

Parshat Beha'alotcha

Transition

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In this week's Parsha, Parshat Beha'alotcha, we learn about the Jewish people's journey in the desert. When the chatzotzrot, trumpets, blew, the Jewish people would travel under the protection of the Ananei HaKavod, the clouds of glory. When the Ananei HaKavod moved, the Jewish people moved; when they stopped, the Jewish people stopped. The Ramban points out that it states seven times that the Jewish people traveled and rested according to the word of Hashem. Why does the Torah reiterate this so many times? The answer is to teach a lesson in transition. There were times that the Jewish people had to remain in a specific place for a longer period of time. There were other times that the Jewish people would rest and then suddenly, the cloud moved again. In life, people are placed in various situations; some are positive while some are negative. Sometimes, people are placed in a difficult situation for a long period of time. However, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. How do we face these challenges? The answer is with Emunah, faith in Hashem. Rabbi Frand points out that it we always read the Parshiot of the Jewish people in the desert toward the end of the school year during times of transition. May we all have a smooth transition as we head toward the summer months.

