



# THE TRIBE SCRIBE

BEHAR-BECHUKOTAI: PLAY THE GAME!

New York, 1950s  
In honour of his upcoming Bar Mitzvah, Josh and his Dad went to visit the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson (1902-1994) to receive his blessing.



TELL ME JOSH, ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SPORTS?

YES! OF COURSE. I LOVE BASEBALL!



WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE TEAM?

THE DODGERS.



DOES YOUR FATHER EVER TAKE YOU TO A GAME?

YES, HE TOOK ME TO A DODGERS GAME JUST A FEW WEEKS AGO.



SO HOW WAS THE GAME?

TO BE HONEST, IT WAS TERRIBLE! THE DODGERS WERE LOSING 10-0 AND THERE WAS NO WAY THEY COULD WIN! WE DECIDED TO GO HOME AFTER THE SEVENTH INNINGS.



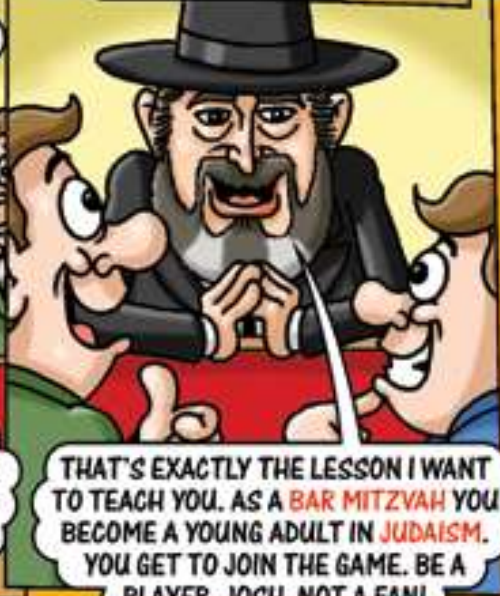
DID THE PLAYERS LEAVE TOO?

THE PLAYERS? OH NO, THEY CAN'T LEAVE IN THE MIDDLE! THEY HAVE TO STAY TILL THE END OF THE GAME.



HOW COME YOU COULD LEAVE BUT THEY COULDN'T?

I'M ONLY A FAN - A SPECTATOR. I'M NOT ONE OF THE PEOPLE PLAYING THE GAME. THE PLAYERS HAVE TO TRY AND CATCH UP. THEY DO THEIR BEST AND PLAY RIGHT TILL THE END.



THAT'S EXACTLY THE LESSON I WANT TO TEACH YOU. AS A BAR MITZVAH YOU BECOME A YOUNG ADULT IN JUDAISM. YOU GET TO JOIN THE GAME. BE A PLAYER, JOSH, NOT A FAN!



THE SECOND OF THIS WEEK'S TWO PARASHIOT, BECHUKOTAI, GIVES US DIRECTION AND INSTRUCTIONS OF HOW TO PLAY THE GAME OF LIFE. WHEN WE ARE ACTIVE PLAYERS, WE HAVE THE BEST CHANCE OF WINNING.