



מִסְכַּת אָבוֹת פָּרָק ב מִשְׁנָה טו: "הַיּוֹם קָצֵר וְהַמְלָאכָה מְרֻבָּה"



The Mishna:

Avot, Chapter 2, Mishna 15

Rabbi Tarfon said:  
the day is short, and the work is plentiful,  
and the laborers are indolent,  
and the reward is great,  
and the master of the house is insistent.

הַמְשֵׁנָה:

אבות ב, טו

רַבִּי טַרְפוֹן אוֹמֵר:  
הַיּוֹם קָצֵר וְהַמְלָאכָה מְרֻבָּה,  
וְהַפּוֹעֲלִים עֲצִלִּים, וְהַשֹּׁכֵר הַרְבֵּה,  
וְבַעַל הַבַּיִת דּוֹחֵק.

 Level 1

- **Memorizing** the Mishna with hand movements.

(Click or scan the barcode)



- **First we will explain the parable:**

The day is short - a man's day as a laborer is short, especially compared to the plentiful work – the large amount of work he has to do. (For example – if he works in a field and has to harvest all the wheat, there is the whole field to harvest, and he will not have enough time to harvest it all in one day) and the workers in the field are sometimes lazy, and do not work as fast as they could. And the reward is great – that is, the owner of the field pays a high wage to the workers who work in the field.

"And the master of the house is insistent" – wants and expects his workers to work well.

- ❖ The parable is –

The teacher writes the various parts of the parable on the board:

"**The day**" – a person's lifetime.

"**The work**" – what a person must do throughout his lifetime – mitzvot, learning Torah, good deeds, improvement and study.

"**The laborers**" – people.

"**Reward**" – the reward people receive for their deeds.

"**Master of the house**" – Hashem.

- **Personal Assignment:**

- ❖ What is my "work"? What are the things that I must do during my lifetime?
- ❖ How can I improve and manage to do more?



## Level 2

- What do you feel after learning this Mishna? Do you identify with the statement? Does it make you feel stressed? Do you agree? Disagree? Why?



## Level 3

- If the students stated that they felt frustrated, or stressed from the instructions in the Mishna, ask: Why do you feel frustrated?

*Possible response: a person might feel frustrated when learning this Mishna, because there is so much to do in life; life is short, and Hashem expects us to do so much. The feeling is that we might be expected to do more than we can.*

The teacher can explain to the students that the next Mishna complements this one and discusses the sense of frustration. Learn the next Mishna and think about how it complements the current one and helps us feel better.

