day with us in it, because we are an essential part of His plan.

When we are happy and rejoice with the gifts He is providing, we connect with Him by thanking Him and singing His praises. Thus we’re fulfilling our purpose of “It is good to thank Hashem and to sing...,” Tehillim 92.

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This greatness within us includes the gift of courage Hashem implanted in us, as we learn in Avos 5:23: “Be bold as a leopard... to fulfill the will of your Father in Heaven.”

We can choose to be brave and strong.

7. Fun in Doing

Hashem designed each person including you as a tailor-made unique individual. You have desires that you can follow and develop to accomplish great achievements in your special way. You can enjoy the work you like doing. One of the famous Mishnayos we should be saying often is, "Love your work," Avos 1:10.

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When things seem to be changing fast, seize your opportunities! Goals you were always dreaming about, but hesitant to take the steps, now, Hashem may be nudging you - "Jump, I will help you succeed." Do it to serve Hashem and He will help you.

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Ask yourself, "Which mitzvah can I do today that I would really enjoy doing?"

8. Gift of 'Loving Work'

Of course this mitzvah applies to Torah study first. As we learn -

-“Oh, how I love Your Torah, all day long it is my conversation,” Tehillim 119.

-“I rejoice over Your sayings as one who finds great abundant treasures,” ibid.

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There is also a time and place to choose to allow your love for something to be visible, through your actions. Brochos 43b and Rashi explain how Hashem made each person with individual desires and talents to engage successfully in various missions. You can uplift yourself and others by doing what you enjoy most.

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How can you motivate yourself to succeed more? Think of a clever idea, a strategy that can work for you.

There was a fellow who decided to stop overeating and develop a healthy, trim body. He put up posters '\$10,000 reward if you catch this person eating in a restaurant.' It worked!

9. Gift of Asking

We need to open our mouths and ask.

Hashem says to us in Tehillim 81, "Open your mouth wide to ask Me and I will fill it up!"

Now Hashem can read our mind and still He urges us to ask. Surely then for people who cannot read our thoughts, sometimes all it takes is to introduce yourself and then ask.

Avos 4:1 teaches, "Who is wise? One who learns from every person." One way of doing that is by asking questions.

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If you don't know whom to ask or where to start, you should pray to Hashem to provide some hints or send the right messenger to meet you.

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If you ask someone and they decline, ask them if they know of someone else who might be helpful.

10. **Gift of “Rejoicing with Your Portions”**

Avos 4:1 teaches that the secret to true wealth is rejoicing with our portions.

-We should learn to survive and thrive, with thanks to Hashem.

-Turn every possible complaint into a compliment. It is a choice we have to enjoy our gifts with appreciation.

-You can get excited over your ongoing breathing of Hashem’s enjoyable air that He keeps on providing for us.

-Look outside at the tree in full bloom... see the glorious bright colors, take a deep breath and smile. Listen to the chorus of the birds and thank Hashem with your own song.

They show us that Hashem can always make your day brighter, newer and better. We can choose today to grow and change to connect more to Hashem with the gifts He is showering upon us.