**Taking Responsibility**

**#1**

**JInspire: Israel 2016 ReConnect**

*The Industrial Revolution (1760-1840) and the urbanization it caused profoundly changed how modern society sustains themselves. In addition, the sexual revolution of the 60’s and 70’s, with the advent of the pill, profoundly affected sexual mores, the acceptance of pre-marital sex and the need for marriage. Furthermore, the advent of universal credit and the easy access to credit cards, coupled with the idealizing of entertainment and comfort in today’s society, deeply affected the natural process of maturing. Modern day sociologists refer to this phenomenon as “adolescence”; namely, the prolonged process of adolescence often continues until a person is in their 30’s.*

**Questions:**

* **Do you see a general trend, as the source suggests, of a decline or delay in taking personal responsibility and getting serious about life in our society?**
* **What are the major causes of your unwillingness (if it applies to you) to meet your responsibilities?**

**#2**

**Talmud Sanhedrin 37a**

*Every single person is obliged to say: the world was created for my sake.*

**Strive for Truth, by Rabbi Dessler, vol. 3, p. 292**

*Each of us is obligated to take responsibility for every problem of the world, because everything was created for me to fix, regardless of how many others also have this responsibility.*

**Reb Chaim’s discourses 1:15 by Rabbi Chaim Shmulevitz**

*In addition, if you delve into the matter, it will become apparent that the stature of a man is measured through the trait of taking responsibility. One that doesn’t take responsibility is not a thinking person. One who takes great responsibility is fitting to wear the Crown of Kingship.*

**Questions:**

* **Why of all the traits is responsibility the measure of a person?**
* **What are your greatest sacrifices in order to meet your responsibilities?**

**#3**

**Talmud Kiddushin 31a**

*Greater is the one who is commanded and fulfils precepts than one who is not commanded and does so.*

**Question: What could be the reason for this?**

**#4**

**Pirkei Avos 2:16**

*It is not incumbent upon you to finish the task, but neither are you free to absolve yourself from it.*

**Questions:**

* **How do you understand this statement?**
* **How do you know if you did all you could have done?**
* **How do you differentiate between appropriate responsibility and excessive responsibility?**

**#5**

**Pirkei Avos 2:12**

*Let the property of your fellow be as precious unto you as your own.*

**Question:        Do you feel greater responsibility when you are dealing with your own belongings or with the belongings of others?**

**#6**

**Pirkei Avos 2:6**

*In a place where there are no men, strive to be a man.*

**Questions:**

* **If other people in your environment are not meeting their responsibilities, do you try to meet your responsibilities?**
* **What attitudes would help you become more responsible?**

**#7**

**Question: What's your takeaway from today's discussion?**