



Family & Friends

Parshas Bamidbar

May 29th 2025 – Sivan 2 5785



Celebrating at the Stavsky
Engagement.

PARSHAS BAMIDBAR – COUNTING WITH PURPOSE

Parshas Bamidbar opens Sefer Bamidbar with a census of the Jewish people in the wilderness (1:1-46). Hashem commands Moshe Rabbeinu to count the shavotim – tribes, excluding Levi, to organize Klal Yisrael for their journey to Eretz Yisrael. The Torah details each tribe's numbers, their leaders, and their positions around the Mishkan. This meticulous accounting, as Rashi (1:1) notes, reflects Hashem's love for His people, counting them as one cherishes precious jewels. Yet, the census raises a question: why count individuals when the collective mission – to inherit Eretz Yisrael – seems paramount?

The Ramban (1:3) explains that the census wasn't merely logistical but spiritual. By counting each person "by their names" (1:2), Hashem affirmed

the unique role of every individual within the national framework. The Sforno (1:45) adds that the count prepared the people for their military and spiritual responsibilities, ensuring each tribe's contribution was recognized. This balance of individual and collective identity is central to Bamidbar's narrative, as the tribes encamp around the Mishkan in a formation that reflects both unity and distinctiveness (2:1-34).

The Midrash (Bamidbar Rabbah 2:3) highlights another layer: the census was taken "b'mispar shemos," by number and name, suggesting a dual recognition of quantity and quality. Each person was a number in the collective but also a name with a unique story. The Kli Yakar (1:2) elaborates that this dual accounting teaches that every Jew has a specific purpose, like stars in a constellation – each shines individually, yet together they form a greater whole.

For a Ben Torah, this resonates deeply. Learning Torah often feels like a collective endeavor, with hours spent in the Bais Midrash alongside peers. Yet, Bamidbar reminds us that each person's learning style, insights, and struggles matter. In 2025, this message is vital. Our generation often feels disconnected from spiritual endeavors, pulled by technology, instant gratification,



Mazel Tov

Heartfelt Mazel Tov wishes to:

Rabbi & Mrs. Yisrael Aryeh Dyckman on their daughter's birth.

Rabbi and Mrs. Yehoshua Chaitovsky on their grandson's birth.

Mr. & Mrs. Zevi Freier on their daughter's birth.

Mr. & Mrs. Yosef Boruch Jacobovitch on his daughter's wedding.

Rabbi & Mrs. Elchonon Keleman on their daughter's birth.

and secular pressures. Social media and constant connectivity can drown out the quiet call of Torah, making the Bais Midrash feel like a distant oasis. Yet, Bamidbar teaches that every individual's effort in Torah counts, no matter how small, anchoring us in a world adrift.

The Gemara (Taanis 7a) compares Torah scholars to stars, each illuminating the world in their own way. Just as the tribes were counted to affirm their roles, a talmid's individual effort—whether mastering a difficult Tosfos or clarifying a Rashi—contributes to Klal Yisrael's mission.

SHAVUOS IN YESHIVA

Shavuos holds a unique and radiant place in the heart of a Yeshiva. As the 49 days of the Omer wind to a close, the Yeshiva transforms into a vibrant sanctuary, where the pulse of Torah learning beats with unparalleled intensity. This sacred Yom Tov, is not merely a historical event but a living, breathing experience that resonates deeply within the walls of the Bais Medrash. For those who toil in Torah, Shavuos offers both a celebration of their sacred labor and a timeless message of perseverance and purpose.

Walking into the yeshiva during Shavuos is like stepping into a realm where time seems to pause, and the soul of Torah comes alive. The Beis Midrash hums with the melody of learning—voices rising and falling in passionate dialogue, pages of Gemara rustling, and the soft murmur of chavrusa study filling the air. The atmosphere is electric, charged with the anticipation of reliving Matan Torah. Talmidim, young and old, stay awake through the night, immersed in the Toras Hashem, their eyes bright with the fire of Torah despite the hour. This all-night study seder is not a burden but a badge of honor, a testament to the Yeshiva's unbreakable bond with the divine gift of Torah.

Shavuos in Teshiva is a celebration of unity. The



Happy Birthday Noach!



This week in our Bais Medrash.

diversity of students—each with their unique backgrounds, challenges, and aspirations—melts away as they gather to reaffirm their commitment to Torah. The shared experience of learning, davening, and the seudos – meals, fosters a sense of camaraderie that transcends the ordinary. The Yeshiva becomes nothing less than a microcosm of Klal Yisrael at Har Sinai, standing as one to receive the eternal wisdom that Hashem gifted to Klal Yisrael.

For those who toil daily in Torah, Shavuos carries a practical and profound message: perseverance in learning is a sacred act of devotion. The path of a ben Torah is not always easy. The demands of mastering complex texts, balancing spiritual growth with worldly responsibilities, and maintaining

focus amidst life's distractions can feel daunting. Yet, Shavuos reminds us that the Torah was given amidst thunder and lightning, a symbol of the effort and awe required to internalize its teachings. Each moment spent grappling with a difficult sugya or striving to understand a Rashi is a reenactment of standing at Sinai. The toil itself is holy, a partnership with Hashem in bringing divine wisdom into the world.

This Shavuos, let us embrace the beauty of our yeshiva's spirit and renew our commitment to Torah. To those who labor in its study, know that every question asked, every page turned, and every insight gained is a step closer to the divine. May the joy of Shavuos inspire us to persevere, to learn with love, and to carry the light of Torah forward.