

THE TRIBE WEEKLY

PARASHAT NITZAVIM VAYEILECH

27-28 SEPTEMBER | 25 ELUL

The Ability to Choose



**NATANA
SABLE**

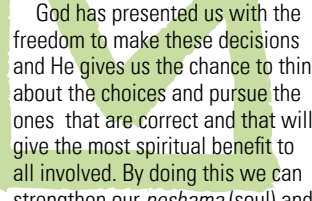
Tribe Madricha

In the double *parasha* Nitzavim – Vayeilech, Moshe describes the covenant between God and the Jewish people. We learn that the nation is told God has “set before you life and goodness, and death and evil” and that “I command you this day to love God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments.” It can be shown here that we are commanded to emulate God and choose to take it upon ourselves to pick the option of

carrying out *mitzvot*.

The people Moshe speaks to in the *parasha* are not actually the original people who received the Torah at Mount Sinai, but rather their descendants. They weren't the people who witnessed God's revelation so maybe they are yet to accept their covenant with God.

Moshe exclaims that we have the fundamental freedom to choose either blessings or curses and it is up to us to choose blessings. In today's world, we may sometimes feel pressured to choose between two different options, whether that be in school or when we are with our friends and occasionally, we may even feel pressured to pick a specific option.



God has presented us with the freedom to make these decisions and He gives us the chance to think about the choices and pursue the ones that are correct and that will give the most spiritual benefit to all involved. By doing this we can strengthen our *neshama* (soul) and God will reward us for our choices. As Rosh Hashanah approaches and a new Jewish year begins, we should strive to remember the laws and commandments God has given us and, when possible, always choose to do *mitzvot*.

Try and pick a new *mitzvah* that you can carry out for 5785, not only to strengthen your own personal connection with God, but also to help others around you!

Parasha Wordsearch

Find the words in the puzzle. Words can go in any direction and can share letters as they cross over each other.

Mitzvah
Neshama
Commanded
Freedom
Covenant
Choice
Spiritual

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