SESSION 4

IN BLESSED MEMORY OF ZUR SAIDI

The Michael and Andrea Leven Family Foundation

LEGACIES INITIATIVE

OLAMI MENTORSHIP

ZUR

Zur Saidi, 28, was murdered by Hamas while trying to flee the Supernova music festival on October 7.

He attended the rave with his two close childhood friends, Aviad Halevi and Omri Ram, who were also both slain that day.

The three attempted to flee from the site of the festival when the rocket fire began, and were all shot dead by Hamas terrorists.

Zur is survived by his parents, Ayelet and Dudi, his older sister Mia and his girlfriend of eight years, Imbar Eliyahu. He was buried on October 8 in the Gederot cemetery.

He was a graduate of the Hebrew University's Faculty of Food and Environmental Agriculture.

Zur was planning on proposing to his girlfriend Imbar in a month on a big trip overseas they had planned.

Imbar said she found out after he was killed that he had been planning to propose, "I would have said yes to you a thousand times!"

At the party in Re'im, he was taking care of his friends who were wounded until the last minute. He could have fled, but he stayed to take care of them.

"There was a time in my life that I felt that I had to lie to get out of a real personal crisis. I told Zur that I had to lie, and that I had no choice. Zur replied "Dor, a lie does not have legs to stand on. I am telling you, go with the truth for better or for worse. You will see that even if it is seemingly the more difficult path, the truth will always prevail and ultimately things will turn out to be ok." Dor- A close friend of Zur

Zur was a man of absolute truth. His word was gold. His promise was a promise. When he spoke to you, you knew that it was exactly what he felt.

Zur's honesty got through to every person. It was what endeared him to everyone that met him even if they did not see eye to eye with him.

Zur's honesty was not negotiable and he stuck to it even when it cost him.

It is our hope that reflecting a bit on the topic of truth and honesty and implementing small steps to be more truthful to ourselves and to others will eternalize Zur's legacy.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

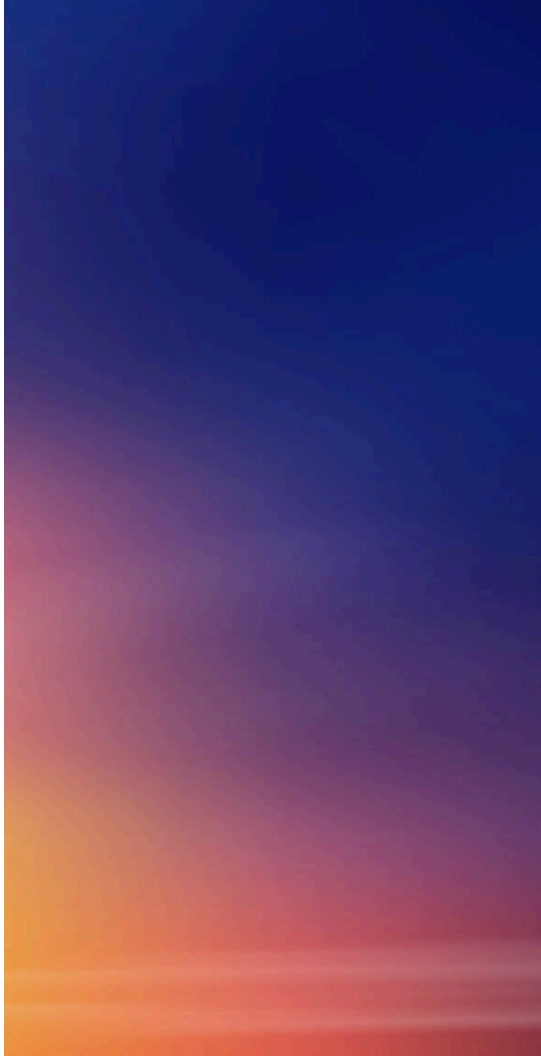
1. “And speaks truth in his heart” (Psalms 15:2); this is referring to Rav Safra, who was reciting the Shema prayer when a person approached him to purchase an item. He intended to accept the man’s offer, but he was unable to respond because one is prohibited to interrupt the recitation of Shema. The buyer misinterpreted Rav Safra’s silence and concluded that Rav Safra demanded a higher price, so he raised his offer. In the end, Rav Safra insisted on selling him the item for the sum that he was offered initially. (Rashi Makkos 24a)

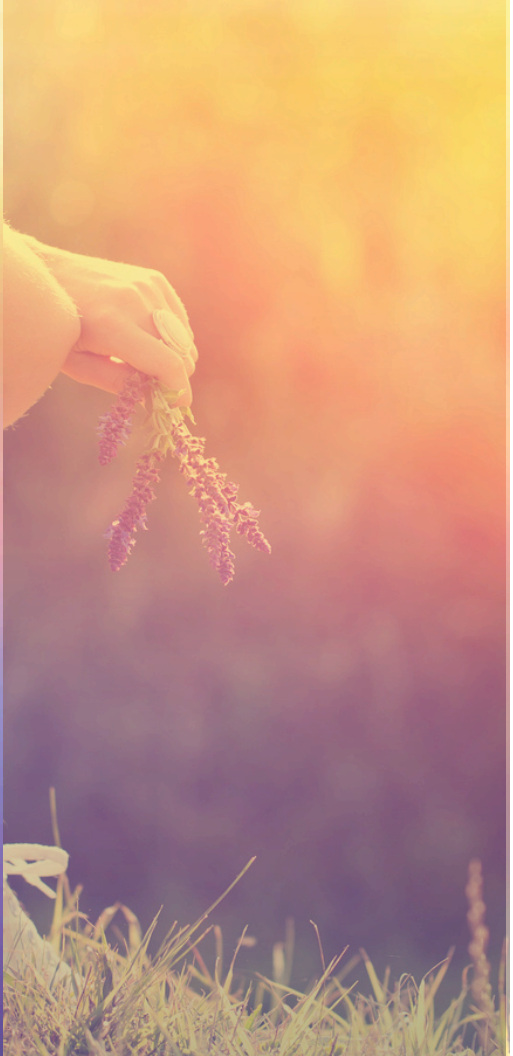
2. What is unique about the story of Rav Safra? What would you have done?

3. Something to think about...

It would appear that the concept of truth does not only include truth in interacting with others, but equally as important is being truthful with oneself.

For in this episode of Rav Safra, there was no potential untruth as related to the purchaser, nevertheless Rav Safra sold him the item for the original price, for one's heart must also speak truth. - Rav Y. D. Soloveichik





4. In the words of Tony Robbins:
It's possible to live a whole life without realizing that you aren't being honest with yourself. That's because most people aren't in touch with their emotions. If you want to live life to the fullest, don't be one of those people. Once you master your emotions, find your purpose, and begin to live your vision, you'll discover a conviction and fearlessness you never could have imagined.

THE IMPORTANCE OF HONESTY

1. The Almighty's Seal is Truth

a. Rabbi Chanina said: The seal of the Almighty, is truth

b. Check this out: the first letter in the Hebrew alphabet is alef, the middle is mem and the final letter is Tav.

Aleph + mem + tav = Emet or truth.

א + מ + ת = אמת

Everything begins, exists and ends with truth.

2. Torah is Truth

Your righteousness is eternal and your Torah is true.

- Psalms 119:142

3. The world stands on truth

Rabban Shimon Ben Gamliel says the world stands on three things: justice, truth and peace. Ethics Of Our Fathers 1:18

LET'S GET PRACTICAL

Here are a few simple steps towards a more truthful existence.

1. Set a weekly time for self-reflection
2. Stop comparing yourself to others
3. Stop exaggerating
4. If you don't know something don't pretend that you do
5. If you make a mistake... fess up to it
6. Look for the good... focusing on the positive keeps us real
7. Get a mentor! A mentor sees you from the outside in and can provide truly objective insight

BEING TRUTHFUL WAS SO IMPORTANT TO TZUR

As you take this week to upgrade your life by focusing on speaking and acting with honesty, please **use this QR code or this link to send a message to Zur's family.**

It will mean the world to them!

JOIN US NOW

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