

THE TRIBE WEEKLY

PARASHAT NITZAVIM-VAYEILECH

4-5 SEPTEMBER | 23 ELUL

STAND TOGETHER. KEEP MOVING



BY: **SARA MARCOVITCH**

US Youth Director

This week's double parasha has two names that almost seem to contradict each other.

Nitzavim means "you are standing," while **Vayeilech** means "he went."

So which is it? Are we supposed to stand still or move forward?

As we get closer to *Rosh Hashanah*, I think the Torah is telling us that we need both.

Nitzavim begins with everyone standing together before God. Not just the leaders or the people who had everything figured out,

but everyone. It reminds us that Judaism isn't something we do alone. We come together as a community, especially during the High Holy Days, bringing with us everything we've experienced over the past year – the good moments, the mistakes, the challenges, and the hopes for a fresh start.

But we can't stay there forever.

That's where **Vayeilech** comes in. After standing together comes the harder part: going out into the world and putting our values into action.

At the end of his life, Moshe (Moses) knows he won't finish the journey into Israel. Instead, he encourages Yehoshua (Joshua) to "be strong and courageous" and continue the work. Moshe teaches us that we don't have

to complete every challenge ourselves. Sometimes our job is simply to take the next step and inspire others to do the same.

That feels really relevant today. It's easy to look at the news or social media and feel overwhelmed by everything happening in the world.

Sometimes it feels like there's so much conflict, sadness and injustice that one person can't possibly make a difference.

But Judaism doesn't ask us to solve every problem. It asks us to take responsibility for what is within our reach.

May we all have the courage to stand with our community and the confidence to move forward into a new year filled with kindness, hope and purpose. *Shanah Tovah.*

Parasha Wordsearch

Find these words in the grid. The words can go in any direction and can share letters as they cross over each other.

T	F	D	M	X	O	L	A	E	F	I	L	L
O	Y	O	O	I	C	N	E	U	J	B	S	Y
H	A	R	O	T	V	O	G	A	H	H	C	W
N	B	D	N	Z	Z	A	U	O	R	S	H	K
V	E	L	G	Z	Z	U	Z	R	B	S	O	P
A	T	R	E	H	S	O	M	T	A	G	I	J
Y	Z	R	D	S	W	E	F	K	I	G	C	J
E	P	V	A	L	S	F	D	D	G	N	E	T
I	I	A	I	E	I	I	G	G	T	U	M	A
L	U	K	N	L	H	H	N	H	I	Q	U	Y
E	Y	X	H	G	B	B	C	G	I	D	O	V
C	R	N	H	A	V	Z	T	I	M	X	K	M
H	P	H	M	H	A	K	H	E	L	W	P	Y

NITZAVIM
VAYEILECH
MOSHE
ISRAEL
TORAH
MITZVAH
HEART
LIFE
BLESSING
CHOICE
JOSHUA
COURAGE
HAKHEL
CHILDREN

