

THE TRIBE WEEKLY

PARASHAT BEMIDBAR

7-8 JUNE | 2 SIVAN

Finding Purpose in Counting



**NATANA
SABEL**

Tribe
Madricha

Right at the start of Parashat Bemidbar, Moshe (Moses) is commanded by God to take a census of the Jewish people according to their tribes. He is told to “take a total count of the entire community of the Children of Israel according to their families, according to their fathers’ house, counting the names of all males twenty years old and upward” (Bemidbar 1:2-3).

Immediately after this, the people are arranged into four camps around the *Mishkan* (portable Sanctuary) and each camp

received their own flag.

It may be asked what the point of God commanding Moshe to count the people was, especially since we’d already been counted earlier on in the Torah. Not only this, but more importantly, since God is omniscient, surely He already knows the number of Jews without the need for physical intervention by Moshe.

Through the counting, we are reminded that we are incredibly precious to God and how each individual in this world has a unique part to play in His plan. We were created with a special purpose that only we can fulfil and each of us has a unique spark within us. This serves as a great motivation for us and we should strive to remember it.

Each person in this physical

world is different, whether that be in personality or appearance. This is also true in the spiritual world; no two souls are the same, showing that our purpose lies within us and is something only we can fulfil. Our names were used when Moshe counted us and they were used as identifiers. In today’s world, someone may think that names are meaningless and hold no purpose except to serve as placeholders. But we have names for a reason – to define us, to give us purpose and to imbue us with a sense of identity and pride.

As we count the final nights of the Omer, we must remember that we all have a purpose in this world to fulfil and that God cares deeply about every individual and that there is nothing more powerful than us coming together as a nation.

Parasha Word Search

The words can go in any direction.
The words can also share letters as they cross over each other.

FLAG
TORAH
MOSHE
NUMBERS
CENSUS
NAME
MISHKAN

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