

Yated Ne'eman

Tiferes Bnei Torah: A Place Where Young Working People “Belong”

This question reverberates through the minds of hundreds of young men in their twenties and early thirties, who, after years in yeshiva, have joined the work force but lack a spiritual home. They are searching for a place where they will feel comfortable davening and learning.

By and large, there was no such place in existence, until the rosh yeshiva of Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim, Rav Henschel Leibowitz, expressed his dream - to replicate the “Tiferes Bachurim” groups of pre-war Europe. “Tiferes Bachurim” catered to the countless bochorim who were forced to join the work force at a young age. It provided them with a place to gather nightly, where they learned together, davened together, stuck together, talked together and created bonds through Torah and matters of spirit that helped them overcome the many spiritual hurdles they faced as teenagers in the work force.

Rav Leibowitz asked his talmid, Rabbi Ben Tzion Shafier, a long time rebbe for high school-aged bochorim, to create an organization that would become an all-encompassing social environment, almost a community within our communities, where a young, working ben Torah could find his place - a place where he could learn, a home that would stimulate him to grow, an environment that would nurture a sense of connection and belonging.

Rabbi Shafier seized the opportunity and Tiferes Bnei Torah was born.

Tiferes Bnei Torah started about 2 years ago with just 12 people. Today, with branches in Brooklyn, Queens and Monsey, hundreds of young working men have developed a strong connection with Yiddishkeit and Torah through Tiferes Bnei Torah.

The centerpiece of Tiferes Bnei Torah is the weekly “Shmuz” that Rabbi Shafier delivers in each of the three locations. The Shmuz is a down-to-earth, practical,

“Where do I fit?”

engaging and stimulating presentation that addresses the real issues facing these young men on a daily

basis.

In addition to the Shmuz, the various interactive, stimulating shiurim on other nights of the week attract significant numbers.

Tiferes Bnei Torah is not just an organization; it is not just a shiur or a series of shiurim; it is a movement, a vital movement where young people feel that they belong. This sense of belonging is enhanced by the many extra curricular programs that they offer. One such program, the frequent Shabbatonim, serves as a profound source of chizuk for all.

As many of these young men marry and begin their own homes, Tiferes Bnei Torah accompanies them. The programs and special shiurim for the wives of the Tiferes Bnei Torah members have been extremely well received.

Tiferes Bnei Torah accomplishes its goals through the recordings of the weekly Shmuz which countless young men listen to while in the car during their working hours. All of the Shmuzin are posted on the website, TheShmuz.com, and many download a Shmuz on to a CD, pop it into their cars and listen to them throughout the week.

“I listen to the Shmuz almost all the time in my car,” says Barry S. from Passaic, N.J., “and it has a tremendous impact on myself and my family.”

Michal L. of N.Y., N.Y., says, “As I have listened to 4 of [the] shiurim so far, I cannot even describe the impact they have had on me and how appropriate they are, as they address struggles that I myself have recently been thinking about.”

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For more information about Tiferes Bnei Torah please call 1-866-613-Torah or visit them on line at www.TheShmuz.com.