

Building Our Inner Sanctuary



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In Parashat Pekudei, we delve into the building of the *Mishkan*, a portable Sanctuary and sacred space designed for connection to God. You might wonder, "What does this ancient building project have to do with me?" Let's explore 5 parallels between the *Mishkan* and our lives.

1. Building with Purpose: The *Mishkan* wasn't built haphazardly; every individual element was designed in a specific way and served a specific purpose. In our own lives, we should take time to set personal goals and identify the steps needed to achieve them. Ask yourself who you want to become,

and what you need to do to get there.

2. Everyone's Contribution

Matters: Throughout the construction of the *Mishkan*, every individual had a role and something to contribute. Every individual within a community is valuable. Recognise the unique strengths and talents you bring to your family and to society.

3. Attention to Detail: The building of the *Mishkan* involved precision and attention to detail. Similarly, paying attention to the small things in our lives can make a big difference. Mindfulness contributes to building a meaningful existence.

4. Reflecting on Inner Vessels:

The vessels inside the *Mishkan* were as important as the

structure itself. Reflect on your inner vessels — your thoughts, emotions and character. How can you develop qualities like kindness, empathy and resilience to enhance your inner world?

5. The Journey Matters: The construction of the *Mishkan* was a process, not an instant result. Similarly, life is a journey. Embrace the ups and downs, challenges and triumphs as part of your personal construction project. Learn from each experience and use it to shape your character.

Parashat Pekudei teaches us that every detail in the *Mishkan* had a purpose, just as every aspect of our lives contributes to our personal growth. As you grow and develop, you are in a unique stage of constructing your identity and values. May your journey be filled with intention, connections and self-discovery.

Pekudei Puzzler

Answer the questions below by finding the numbers in the chart.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
9	6	10	2	11	16	24	3	15	23	14	8	4	17	25	7	1	19	22	21	5	26	20	13	12	18

1. What does the word Pekudei mean? **(9,4,25,5,17,21,22 / 25,16)**
2. Pekudei is the last parasha in which Hebrew book of the Torah? **(22,3,11,4,25,21)**
3. What appeared over the *Mishkan* to signify God's presence? **(9 / 10,8,25,5,2)**
4. How many consecutive parashot discuss the construction of the *Mishkan*? **(16,15,26,11)**
5. What were the names of the two men who led the construction of the *Mishkan*? **(6,11,21,18,9,8,11,8 / 9,17,2 / 9,3,25,8,15,9,26)**