

# Out To The Field – Living In The Present

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Continued from last week [here](#):

## [Likutey Moharan I:282](#) – Week 6

Continuing to focus on correcting my behavior instead of my youngest child's behavior, I had another important insight during *hisbodedus*. The insight was that another display of my [chutzpah](#) was how I was routinely annoyed by my youngest child's constant request to go to a store and buy something while I would go to online stores on a daily basis looking to buy more *seforim*. Aside from acquiring a gigantic library of *seforim* that I did not even have the time to go through, my routine purchases were also robbing me of the ability to live in the present since I would then be focused on the date in a day or two when then *sefer* would finally be delivered via UPS. It also robbed me of the ability to live in the present since when the *sefer* finally did arrive, I would look to try to

steal time away once I got home to peruse its contents. This, unfortunately, often came at the expense of spending time with my wife and children.

Realizing that living in the present was also a part of *Azamra* as Chaya Rivka Zwolinski pointed out in her recent [posting](#), I decided to do something to remedy this situation. My *yetzer hara* immediately suggested that I cease all online purchases for a month's time since he knew I would fall flat on my face if I tried to take that on. Understanding that proceeding according to my *yetzer hara*'s grandiose suggestion was a guaranteed recipe for failure, I resolved to cease all online purchase (or even visiting an online store) for just that day (and I continued it one day at time afterwards).

The next morning, I had another important insight during *hisbodedus*. With a head that felt like it was full of rocks, I initially felt no connection whatsoever. Then, I started discussing this feeling with Hashem, "Hashem, I know You are here and hear every word I say. Yet, I cannot sense Your presence at all! It feels like You don't even exist. It feels like I am making You up as a a figment of my imagination. However, I believe in You and I know that You do exist. You are the only true existence in the world! Please Hashem, fill my heart with *emuna*. Please let me sense again that You are here again!"

It then dawned on me. The night before, I had remarked in conversation that my community was greatly lacking in *emuna*. Obviously with this comment, I was speaking in a manner that was the opposite of what the Rebbe taught about in *Azamra*. I was so focused on applying *Azamra* to my youngest child that I forgot that I needed to apply it to everyone. By criticizing my community's lack of *emuna*, I was once again displaying *chutzpa* towards Hashem. If I really wanted to be honest, I could make a list of things that I did which could be viewed by others as if I did not have *emuna*.

Admitting my mistake, I then said, "Hashem, I understand now why I felt as if You were not here. I criticized Your people for something I too am guilty of! Please Hashem, help me for just today not to speak in this manner. Help me see only my community's *nekudos tovos*."

Immediately, I felt Hashem's presence once again and was able to spend the rest of the hour in *hisbodedus* speaking easily and with a real sense of connection.

Next week, I will tell you more about how I continued to live with this lesson.