

Kaarah – Volume thirty-seven.

Kitzur Hilchos Yerushalmi – Halacha derived from Gemara Yerushalmi

– Maamarei Mordechai

Birchas Hamazon

Women, minors, and servants do not add to the number of a zimun. A minor, that is above the age of *chinuch*, can be included in a nine-person zimun to make a minyan so that Hashem's name can be called.

One must eat at least a olive volume to join in a zimun. *Editor's note: We do not know the size of this olive. Fruits have changed over time. There is some historical indication that the olives of old were larger. It makes sense when considering they grew from purer water, no acid rain, and unpolluted ground. Regardless, the same volume that it takes to require one to say birchas hamazon – according to the strictest opinion – is the same volume it takes to allow one to join the zimun.*

The zimun group must be a majority of those that ate bread or meat; the zimun (three or ten) can be completed by a minority of members who only ate vegetables, *editor's note: but not shehakol juices*. A member that only ate vegetables cannot lead the mezumin. *Editor's note: According to Rabbi Akiva one would be required to say birchas hamazon if he was satiated with just vegetables. However, given the discussion of the Gemara, it is clear that his opinion is not followed, otherwise there would be no question of them joining the zimun, even in the majority. Accordingly, they may join because they ate together but a vegetable only eater may not lead and discharge the obligation of the others that ate bread or meat.*

Kriyas Hatorah

A minor above the age of *chinuch* may be used to complete the minyan for reading the Torah. He may also be one of the seven to be called to the Torah. *Editor's note: this custom is still practiced nowadays on simchas Torah when minors get aliyos. In the presence of ten men, all aliyos are given to minors and brochos made. When a minor is completing the minyan then he may get one aliyah but the others should not be given to minors. It is unclear why the minor should get an aliya altogether. If he is completing a minyan, that means there are nine men present and seven of them can get the aliyos. However, it could be a situation where there are a couple kohanim or leviim, so he is needed to complete the five aliyos for Yisraelim. He also could be the kohen or levi in the group. Further, the Gemara states the halacha in a time when the baal aliya also read the Torah. It could be there were only seven present who could read, and he is one of them.*

Chinuch Habanim

Age of *chinuch* is when the child understand to whom blessings are recited and what the correct blessing is for given foods.