

Parsha Pearls

Korach

"Qorah"

Numbers 16:1 - 18:32

Katan Bet/Gadol



In This Edition:

38.2 - Yahweh Chooses His Servants

Numbers 17-18



Table of Contents

Parsha Pearls is a comprehensive resource that allows for complete customization by the parent. We understand that if you were to strive to accomplish all aspects of each lesson in one day it would be unrealistic and also overload for the child. It is our intention that this be used 'a la carte' so that it suits your specific needs. Our site caters to printing only the pieces you choose.

This page will provide quick links to get to the portion of the document for which you are looking. When you hover over the title a finger will appear. Click on it and you will be taken directly to that page.

If you are new to Parsha Pearls, we have created an [Introduction](#) document outlining how to use our lessons, as well as a [Scriptural Inspiration](#) document, which explains our titles and the Scriptural inspiration for them. We pray that Parsha Pearls blesses your home and that your children will grow to love the Word and to never depart from keeping Torah. As always, feel free to email us at parshapearls@mtoi.org if you have any questions.

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Pearl Seeking

TREASURING HIS WORD

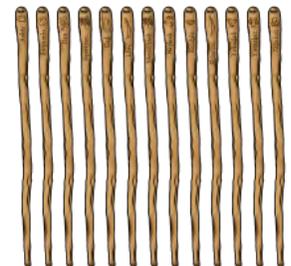
Let's do a quick overview of the entire Torah portion:

| | | |
|------------|---------------|--|
| Monday: | Num. 16:1-22 | The rebellion of Qorah, Dathan and Abiram and the 250 tribal leaders |
| Tuesday: | Num. 16:23-50 | The punishment of the rebels; The plague upon Yisra'el for grumbling |
| Wednesday: | Num. 17 | The budding of Aharon's rod |
| Thursday: | Num. 18:1-19 | The duties of the priesthood and Lewites; The offerings for the priests |
| Friday: | Num. 18:20-32 | The Torah regarding land inheritance; Tithes for the priests and Lewites |

In this week's Parsha Pearls lesson, we will see how Yahweh confirmed His choice of High Priest by causing Aharon's rod to bud and bear fruit, and so put a stop to the grumbling of the children of Yisra'el. We will also learn about the responsibilities and duties of the priests and the Lewites, and how Yahweh arranged to take care of them through the portions (gifts, contributions, first-fruits and tithes) that Yahweh wanted the children of Yisra'el and the Lewites to present to the priests. Now, let's read Num. 17-18.

PARSHA POINTS

- Once and for all Yahweh wanted to end the grumbings of the tribes regarding His choice of who would serve Him as priests. Yahweh told Mosheh to call for a leader from each of the 12 (**shtem esre**) tribes. Each leader was to bring Mosheh a rod (**matteh**), and Mosheh was to write each man's name (**shem**) on his rod - 17:1-2, 5
- As representative of the tribe of Lewi, Aharon was also to bring a rod, and Mosheh was to write his name on that rod as well - 17:3
- The 12 rods were to be placed inside the Tent of Meeting in front of the ark of the Witness, where Yahweh always met with Mosheh - 17:4
- Mosheh gave each tribal leader his rod, with Aharon's rod among them, then took and placed them in the Tent of the Witness - 17:6-7
- The next day, Mosheh went into the tent and beheld that only Aharon's rod had budded; it had brought forth buds (**parach**) and had blossomed with ripe almonds (**shaged**) - 17:8
- He then brought all the rods out to be examined by the children of Yisra'el, and gave to each leader his rod - 17:9

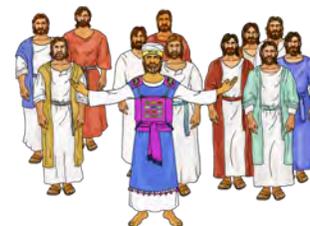


- Yahweh instructed Mosheh to take Aharon's rod that budded and to place it before the ark of the Witness as a sign against all the rebels, so that the grumbings of the people would stop and they would not die - 17:10
- After Mosheh did as Yahweh instructed, the children of Yisra'el feared that if they were to come near the Dwelling Place, they would all die - 17:11-13



Responsibilities of the Priesthood and the Lewites

- Yahweh no longer wanted the children of Yisra'el to come near the Tent of Meeting - 18:22
- Yahweh told Aharon and his sons that from now on they were to bear the crookedness (the accountability) against (18:1):
 - the Set-apart Place
 - the priesthood
- The whole tribe of Lewi were Yahweh's chosen helpers to come alongside the priests in their service before the Tent of the Witness - 18:2
- The Lewites were to follow orders from the priests as well as to perform the duties of all the Tent, but they were told that they were not to come near the furnishings of the Set-apart Place or the bronze altar in the courtyard - 18:3
- The priests were to be held responsible and accountable for the Lewites following the rules, or else both of them would die - 18:3 (also 4:20)
- Both the priests and the Lewites were to 'guard' the duty of the Tent of Meeting; no stranger was to come near it - 18:4 (also 1:51; 3:10, 38)
- The priests were to 'guard' the duty of the Set-apart Place and the duty of the bronze altar so that wrath would no longer be on the children of Yisra'el - 18:5
- The Lewites were a gift from Yahweh to the priesthood, to do the service of the Tent of Meeting and to share in their burdens - 18:6 (also 8:19)
- Yahweh reiterated that the priests alone were to perform the offerings and the duties behind the (outer) veil, while the Lewites were assigned other duties. The stranger (someone who is not authorized for clearance) who came to do any of these things would die - 18:7



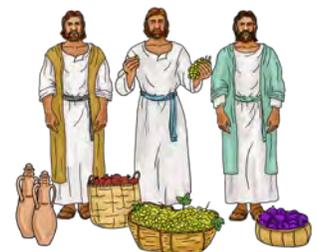
Gifts for the Priests and the Levites

- Yahweh told Aharon what set-apart gifts He wanted the priesthood (their whole family; including the daughters) to receive from the children of Yisra'el (18:8-20):

- contributions - a covenant of salt forever
- offerings
 - grain
 - sin
 - guilt
 - peace (wave) - the breast and the right thigh
- the best of the oil
- first-fruits of the new wine and grain
- flesh of the offerings
- all that was dedicated in Yisra'el
- first-born of man or beast



- Only those who were clean could eat of these - 18:11, 13
- The first-born of man or unclean beast could be ransomed at one (**achat**) month old, according to the valuation of the sheqel of the Set-apart Place; 20 (**esrim**) gerahs - 18:16
- The first-born of a cow, sheep or goat were not to be ransomed - they would be set-apart for offerings to Yahweh - 18:17
- Their blood was to be sprinkled on the altar and their fat was to be an offering made by fire - a sweet fragrance to Yahweh - 18:17
- Yahweh told Aharon that the priests were not to have an inheritance in the land, for He Himself was to be their portion and their inheritance among the children of Yisra'el - 18:20
- In return for their service, the Levites were to receive tithes from the children of Yisra'el. The the Levites in turn were to give a 10th of the tithe they received to the priesthood - 8:21, 26-28
- The Levites were also to have no land inheritance - 18:23-2
- The Levites were to give the priesthood the best from their tithes (the wine press and the threshing-floor) and keep the rest for themselves - 18:29-30
- After they gave their tithe to the priests, the Levites were able to eat their portion any place they wanted, to so that they would bear no sin by profaning the set-apart gifts and die - a trespass for which they must die - 18:31-32



DIGGING DEEPER

Parents/Teachers may choose to use these prompts for further discussion of the Torah portion.

- The budding of Aharon's rod did not represent a new decision by Yahweh, but rather a reaffirmation of the selection and ordination of Aharon and his sons that had already taken place. Find passages to support this. Do you think the leaders of the 12 tribes now understood and accepted Yahweh's decision through the sign Yahweh had given them?
- Where else do we see imagery of almond blossoms in Yahweh's furnishings? Research which tree is the first to blossom in the land of Yisra'el after winter. What color are the almond blossoms?
- The children of Yisra'el went from confronting leadership in Chapter 16 to being terrified to go near the Dwelling Place at the end of Chapter 17, lest they die. That's quite a leap. Do you think that they finally understood that they shouldn't go against Yahweh's authority again?
- The regular priests were to keep an eye out to make sure that the Lewites performed their specific service so that they would not die. In turn, the Lewites were responsible for preventing the children of Yisra'el from encroaching on activities reserved only for Lewites. Discuss accountability and hierarchy of duties.
- The Lewites were not allowed to do what the priests did. They had jobs that were supportive, but different. In the same way, the Brit Chadasha says we are all different parts of the body, each with particular gifts and callings (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). Discuss what this means. Find the verses regarding the job description of the Gershonites, Merarites and Qehathites (the Lewites).
- The other tribes were to live normal lives farming and raising animals, etc. Discuss why it was so important that they were honest in their tithes and offerings, which were for the purpose of taking care of the priests and Lewites.
- What is the covenant of salt? What is the significance of salt? What are its qualities and its cost? Back in the Scriptures time it was considered to be pure, enduring and valuable. Discuss how this relates to our relationship with Yahweh.
- Discuss the first tithe and find Scriptural support for its continuation, even though at this time we do not have a temple or Lewites per se.



Searching Out Hebrew

Parents/Teachers can print out the '[Hebrew Pronunciation Guide](#)' to help with the pronunciation of Hebrew names and words. They can be cut out and used in conjunction with the Flashcards.

WORDS

Parents/Teachers see the following page for 3 x 5 card cut outs of the words from this week's parsha. If printed on cardstock, they can be kept in a box to reinforce learning.

Matteh (מטה) - rod/staff

Shem (שם) - name

Parach (פרח) - bud

Shaqed (שקד) - almond

NUMBERS

Parents/Teachers can print out these numbers to have as additional resources. These can be found under the 'Resources' tab on the YMTOI website.

1 - achat

12 - shtem esre

20 - esrim

WORD MATCH

Match this week's Hebrew words to their correct definition.

Matteh

Almond

Parach

Bud

Shaged

Name

Shem

Rod/Staff



FLASHCARDS

שֵׁם

Shem
name

שָׂדֵד

Shaqed
Sha-qed
almond

מַטֵּה

Matteh
Mat-teh
rod/staff

פָּרַח

Parach
Pa-rach
bud



WRITING HEBREW

Shem (name)

שֵׁם
Mem Sofit Shin

Shaged (almond)

שָׂקָד
Dalet Qof Shin

Matteh (rod/staff)

מַטֵּה
Hey Tet Mem

Parach (bud)

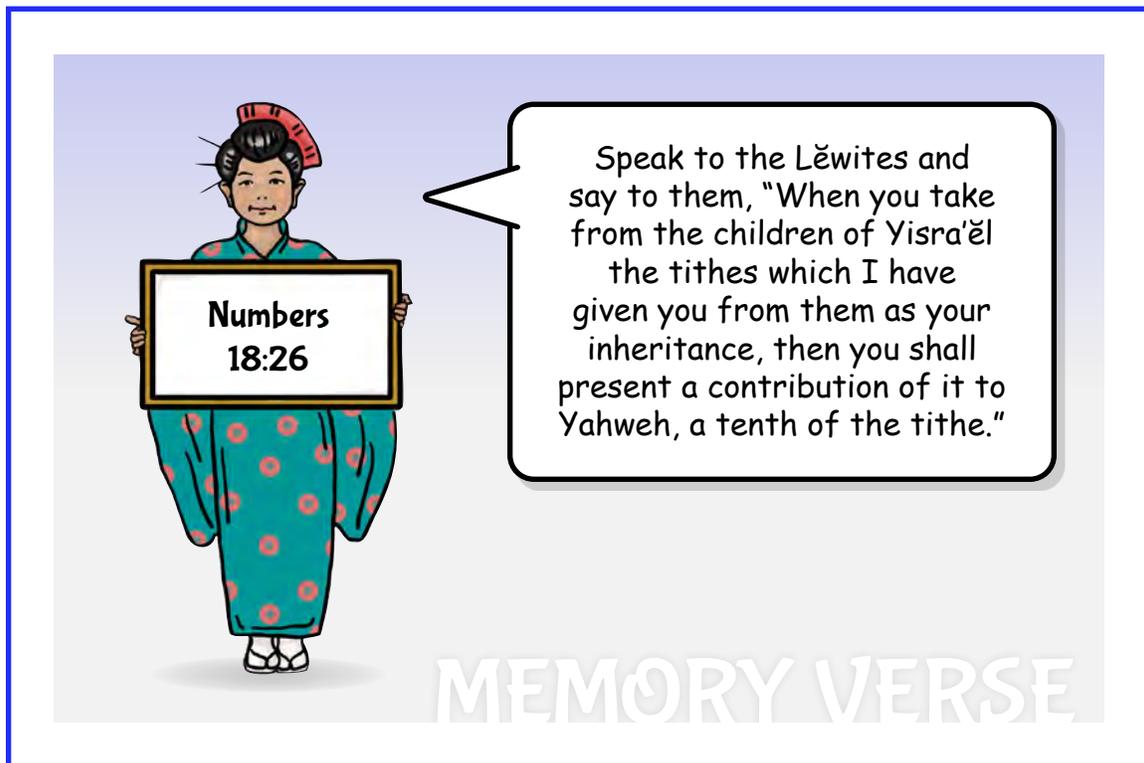
פָּרַח
Chet Resh Pey

Counting What You Gained

This next section is intended to be reinforcement of the lessons learned during this parsha. Choose the activities that best fit your child.

STORING UP TREASURE IN MY HEART

The Katan Bet and Gadol memory verse is Numbers 18:26. You can review the verse with them by reciting it out loud, acting it out, putting it to music...whatever works for you.



Speak to the Lēwites and say to them, "When you take from the children of Yisra'ēl the tithes which I have given you from them as your inheritance, then you shall present a contribution of it to Yahweh, a tenth of the tithe."

MEMORY VERSE

SEEKING TREASURE



1.

How many rods were placed
before the ark of the Witness?

Circle the correct choice.

10 12 13

(17:2-3)



2.

"And it shall be that the _____ of the
man whom I choose _____, and I shall rid
myself of the _____ of the children of
Yisra'el which they _____ against you."

(17:5)



3.

What type of nut was on the rod of Aharon?

Circle the correct choice.

peanut almond macadamia walnut

(17:8)



4.

The tribe of Lewi was to join with the
priesthood to come near the finishings of
the Set-apart Place and the bronze altar.

T / F

(18:3)

5.

Which tribe was given as a 'gift' to the priesthood to serve under them?

Circle the correct choice.

Re'uben Yehudah Lewi Yoseph

(18:6)



6.



A stranger was allowed to come near the Tent of Meeting.

T / F

(18:5, 7)

7.

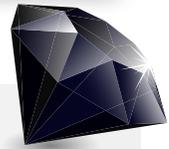


The priests' daughters could eat of the offerings if they were clean.

T / F

(18:11)

8.



What amount could be paid in order to ransom a first-born?

Circle the correct choice.

5 sheqels 50 sheqels 500 sheqels

(18:16)

9.



The set-apart gifts that the children of Yisra'el were to present to Yahweh were called what?

Circle the correct choice.

Covenant of _____.

peace salt sugar man

(18:19)

10.



A tithe is one-tenth.

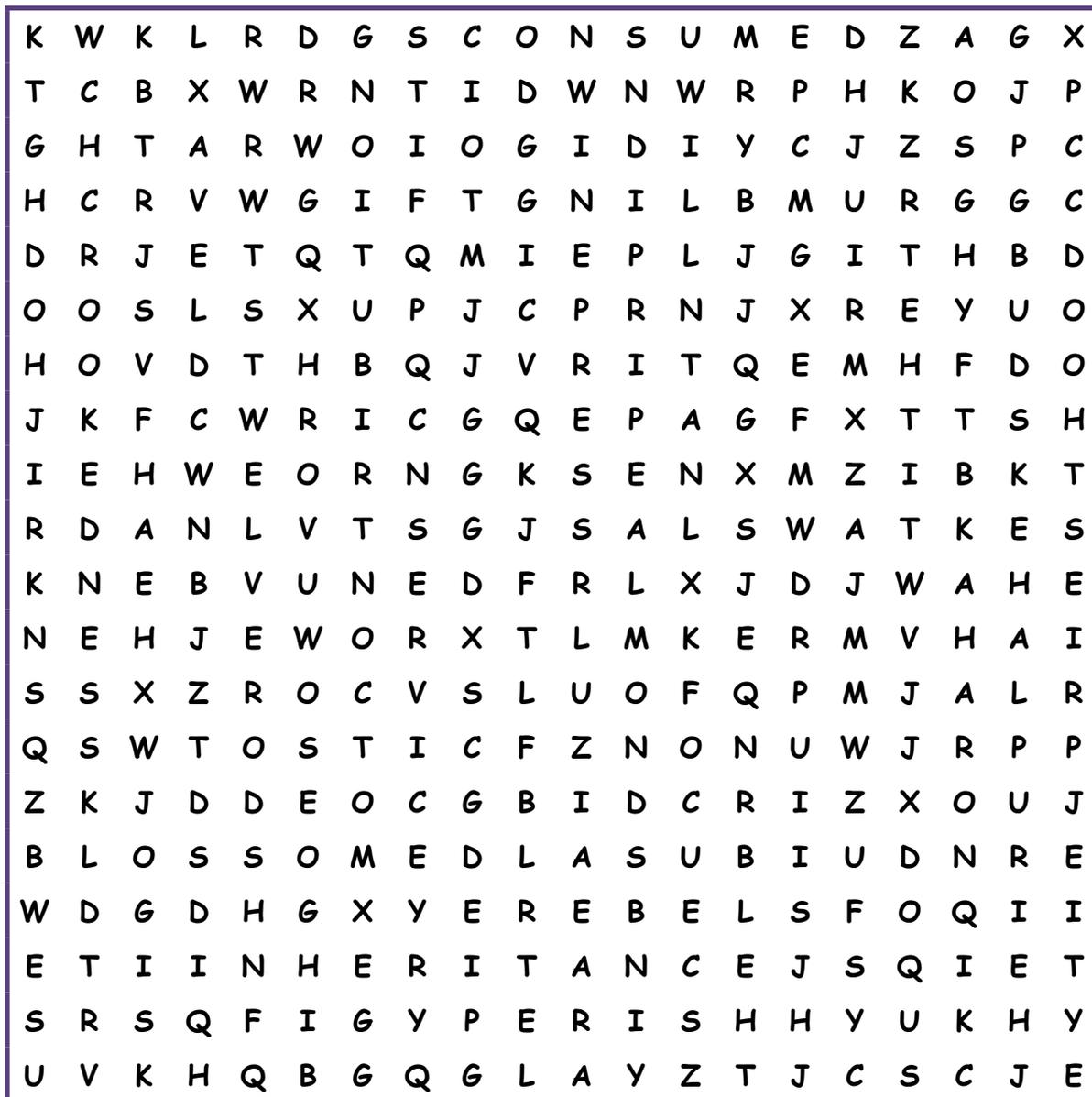
T / F

(18:26)



WORD SEARCH

Search for the hidden words from this week's parsha.



TWELVE RODS

GRUMBLING

SIGN

CONSUMED

SERVICE

STRANGER

TITHE

AHARON

BLOSSOMED

REBELS

CROOKEDNESS

WRATH

INHERITANCE

THRESHING-FLOOR

BUDS

RIPE ALMONDS

PERISH

PRIESTHOOD

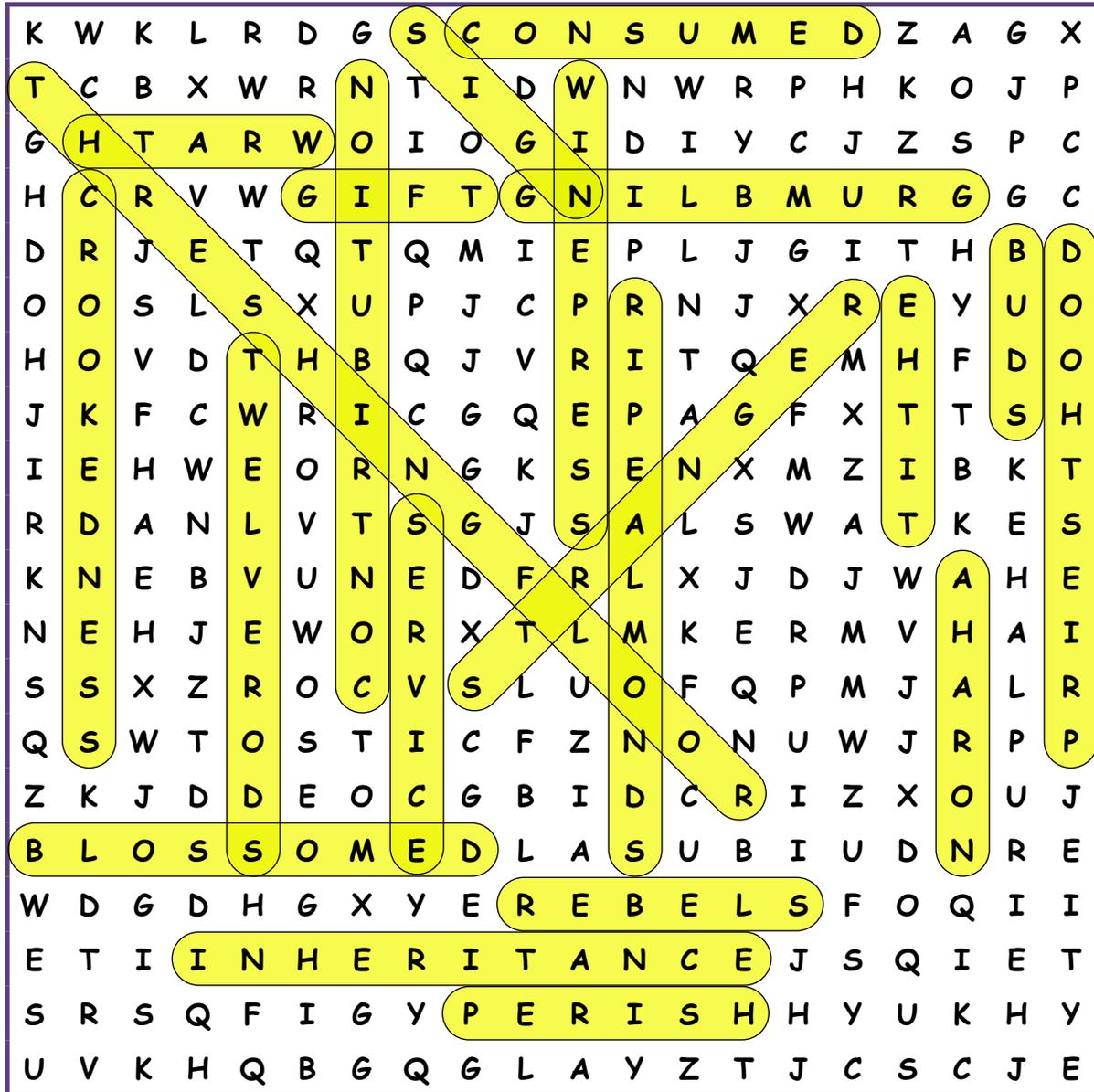
GIFT

CONTRIBUTION

WINEPRESS



Answer Key



TWELVE RODS
 GRUMBLING
 SIGN
 CONSUMED
 SERVICE
 STRANGER
 TITHE

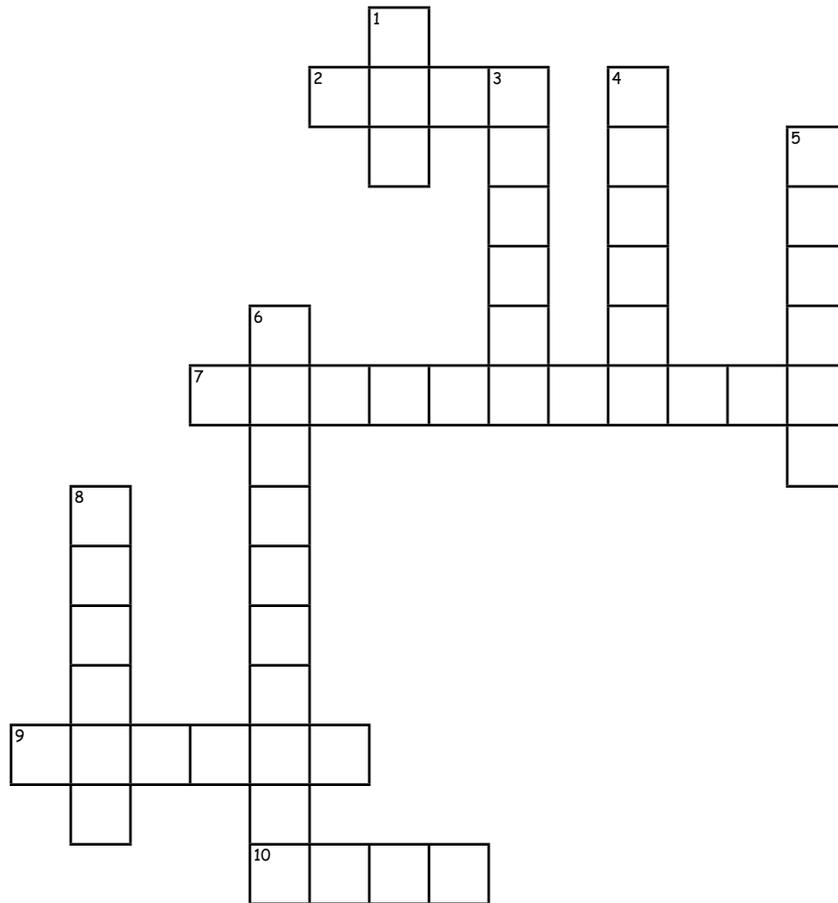
AHARON
 BLOSSOMED
 REBELS
 CROOKEDNESS
 WRATH
 INHERITANCE
 THRESHING-FLOOR

BUDS
 RIPE ALMONDS
 PERISH
 PRIESTHOOD
 GIFT
 CONTRIBUTION
 WINEPRESS



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Complete the crossword using words from this week's parsha.



Across

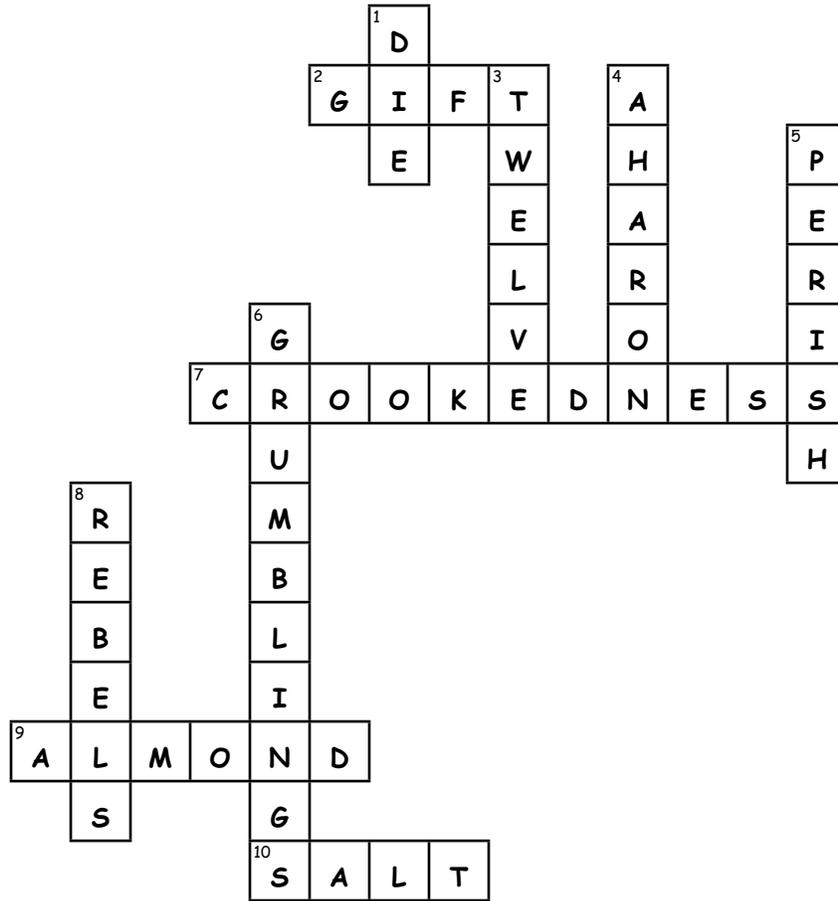
2. The Lewites were given to the priest as a _____.
7. Aharon and his sons were to bear the _____ against the Set-apart Place and the priesthood.
9. What type of nut came forth on Aharon's rod?
10. The contributions were a covenant of _____ forever before Yahweh

Down

1. The children of Yisra'el were to no more come near the Tent of Meeting or else they would _____.
3. How many rods were put before the ark of the Witness?
4. Whose name was written on the rod for Lewi?
5. The children of Yisra'el spoke to Mosheh saying, "See, we shall _____, we shall _____!"
6. Yahweh wanted to rid Himself of the _____ of the children of Yisra'el.
8. The rods were a sign against the _____.



Answer Key



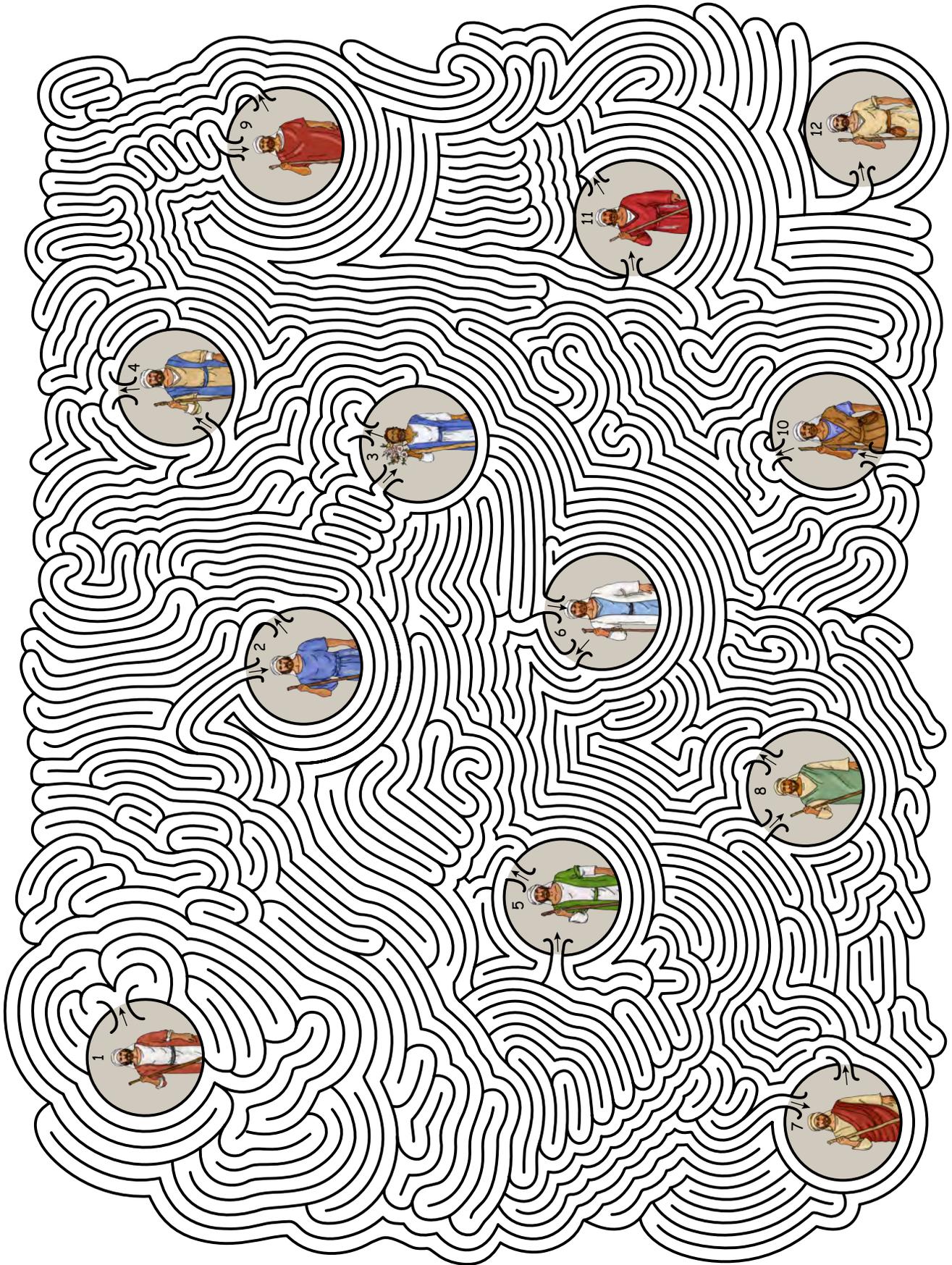
Across

- The Lewites were given to the priest as a **gift**.
- Aharon and his sons were to bear the **crookedness** against the Set-apart Place and the priesthood.
- What type of nut came forth on Aharon's rod? **almond**
- The contributions were a covenant of **salt** forever before Yahweh

Down

- The children of Yisra'el were to no more come near the Tent of Meeting or else they would **die**.
- How many rods were put before the ark of the Witness? **twelve**
- Whose name was written on the rod for Lewi? **Aharon**
- The children of Yisra'el spoke to Mosheh saying, "See, we shall **perish**, we shall **perish**!"
- Yahweh wanted to rid Himself of the **grumblings** of the children of Yisra'el.
- The rods were a sign against the **rebels**.

MAZE



Precious Possessions

NOTEBOOK PAGE

A Special Rod

Numbers 17:8

Materials:

- Cardstock - white
- Flat wooden toothpicks (12)
- Puffy paint - brown, pink
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Coloring pencils, crayons or markers
- Notebook Page Templates: Main Page & A (BW) or Main Page & B (color)



Parent/Teacher Preparation:

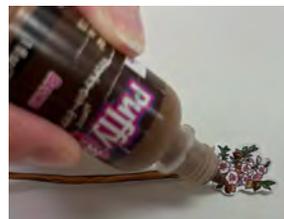
- Print Notebook Page Templates of choice on white cardstock.

Instructions for the Notebook Page:

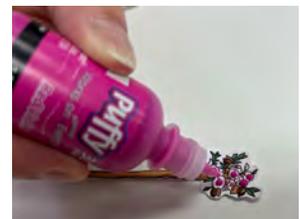
- If using BW Templates, color using medium of choice.
- Cut out all Template pieces. (P1)
- Apply brown puffy paint to almonds and pink puffy paint to flowers. (P2a, P2b)
- Set aside to dry. (P3)
- Using gold glitter glue, spread onto the ark of the Witness and poles. (P4)
- Set aside to dry. (P5)
- Run a glue stick onto one side of a wooden toothpick and lay one of the rods onto the glue. (P6a, P6b)



P1



P2a



P2b



P3



P4



P5



P6a



P6b

Instructions for the Notebook Page cont'd:

- Repeat for all the toothpicks. (P7a, P7b)
- Run a glue stick onto the back of Aharon's rod and place onto the ark of the Witness. (P8a, P8b)
- Place the rest of the rods below or around Aharon's rod. We laid them in birth order. (P9a, P9b)

Hebrew Words

- Write the following directly on the Main Page or on a piece of colored cardstock and glue to the page:
 - 1) Shem 2) שם 3) Name (P10)
 - 1) Matteh 2) מטה 3) Rod/Staff (P11)
 - 1) Shaged 2) שקד 3) Almond (P12)
 - 1) Parach 2) פרח 3) Bud (P13)

You now have a visual of the sign Yahweh gave to the rebels and all the children of Yisra'el that He had chosen the Lewites to serve Him in the Dwelling Place.



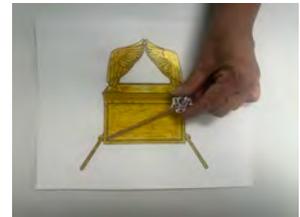
P7a



P7b



P8a



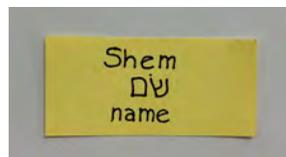
P8b



P9a



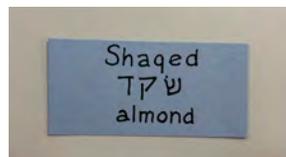
P9b



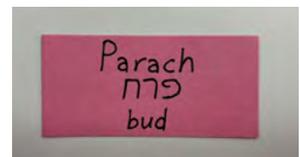
P10



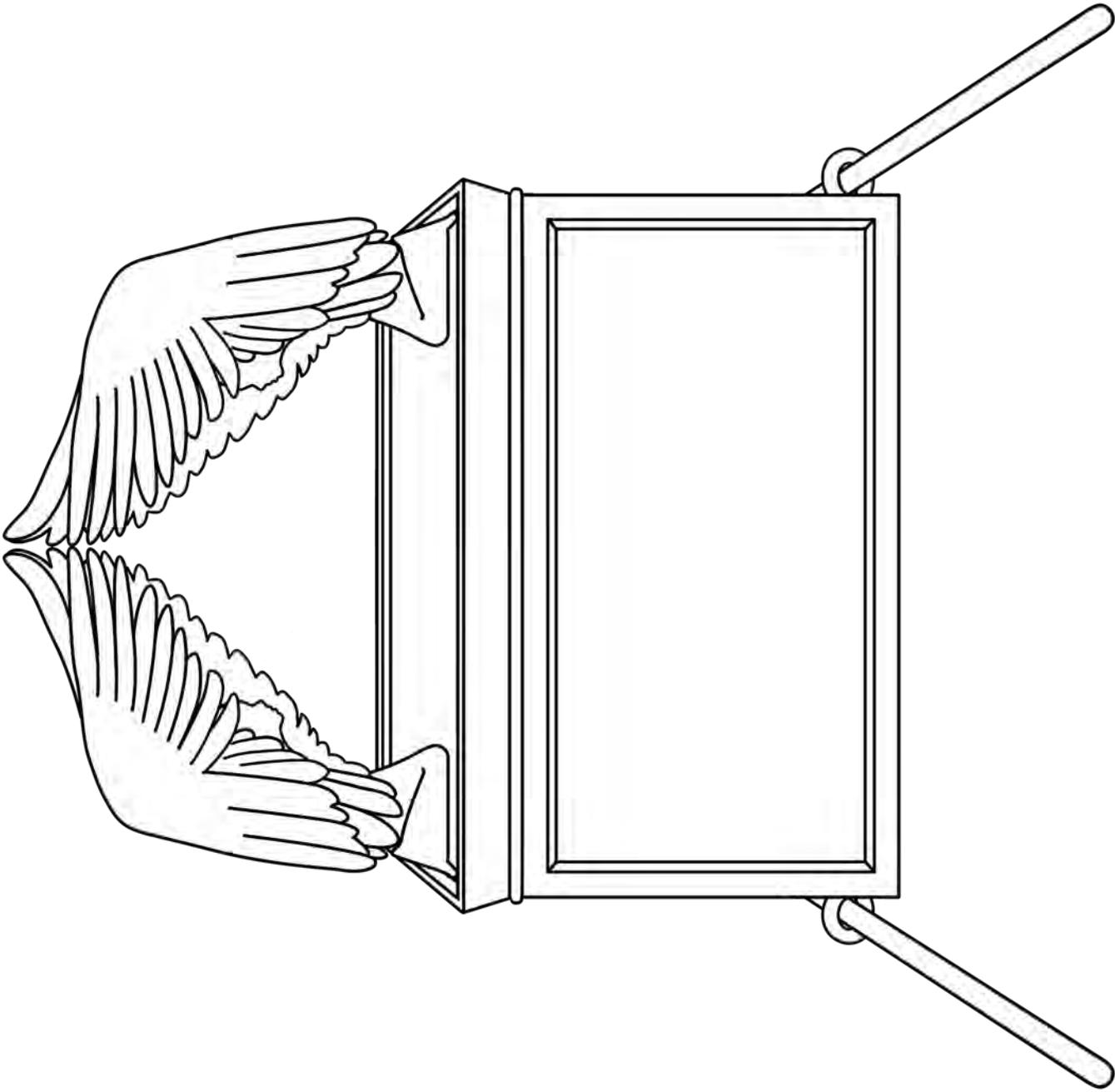
P11



P12



P13



Notebook Template A (BW)

Re'ubēn

Shim'on

Aharon



Yehudah

Gad

Ashēr

Dan

Naph'tali

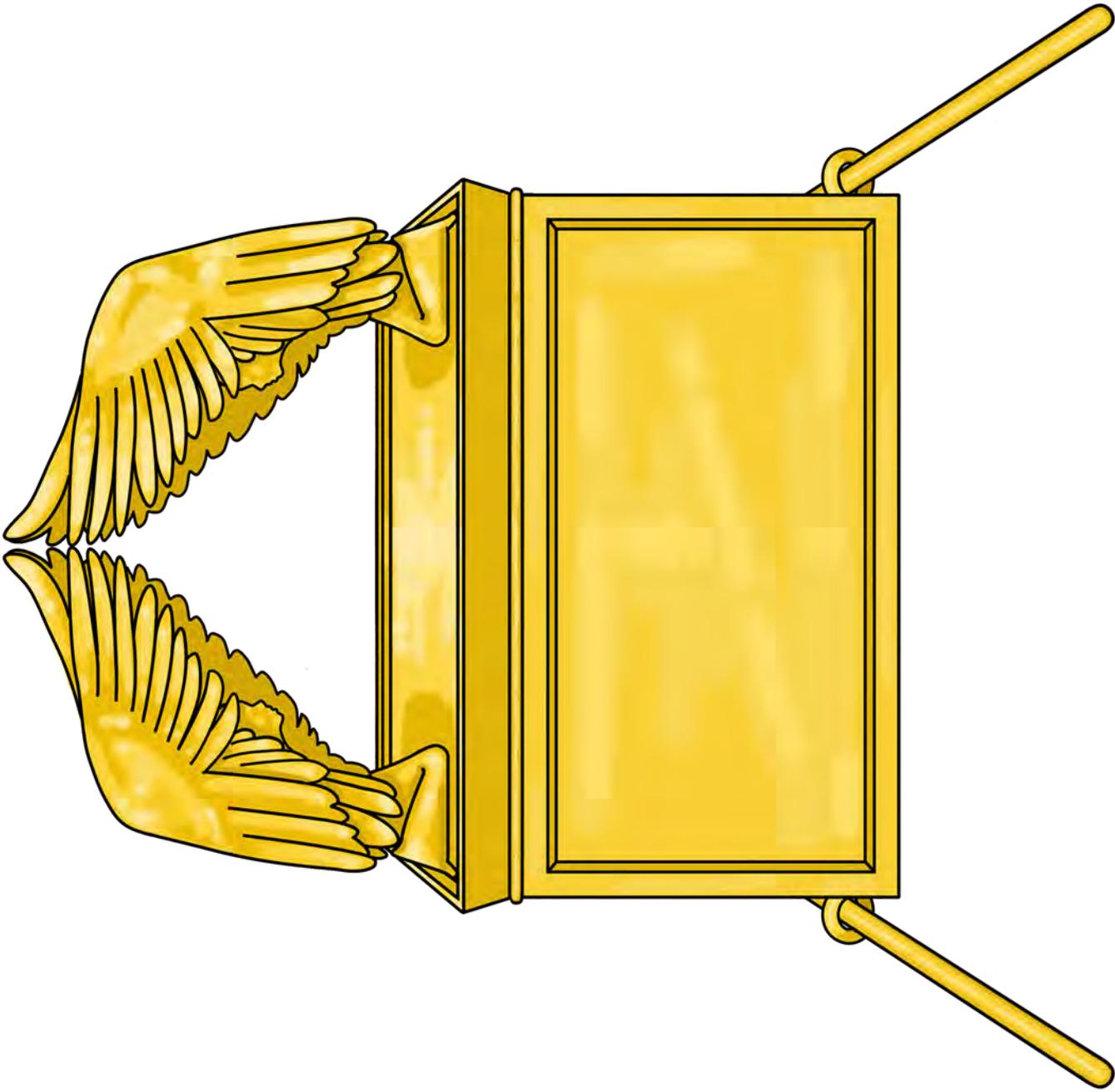
Yissas'kar

Zebulun

Yosēph

Binyamin





Notebook Template B (color)





KORAH

"Qorah"

Numbers 16:1 - 18:32

LEVI

Sweetness of Torah

SWEET SOUNDS OF TORAH

(Sing Praises to His Name)

Here is the link for this song:

https://www.podomatic.com/podcasts/steveberkson/episodes/2024-07-10T07_43_01-07_00

There were 12 Rods

There were 12 rods
For the 12 tribes
Put their names on their rods
Which one will bud?

Re'uben's rod didn't bud
Shim'on's rod didn't bud
Yehudah's rod didn't bud
Which one will bud?

Gad and Asher's didn't bud
Dan's rod didn't bud
Naphtali's rod didn't bud
Which one will bud?

Yisasskar's didn't bud
Zebulun's didn't bud
Yoseph and Binyamin's didn't bud
Which one will bud?

Aharon's was among them
Aharon's was among them
Aharon's was among them
His rod budded and blossomed!



SWEET TASTE OF TORAH

This snack relates to this week's parsha. Please take these as suggestions and make necessary changes based on your individual dietary needs.

Almond Rod Cookies

Numbers 17:8



Ingredients:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ c. vegetable shortening
- $\frac{1}{4}$ c. unsalted butter, softened
- 1 egg
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. almond extract
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 c. powdered sugar
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- $\frac{3}{4}$ c. chopped almonds

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a mixing bowl, combine the shortening, butter, egg, almond extract, vanilla extract, and powdered sugar. Cream well. In a separate bowl, combine the flour and salt. Add to the shortening mixture and blend well. Stir in the chopped almonds.

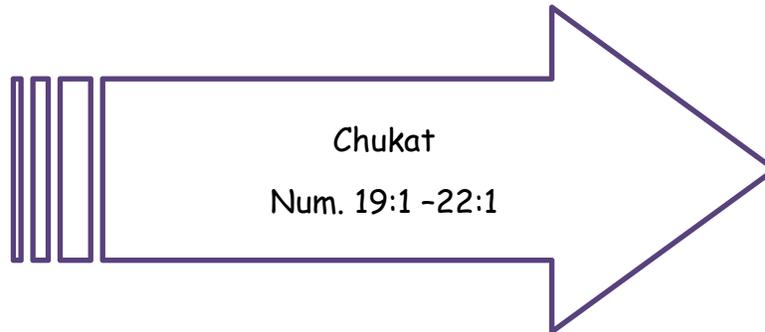
To form these cookies, take a tablespoon of dough and gently roll it into a log about 5-6 inches long. (The chopped almonds might make it a little difficult to roll smoothly. Another option is to make plain dough and sprinkle the chopped almonds on top of the cookies and press in lightly before they're baked.)

Place the logs (or rods) on an ungreased cookie sheet. Slightly curve the tops to form a shepherd's crook. Form cookies one at a time.

Bake for 9-10 minutes or until a light golden brown. Let cool slightly on cookie sheet before transferring to cooling rack. Yield: 3-4 dozen

Next Week's Treasure Hunt

Next Week's Torah Portion



Suggested Reading Schedule

| | | |
|------------|-----------------|---|
| Monday: | Num. 19 | The Red Heifer |
| Tuesday: | Num. 20:1-13 | Death of Miryam; Mosheh strikes the rock at the waters of Meribah |
| Wednesday: | Num. 20:14-29 | Passage through Edom denied; Death of Aharon; El'azar promoted to High Priest |
| Thursday: | Num. 21:1-9 | The plague of snake-bites; Gazing on the Bronze Serpent |
| Friday: | Num. 21:10-22:1 | The journey to Mo'ab; King Sihon and King Og defeated |