

# Parsha Story

Stories and Parables from  
the famed Maggid of Dubno  
by Rabbi Chanan Morrison

## "Bring Me a Tasty Dish"

TO-L'DOT

Joe and Mike shared a meal together. At the end of the meal, Joe remarked, "From the way I am eating today, I see that I am not in the best of health."

Joe's comment took his friend by surprise. "What do you mean? I saw you ate from every dish that was served!"

"I wasn't really hungry", Joe explained. "It was only by forcing myself to taste the delicious food that I was able to whet my appetite."

### Yitzchak's Request

Yitzchak has misgivings about blessing his son Eisav. He knew that Eisav was not what he pretended to be, and his heart was not fully in it.

Yitzchak realized that he needed an extra "push", something that would make him feel more comfortable about giving Eisav a blessing.

So Yitzchak asked his son to bring him a "tasty dish, the way I like it". Yitzchak wanted Eisav to have an extra merit of honoring his father. After all, honoring parents was

Eisav's special mitzva, his spiritual strength. Then, Yitzchak told his son, "My soul will bless you before I die." Only then would Yitzchak be able to give Eisav a blessing with a full heart.

When Rivka overheard her husband's request, she understood the reason behind it. Rivka relayed to Yaakov how his father had asked Eisav to bring him tasty venison. This way, Yaakov would realize that his father was not really happy about blessing Eisav. She wanted to convince Yaakov, so that he would be willing to pose as his brother and receive the blessing in Eisav's place.

*Adapted from Meshalim v'Gam Sipurim, p. 48*