

## EIS RATZON-PRAYING WHEN OTHERS PRAY

The key to connecting with *Eis Ratzon* is a sense of belonging to the *minyan* with which one synchronizes his prayers. The connection joins his prayers to those of the *minyan*, even though he is not physically with them.

One sage explained: "It is obvious that a group of individuals doesn't make a community. The group must be of one mind, one unit. Where such a community has been created, each individual who is part of that community can find value.

The communal nature of the *Amidah* is clearly expressed in the plural phrasing of the blessings; they are all about "us," "we," and "our" communal needs and hopes. A person should always associate himself with the community. Being part of a community brings answers to prayers.

This is the power to which one attaches himself when he times his *Amidah* to that of the *minyan*. As he stands alone wherever he is, he can take comfort in knowing that his prayers are carried along on the spiritual tide that carries his community's prayers to Heaven. He really is not alone at all.

## POINTS TO PONDER

***A person cannot go to prayers with a minyan should time his tefillot (prayers) to synch with those of the minyan.***

***By praying at the same time as the minyan, the individual gains the benefits of their communal prayers.***

***For this benefit to apply, the minyan must be one at which the person normally prays, and one with which he feels a sense of belonging.***

**Jeremiah 42:4** The prophet Jeremiah answered them, "Agreed: I will pray to the LORD your God as you request, and I will tell you whatever response the LORD gives for you. I will withhold nothing from you." (TNK)