Moshe’s upbringing was certainly unique for a Hebrew slave born in his time. Separated from his family, his childhood and younger adulthood (until age eighty) occurred in two locations; Paroh’s palace in Egypt, and Re’uel’s (Yisro’s) house in Midyan.

Seemingly this fortunate twist of faith, or Hashgacha Pratis (Divine intervention), played a critical role in Moshe’s character development. Beyond simply being separated from his people played two roles. Firstly, it enabled the people to see Moshe as a leader, for otherwise it would have been difficult for peers and older neighbors to see a younger community member grow up and respect him as a leader (Ibn Ezra Shemos 2:3). However secondly, growing up in a palace, amongst royalty, is a perfect environment to develop courage, conviction and integrity; all characteristics used later to face Paroh, the most powerful man in Mitzrayim and probably the world in his time.

Perhaps, a third quality of Moshe’s can be identified as well. Moshe was curious and intellectually honest. It was his inquisitiveness and interest that caused his eye to be caught by a bush burning that would not be consumed. It was his perseverance to discover truth the separated him as the man to bring Am Yisrael the Torah; “Moshe Emes V’Toraso Emes” (Moshe is true and his Torah is as well). Although these traits were surely ingrained in Moshe, Yisro’s pursuit of truth and philosophical inclination further creating a great atmosphere for Moshe to blossom.

Not only should young and aspiring leaders look to Moshe for qualities in leadership, in which to emulate; moreover, finding the right surroundings to develop them is equally important. We have a unique ability to craft our religious personas by consciously deciding which characteristic we want to inculcate within ourselves. Those qualities are selected by deciding consciously which ones we want plus indirectly being influenced by our surroundings, which we choose. Let us choose the right qualities, and environments that further cultivate them and develop ourselves into better people and lead Am Yisrael and the world in the right direction.