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Dvar Torah Parashat Vayera

In this week's Parsha Avraham Avinu gives us many examples of how to take care of guests. Despite his age and his recovery from his Brit Avraham goes out of his way to entertain and care for his guests. He runs to perform the chesed in the best possible way. The Gemara tells us that in the merit of Avraham providing the Malachim with bread, water, and by watching over them, Bnei Yisrael merited the Manna, the Well, and the protective Clouds. The Gemara then asks on this that these three gifts were in the merit of Moshe, Miriam and Aharon? Rabbi Chaim Shmulevitz answered that Avraham Avinu planted the seeds for these gifts, and Moshe, Miriam and Aharon brought them to fruition. He goes on to explain that many a time when we do a Mitzva we don't see the outcome. Hashem may store the outcome and the reward for a different time. This thought is echoed in the Aseret HaDibrot where we say that Hashem stores the reward for thousands of generations. This indicates to us that our Mitzvot should be performed with a broad perspective and with the understanding that the reward for the Mitzvah may come to assist a relative of a future generation.

Shabbat Shalom! Rabbi Reuven Greenberg