

Tiferes Bnei Torah Holds *Shiur* In Brooklyn

By Yosef Gesser

Yesterday morning, Tiferes Bnei Torah held one of its popular *shiurim* at Khal Eishel Avraham in Flatbush. The event was scheduled to accommodate many of its members who were off from work in view of the legal holiday. The *shiur* was delivered by its well-known director, Rabbi Bentzion Shafier.

Tiferes Bnei Torah was organized about six years ago by Rabbi Shafier at the behest of Hagaon Harav Henschel Lebowitz, *zt"l*, the Rosh Yeshiva of the Chofetz Chaim yeshivos, to establish a social environment, almost a community within communities, in which young, working *bnei Torah* could find a stimulating social environment that would give them a sense of connection and would nurture their growth in *ruchniyus*. Rabbi Shafier, who learned for many years at Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim, served as a *rebbe* at its Rochester and Monsey branches. Upon his

Rosh Yeshiva's request he curtailed his teaching duties to devote himself to overseeing and directing Tiferes Bnei Torah.

In his *shiur*, entitled "*Emunah and Bitachon: Finding the Balance*," Rabbi Shafier focused on two statements in *Chazal* that seem contradictory. On one hand the *Gemara* in *Beitzah* 16a says that one's income is predetermined on each Rosh Hashanah. Yet, another *Gemara* in *Brachos* 32b posits that *derech erez* (understood here as working for a living) is one of four areas that need strengthening, meaning that one must constantly fortify himself to work hard at his work or business. The question is, if income is set, why is he expected to work diligently?

Rabbi Shafier, in the *shiur*, explained that one is obligated to make normal *hishtadlus* (efforts) in acquiring *parnassah* and in other life situations, yet he must keep in mind that Hashem is ultimately the one who determines one's income

and the degree of success that one attains in any given situation. He cited various sources to bolster and illustrate this point.

The *shiur* was preceded by a *Shacharis minyan* and breakfast for the attendees.

Tiferes Bnei Torah operates chiefly in Queens, Monsey and Brooklyn, where *shiurim* on various *limudim*, learning opportunities and recreational activities are offered to its members. The centerpiece of its activities is "The Shmuz," a wide-ranging *shiur* given by Rabbi Shafier that focuses on major life issues from the perspective of Torah *hashkafah*. Over 160 *shmuessen* on topics such as learning Torah, *tefillah*, *chessed*, *middos* and the *Yamim Tovim* are available for listening.

For more information on the projects of Tiferes Bnei Torah or to obtain recordings of "The Shmuz," call (866) 613-TORAH.

A longer article on this event will appear, *iy"H*, in the weekly edition of *Hamodia*.