

COUNTING THE OMER TO SHAVUOT

In Leviticus 23:15-16 the scriptures remind us to count forty nine days between Passover to Shavuot.

Throughout the gospels we are reminded of the many appearances of Yeshua after his death and resurrection during this time period that accumulated with the outpouring of the Ruach HaKodesh on Pentecost.

At sundown (the beginning of the day, we begin the count with a blessing followed by a counting up of the days in anticipation of receiving the fulfillment of Adonai's promises.



COUNTING THE OMER IN PRAYER

We pray together during this time of spiritual anticipation for Messianic Jewish renewal in Israel and around the world, and conclude with prayers for unity in the Messianic Jewish community everywhere.

We'll pray together each evening through the seven weeks of counting the Omer (Lev. 23:15) – three weeks for the worldwide Messianic Jewish community, three weeks for the Israeli Messianic Jewish community, and one week for unity and renewal among both. Here's how:

1. Pray after sundown, beginning on the evening of April 9, 2020.
2. Recite the blessing:

Baruch atah Adonai Elohenu, Melech ha-olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav vitzivanu al sefirat ha-Omer.

Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by his commandments and commanded us concerning the count of the Omer.

3. Recite the count of the Omer saying:

"Today is day __, which is __ week(s) and __ day(s) of the omer."

4. Pray for the requests of that day.

Week 1 (April 10 – April 16) Let us pray for thriving congregations for Yeshua in Jewish communities around the world.

- Day 1** Congregations where God, Yeshua and scripture are central.
- Day 2** Congregations where families can experience Yeshua in a Jewish context.
- Day 3** Opportunities for all members to serve and be served within the congregational setting.
- Day 4** Centers of outreach in Jewish communities that are founded on prayer and scripture.
- Day 5** Renewed dedication to Yeshua-centered lives.
- Day 6** Abundant finances for building up successful congregations.
- Day 7** Congregations where lives are transformed for Messiah.

Week 2 (April 17 – April 23) Let us pray for Messianic leaders worldwide, present and future

- Day 8** Fresh, vibrant, and clear teaching from Scriptures on God and Messiah.
- Day 9** Effective training programs for leaders.
- Day 10** Leaders to bring Scripture and rich tradition of its interpretation into the life of our communities today.
- Day 11** Protection and blessing upon the families of leaders.
- Day 12** Leaders worldwide to thrive spiritually in the midst of pressure.
- Day 13** A whole new generation of leaders for the worldwide Messianic Jewish community.
- Day 14** Unified love for Yeshua among all those called to leadership.

Week 3 (April 24 – April 30) Let us pray for Messianic Jewish families around the world.

- Day 15** Restored unity within our households.
- Day 16** Families to resist the pressures of assimilation and secularism.
- Day 17** Parental role models for our children that inspire them to walk in the ways of the Lord.

- Day 18** Restoration of the family as the true example of God's community where peace, righteousness, and joy abound.
- Day 19** Strength for our youth to make sound ethical choices in light of today's worldly pressures.
- Day 20** Our youth to be a shining example of Yeshua's love in their schools and in the Jewish community.
- Day 21** Unified commitment to Dor L'dor, passing knowledge from one generation to the next.

Week 4 (May 1 – May 7) Let us pray for Thriving congregations for Yeshua in Israel.

- Day 22** Congregations where God, Yeshua, and Scripture are central.
- Day 23** Congregations where families can experience Yeshua in a Jewish context.
- Day 24** Opportunities for all members to serve and be served within the congregational setting.
- Day 25** Centers of outreach throughout Israel that are founded on prayer and Scripture.
- Day 26** Renewed dedication to Yeshua-centered lives.
- Day 27** Abundant finances for building up successful congregations.
- Day 28** Congregations where lives are transformed for Messiah.

Week 5 (May 8 – May 14) Let us pray for Messianic leaders in Israel, present and future.

- Day 29** Fresh, vibrant, and clear teaching from the scriptures on God and Messiah.
- Day 30** Effective training programs for leaders.
- Day 31** Leaders to bring Scripture and the rich tradition of its interpretation into the life of our communities today.
- Day 32** Protection and blessing upon the families of leaders in Israel.
- Day 33** Israeli leaders to thrive spiritually in the midst of pressure.
- Day 34** A whole new generation of leaders for the Messianic community in Israel.
- Day 35** Unified love for Yeshua among all those called to leadership.

Week 6 (May 15 - 21) Let us pray for Messianic families in Israel.

- Day 36** Restored unity within our households.
- Day 37** Families to resist the pressures of assimilation and secularism.
- Day 38** Parental role models for our children that inspire them to walk in the ways of the Lord.
- Day 39** Restoration of the family as the true example of God's community where peace, righteousness, and joy abound.
- Day 40** Strength for our youth to make sound ethical choices in light of today's worldly pressures.
- Day 41** Our youth to be a shining example of Yeshua's love in their schools and in the Jewish community.
- Day 42** Unified commitment to Dor L'dor, passing knowledge from one generation to the next.

Week 7 (May 22 - 28) Let us pray for Messianic families in Israel.

- Day 43** Unity within the House of Israel through Yeshua's love for His people.
- Day 44** The Spirit of God to bring us all closer to the Lord's presence.
- Day 45** Renewed commitment to daily prayer and study.
- Day 46** New and renewed Jewish liturgy and music that speaks to today's community and reflect Yeshua's heart.
- Day 47** Rekindling of tzedakah in our midst – Yeshua's vision to provide food for the hungry, clothes to the poor, and shelter for the homeless.
- Day 48** Unified and strengthened giving as in temple times.
- Day 49** Unified return to God's timeless ways through Messiah Yeshua.

The fiftieth Day

Erev Shavuot, Friday evening, May 29, 2020