

# Lesson Three: Introduction to Halachos



“בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים”

(בראשית א, א)

*“In the beginning, Hashem created the world.”*



## The Cake Experiment

**CHARACTERS:** Faigy, Sara, Mommy,

**Mommy:** Girls, how would you like to bake a cake for Shabbos?

**Sara:** I’ve never baked a cake before.

**Faigy:** Me neither. But I love saying a Brocha on it!

**Mommy:** Let this be your first time, then! I think you are BH both very capable. It will be a big help for me.

**Faigy:** Okay, I’m up for it! Sara, what flavor should we make?

**Sara:** How about chocolate and vanilla layered cream cake with that yummy rainbow frosting that I once had by my friend Shifra’s birthday party --

**Mommy:** Sara, that sounds really complicated. Since it’s your first time, why don’t you start with something more simple?

**Faigy:** Chocolate with vanilla frosting?

**Sara:** And sprinkles.

**Mommy:** *(laughs)* Okay, as you wish. Check if we have all the ingredients in the cabinet before you begin. I’m going to put the baby for a nap now, so don’t disturb me unless you have any major questions, okay?

**Faigy:** Okay! Bezras Hashem we’ll be totally fine! Right Sara?

**Sara:** Absolutely!

**Mommy:** Good luck!

**Faigy:** So, where should we begin? Let's see.... I think we need chocolate bars for the chocolate part. Oh, here's a Klik bar we can use!

**Sara:** Are you sure we don't need to follow some instructions or something?

**Faigy:** Nah. Let's figure it out on our own. We're smart enough! Can you get a bowl and spoon? I think we should mix the chocolate up with some flour to make it more cakey.

**Sara:** What about sugar?

**Faigy:** Right, of course we need sugar! How many bags do you think we should dump in here? We want it to be really sweet!

**Sara:** I don't think we need so much... can we get the cookbook to check?

**Faigy:** Sara, why are you so into that? We can figure it out on our own.

**Sara:** Because! We don't know better! AHH!!! Faigy, what are you doing?

**Faigy:** I'm just putting the eggs whole into the batter, what's the problem? I'm sure the shells will melt in the oven or something.

**Sara:** I'm going to get Mommy. We don't know what we're doing.

**Mommy:** Girls, what's happening? I heard your arguing from all the way down the hall!

**Faigy:** Sara thinks we need to follow someone else's rules! I want this to be OUR cake! I'm happy figuring it out on my own.

**Mommy:** Ah. I see. Faigy, could you please put down that spoon and go and get a Sefer Bereishis for me from the bookshelf?

**Faigy:** Okay... one second... here. What does Chumash have to do with baking a cake?

**Mommy:** You'll see. Please read the first Pasuk out loud.

**Faigy:** Bereishis Bara Elokim, Es Hashamayim V'Es Haaretz.

**Sara:** It means "In the beginning, Hashem created the heavens and the earth".

**Mommy:** Great. Now girls, Hashem is the one Who created the world. He knows it best. Now let's skip ahead. Do you remember learning about what happened in Gan Eden?

**Sara:** Yes! Hashem told Adam and Chava that they can enjoy everything in Gan Eden, except for the Eitz HaDaas!

**Faigy:** And they broke the one rule Hashem gave them! They ate the fruit!

**Mommy:** Faigy, why did they break the rule?

**Faigy:** I guess because they listened to the Nachash, and they thought they knew better...

**Mommy:** Exactly. Now back to your cake... do you want it to come out tasting delicious?

**Faigy:** Of course!

**Mommy:** Then you need to follow the instructions.

**Sara:** Just like a Yid has to follow the Torah's instructions!

**Faigy:** I get it now. Hey, I actually just thought of a connection. My counselor said that we're going to learn Hilchos Tznius tomorrow.

**Sara:** Halachos are like instructions!

**Faigy:** Exactly! I'm going to tell my friends this story about the cake mistake! How when we try to do things our own way, it might not always work. But when we do things Hashem's way, we can relax. Since He is the One who created the world, He knows what's really best for us.

**Sara:** Even if we don't understand every detail.

**Faigy:** Like what baking soda does.

**Sara:** Right. But just like we follow the Shulchan Aruch with complete Kabbalas Ol, so too we will follow this recipe to the very last detail!

**Faigy:** And then we'll eat the wonderful cake at our Misibas Shabbos! Wow, these instructions are so clear.

**Sara:** Following the rules sure pays off!

**Mommy:** Girls, I'm so proud of you. Enjoy serving Hashem! Enjoy having Kabbalas Ol!