בס"ד

 **Middah Master Lesson 19**

**רָצוֹן – Ratzon (Goodwill, friendliness, willingness)**  
Opposite: אֵיבָה – Eivah (hostility, animosity).

## Case 1: The Heavy Door

After recess, the hallway was crowded with boys hurrying back to class. As they squeezed through the doorway, Yoni’s folder slipped from his hands, and papers scattered all over the floor. A few boys stepped around the mess, too busy racing to their seats. One even chuckled, “Better hurry, Yoni, or you’ll be late!”

Moshe came down the hall and saw Yoni on the floor scrambling to gather his sheets. He thought, *I could run past and save myself a few seconds, or I could stop and help.* If no one helped, Yoni might miss the beginning of class and feel embarrassed. *Ratzon means showing goodwill through simple kindness,* Moshe realized. Now he had to decide.

Solve it: What should Moshe do?

* A) Bend down and help Yoni collect the papers quickly. (✅ Best – This shows Ratzon, goodwill by stepping in to make things easier.)
* B) Rush past so he doesn’t lose any time. (❌ Not good – This shows self-focus instead of goodwill.)
* C) Call out, “Sorry!” but keep walking. (⚠️ Okay – At least he notices, but it misses the chance to show Ratzon.)

## Case 2: The Group Clean-Up

Paint water dripped onto the tables as art class ended. “Everyone, please help clean up,” Rebbi called. Some boys groaned, shoving brushes into the sink without rinsing them. Others slipped toward the door, hoping to escape before being noticed. Soon the classroom looked even messier than before.

Yisrael glanced around at the scattered papers and dripping paintbrushes. A boy muttered, “Just leave it — Rebbi will make someone else do it.” Yisrael frowned. If everyone acted that way, the room would stay a disaster and the next class wouldn’t even be able to start on time. *Ratzon means helping willingly, not waiting to be forced,* he thought. His choice could change the mood of the whole class: either more complaints, or a cheerful team effort.

Solve it: What should Yisrael do?

* A) Help cheerfully with the clean-up so it’s done quickly. (✅ Best – This shows Ratzon, goodwill and teamwork.)
* B) Slip away quietly and hope others do the work. (❌ Not good – This leaves the burden on others, not goodwill.)
* C) Help only if Rebbi notices and tells him again. (⚠️ Okay – At least he helps sometimes, but not with true Ratzon.)

## Teacher’s Note

Ratzon means showing friendliness and goodwill — stepping in to help others willingly and with a smile. Moshe showed Ratzon by helping Yoni pick up his scattered papers instead of hurrying past, and Yisrael showed it by joining the clean-up cheerfully rather than avoiding responsibility. Without Ratzon, boys think only of themselves, and others are left embarrassed or overworked. With Ratzon, the class becomes a place of kindness, teamwork, and respect where everyone feels supported.Quick Facilitation Tips

* Goodwill Game: Ask boys to act out small gestures of kindness (holding a door, sharing a pencil). Reflect on how each action feels.
* Role-Play: Pretend some boys refuse to clean while others help willingly. Compare how the room feels in each case.
* Exit Ticket: Write one way you showed Ratzon today.