

Return: Five Paths for Getting Closer to G-d

The five-letter Hebrew word "Teshuvah" contains instructions on five methods for creating more love and closeness with G-d.

Lesson Six: Secret Love

The importance of preserving modesty in our most intimate relationship.

Entry for the eight of Tishrei in *HaYom Yom*¹

קיצור ביאור אופן הה':

ה', הצנע לכת עם הוי' אלקיך, זהירות שלא תהי שום בליטה וכמאמר לעולם יהא אדם ערום ביראה, וענין הערמומית הוא שלא יהי ניכר כלל, ידוע דכמה מחסידים הראשונים היו מסתירים עצמם ואם התגלו היו מצטערים. וזה עבודת התשובה הבאה מהצנע לכת.

A resume of the fifth method:

H - *Hatznei'a*..., "Walk discreetly with your G-d,". One must take care not to be conspicuous or ostentatious in the slightest. It is said "Man should always be artful in piety." The artfulness lies in seeing that his piety not be noticed at all. We know that a number of the early chassidim concealed their true selves, and when discovered were sincerely distressed. This is the *avoda* of *teshuva* that comes from *hatznei'a lechet*, being discreet.

¹ *Hayom Yom* is an anthology of Chasidic aphorisms and customs arranged according to the days of the year, compiled by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, of righteous memory, in 1942, upon the instructions of his father-in-law, the Previous Rebbe. It has since become a beloved classic work and a source of daily inspiration.