

## Beit Rabban Parashah Page

### Parashat Lech Lecha Genesis 12:1-17:27

### פרק ל' לך לך בראשית יב:א-יז:כו

In this week's parashah, HaShem tells Avram several times that he will be the start of a great nation. Here is one way HaShem describes just how numerous Avram's offspring will be (Gen. 15:5):

HaShem took him outside and said, "Look toward the heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." and HaShem added, "So shall your offspring be."

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־אַבְרָהָם כְּתַב־נָא  
הַשְׁמִינִית וְסָפֵר הַכּוֹכָבִים—אָמֵן  
תוֹכֵל לְסָפֵר אֶתְכֶם; וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ, פְּהָ  
יָהִי זָרָעָךְ.

Avram certainly already knew there are many, many stars in the night sky; he didn't need to be shown. Why might HaShem have wanted to show him and tell him at the same time? How do you think Avram felt when he looked at the stars? Why might it have been important to Avram to be promised that he would have many generations that would grow from him?

We are the descendants of Avram, the ones that HaShem compared to the stars in the sky. What do you think of when you hear this comparison? How are you like a star?

This is a very good time of year to go outside on a clear night (with an adult) and try to really see the stars as Avram saw them, ideally away from city lights. How do you feel when you look up at the stars? When you look at the stars, you may notice that although each one is very bright in its own right, you see them in groups and constellations—it almost impossible to see just one star at a time. How is Am Yisrael—the Jewish people—like the constellations and the stars? How does this make you feel about yourself, your family, and your community?