



Text Message Q&A #149 Ask Rav Aviner: toratravaviner@yahoo.com
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Ha-Rav answers hundreds of text message questions a day! Here's a sample:

Changing Locations with Candy and Gum

Q: If someone is eating candy or chewing gum and goes outside does he have to recite another blessing?

A: No. Since this is the way of the world, it is as if he made such a condition from the outset. Shut Igrot Moshe (Orach Chaim 2:57. Unlike that which Ha-Rav Chaim Kanievski said in the name of the Chazon Ish: "In my youth, I once left the house with a piece of candy in my mouth, he [the Chazon Ish] said to me that leaving the house is a change of location and I need to recite a blessing, and when I come back inside I have to recite another blessing – even 100 times!" Divrei Si"ach Vol. 4 p. 20).

The Fellowship

Q: The army gave me a monetary gift from the Fellowship. Is it permissible to keep it?

A: It is forbidden. The full name is "The International Fellowship of Christians & Jews". Christians have never been our friends and are not now. They murdered us physically during the Crusades and are now preparing to murder our souls with a Monetary Crusade. Their method: To hug and choke us (see Igrot Ha-Re'eiyah Vol. 4, pp. 74-76).

Female Kosher Supervisors

Q: There is an initiative to train female Kosher supervisors. Is it permissible?

A: It is permissible. Shut Igrot Moshe (Yoreh Deah 2:44). It is not new, it has been around for a long time.

Lefists

Q: Is it permissible to hate leftists?

A: "Love your fellow as yourself". Take a map of Israel and look how many enemies surround us and you are busy spreading hate within Am Yisrael?! (see Sefer Ha-Tanya Chap. 32).

Modim De-Rabanan

Q: Why is the prayer "Modim" which the community says during the repetition of the Shemoneh Esrei called "Modim De-Rabnan" – the Rabbinic Modim? Is there a "Modim De-Oraita" – the Torah Modim?

A: It is called "Modim De-Rabnan" because the prayer is comprised of prayers from various Rabbis (Sotah 40a).

Shaliach Tzibur who has to use the Restroom

Q: If I am the Shaliach Tzibur and I suddenly have to use the restroom, should I continue or stop?

A: There is a discussion whether or not it is permissible to continue based on the law of human dignity so that one will not be embarrassed (In general, it is forbidden to hold it in, and in particular, it is forbidden to Daven when one needs to use the restroom), but it is best to cough as if you have a problem with your throat, signal to another person that he should replace you, and go to the restroom as if you need a drink (see Ishei Yisrael 10:11, 12, 17 with notes).

All You Can Eat

Q: Is there a problem with eating in a restaurant that is "All you can eat"?

A: Yes, it is gluttonous. Rambam, Hilchot Deot Chapter 5.

Trip outside of Israel

Q: Is it permissible to take a trip outside of Israel to refresh oneself?

A: There is no allowance for this. Perhaps you can travel within our Land (Rambam, Hilchot Melachim 5:9. Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim 531).

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