



to do, but the young man took action. He decided he wanted to be the type of boy his potential father-in-law would want. He went and got a hold of a few key *sefarim*. He pledged that he would finish them before he married and that he would act upon everything that he learned. Everyone else was angry at the *kallah's* father for being so difficult, but the young man sincerely wanted to be the type of person his prospective father-in-law would want. The boy followed through on his pledge, turned his life around in a very real way, and the two got married with the *kallah's* father's blessing.

Did this *chassan* really change? Did he become the Vilna Gaon in a matter of months? Doubtful. But he

made some real changes, took concrete steps — and he *davened* that his prospective father-in-law would take note and have *rachmanus*.

The word *teshuvah* literally means “Returning to Hashem.” Let’s spend Yom Kippur doing *teshuvah*. Let’s really find some things that we regret, really pledge to change, and *daven* to Hashem that he accept our *teshuvah* and erase *all* of our *aveiros*. Hashem has given us the opportunity to become different people. Let’s make some changes and show that we are taking advantage of the love and the opportunity that Hashem has given us.

May all of our *tefillos* be answered in the best possible way. ■