

A מְדוּת Moment

Little Yitzi was having fun in Junior congregation. He didn't like listening to the rules much. He would run around and not listen to the person in charge. But as soon as his father would enter the room, Yitzi would freeze and stop his mischief immediately.

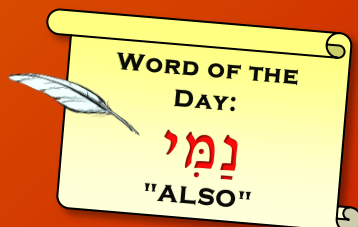
"You should be the one in charge of Junior congregation," someone said to Yitzi's father. "Look how your son listens to everything you say!"

"It's only natural," said Yitzi's father. "The גְּמָרָא teaches that it is natural for a son to be in awe of his father. When his father comes into a room, the son is on his best behavior and is ashamed to disappoint him. If you see a son who is not ashamed to act poorly in front of his father, you should know that something is very wrong."



Did You Know...

If the witness (see "Inside the Daf") had a quarrelsome marriage, he may divorce his wife and marry the widow. People will not think that he got divorced just to marry the widow.



Inside the Daf



We have learned how we try to stop gossip. One way is by not letting anyone marry a woman if that person helped break up her marriage (see pg. 57). For example, if a witness testified that a woman's husband died, that witness may not marry her. After all, we don't want people to gossip and say that the man is *lying* about the husband's death so that he could marry the widow.

But the מְשֻנָּה teaches that if this witness was already married at the time he testified about the husband's death, and then his wife died, he may marry the woman. People will not say that he lied about the husband's death planning to marry the widow since he was already married at the time of his testimony. Marriage was surely far from his mind.

What if the witness was married at the time he testified, and then he divorced his wife. Would he be allowed to marry the dead husband's widow? The גְּמָרָא says, no. People might say that he planned to lie about the husband's death, divorce his own wife, and marry the widow.

Third Time's Not the Charm

If a man helped to break up a marriage, he may not marry the woman. We have seen the example of a witness who testified that a woman's husband died. In that case, the witness may not marry the woman (see pgs. 57, 59).

The משנה tells us that if the woman marries another man, and then is divorced or widowed from him, she may marry the man who had testified that her husband died.



The גמרא points out that not every תנא (Sage of the משנה era) would agree that the woman may marry for a third time. רבי is of the opinion that if a woman has been married twice, and both husbands died while married to her, the woman may not remarry. Also, if a woman has been twice divorced, רבי does not allow her to remarry as she is seen to be someone who causes divorces.

Games

יבמות דף כ"ו – Review Questions

1. When may a witness to a husband's death marry the widow?

2. What does רבי not allow a twice-widowed woman to do?

3. When may the witness divorce his wife and marry the widow?

Use these letters to spell the word for a woman who has been twice widowed (HINT: The last letter is the last letter of the אב,א)

Mix N'
Match

