SHABBAT MISSION 21

THE CHAOS COACH

What happens when your brilliant plan falls apart?

TODAY'S BITACHON IDEA

Our job is to make a good effort. Hashem has the ultimate plan, even when we don't know what it is.

Based on Mishlei 16:9. This is a child-friendly application, not a quotation.

BITACHON SPARK

There's nothing wrong with making a plan. We should think, prepare, and try our best. But our plan isn't a promise about how things will turn out. When something unexpected happens, we can change what we do next and ask Hashem for help. We don't have to know His whole plan to know He's still with us.



A SHORT STORY: THE NEIGHBORHOOD CUP

Dovid had planned Sunday's Neighborhood Cup down to the last goal. Six kids would play three against three on the big park field. He'd invented the Lightning Pass: Yuval to Eli to Dovid, who would score. He even borrowed a plastic salad bowl for the trophy.

But when Dovid arrived, a fence blocked half the field. Worse, two players couldn't come. Only Dovid, Yuval, Eli, and Benny were there.

"Three against three is impossible now," Dovid said. "And there's no room for the Lightning Pass!"

Yuval pointed to the grass that was still open. "We could play two against two. You and Eli against me and Benny."

"But I spent three days planning this!" Dovid said. "You're even supposed to be on my team!"

Yuval rolled the ball toward him. "So, are we cancelling, or are we playing?"

Dovid wanted his original game back. The fence didn't move. The missing players didn't appear. He whispered, "Hashem, I'm disappointed. Please help me figure out what to do next."

Then Dovid picked up the ball. "New plan! Two against two. Small goals. First team to three wins."

They played. Dovid and Eli lost, three goals to two. He was disappointed, but he was glad they played.

Yuval lifted the salad-bowl trophy. "Next week?"

Dovid grinned. "I'll make a plan. And maybe a backup plan."

Benny peered at the trophy. "I think my mother serves potato salad in that."







BIG IDEA FOR KIDS

Dovid couldn't control the fence, who came, or who won. But he could prepare, ask Hashem for help, and decide what to try next. That's bitachon: we do our part and trust Hashem with what happens. Hashem has the ultimate plan, even when we can't see it. A backup plan may not work either—but Hashem still has us.

HGY PHRASE

My plan changed. Hashem's still got me.

THIS WEEK'S FAMILY MISSION

RULES JUST CHANGED!

Make a plan. Hear a surprise. Help the Coach find Plan B!

2+ players | 5–10 minutes | No props

WHO DOES WHAT?

Coach: Makes a plan, then decides what to try next.

Chaos Caller: Invents an obstacle that changes the plan.

Everyone else: Each suggests a new Plan B.



HOW TO PLAY

1. **PLAN A:** Coach says what they want to do and how. ("I'm having a picnic at the park!")
2. **SURPRISE!** Caller announces: "Rules just changed!" and makes up one obstacle. ("The park is closed!")
3. **PLAN B:** One at a time, every other player suggests what the Coach could try instead. Funny ideas are welcome!
4. **COACH DECIDES:** Coach picks a suggestion, mixes a few together, or invents a new Plan B. Round over. Nobody has to prove it will work.
5. **SWITCH:** The next person clockwise becomes Coach; the person after them is Caller. Everyone else offers ideas. Keep playing as long as it's fun!

Only two players? Caller suggests a Plan B too. Coach can add another idea, then chooses. Swap roles next round.

ONE EXAMPLE ROUND



Coach (Dovid): "I'm planning a picnic at the park!"





Caller (Miriam): "Rules just changed! The park is closed!"





Yuval: "Have the picnic in your backyard."





Sarah: "Ask a squirrel to lend you its tree!"





Dovid: "Backyard picnic! The squirrel can visit."



THE BITACHON CONNECTION

Making a plan and trying our best is hishtadlut. When plans change, we find another step and keep trying. Hashem has the ultimate plan, and He's still got us—even if Plan B doesn't work either.

FOR YOUNGER KIDS (6–7)



Rainy picnic!
Is Plan B eating inside or getting soaked?

FOR OLDER KIDS (8–12)



Your sensible Plan B failed. Did your effort still matter? Why?

REMEMBER

Our plan can change.
Hashem still has us.

ONE-SENTENCE TAKEAWAY

"I try. Hashem has the ultimate plan."

TAKE IT INTO THE WEEK

When plans change, talk to Hashem and choose a useful next step.

Hashem's Got You Kids