

## **PRAYER POINTS**

### **ANTICIPATION**

On his last Shabbos on earth, Rav Levenstein, strengthened himself with all his might to stand and pray. He asked for his *kapatah* (long coat), even though it was difficult for him to don it at that point. Nevertheless, he would not pray without being properly dressed.

People respond to the cues provided by their clothing and surroundings. A bride feels regal as she dons her wedding gown. A child feels relaxed and sleepy when he changes into his pajamas. A police officer feels emboldened and focused when he puts on his uniform. It is for this reason that a person who seeks to feel the reality of coming before Hashem “face-to-face” they must be properly prepared for his meeting.

This is a personal and unique relationship. One needs to be prepared to come before the King of kings. When we pray we must view ourselves as actually standing before the King and speaking to Him.

Prayer is the way Hashem provides us the opportunity to make our sincere “in-person” plea before Him. If one arrives prepared and focused, his heart is filled with hope that Hashem will grant his requests, he has captured the full potential of this moment of unmatched closeness to the King of kings.

### **POINTS TO PONDER**

**Reciting the various prayers from the liturgy requires a more stringent mindset.**

**This mindset or attitude are all indications that Tefillah or Prayer bears the unique facet of a direct encounter with Hashem, our King.**

**A direct encounter is far more effective in arousing compassion for the petitioner.**

**1 Kings 8:28 Yet have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his plea, O LORD my God, listening to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before you this day, <sup>29</sup> that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you have said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may listen to the prayer that your servant offers toward this place. <sup>30</sup> And listen to the plea of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. And listen in heaven your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive. (ESV)**