



Project: Sermon Resource for Shluchim  
 Distribution Date: May 21, 2007 / ד' סיון תשס"ז  
 Parsha: Naso / נשא

ב"ה

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1. Some people talk to themselves - maybe because they like talking to intelligent people!



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2. In Jewish tradition everything is said out loud.

Unlike the quiet universities at a Yeshiva, students scream the words of the Torah.

Jewish law: Reading only with your eyes does not fulfill the mitzvah of Torah study.

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3. Q: If studying Torah is in order to understand, why the stress on speech?



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4. The same applies to prayer:  
 Jewish Law: "Silently moving your lips is considered prayer. Thinking words in your heart is not."

Why the stress on speech?



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5. Our Parsha:  
 We read that when one sins he must confess verbally.

Q: Prayer is "the service of the heart"- your thoughts should be most important of all. Why the need for a verbal confession?



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6. Our sages have explained:  
 G-d created silence, or not speaking as a method of self defense

When Rebbi died his students protected themselves from grief by not allowing the words "Rebbi died" to be spoken.

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7. A sinner won't say "I have sinned!"

A verbal confession forces him to see how bad his behavior is.

Only then can he do proper *teshuva*.



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8. A similar law regarding promises.

Rambam: Even if only you hear your promise it is binding.

If you don't say any words at all the promise is not binding.



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9. The advantage of speech is not only psychological.

A famous public speaker once told me that he practices his speeches out loud to himself - for speech can clarify thoughts and uncover new ideas!



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10. Chassidus: "Speech is rooted in a deeper, loftier level of the soul than thought."

Therefore Torah, prayer, confessions and promises must be spoken

When you speak you really pay attention to what you're saying.

This helps you uncover the truth!



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11. We can all relate to this idea. Why does a wife have to hear the words "I love you" again and again?

A: A deeper love is revealed every time.



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12. The same applies to our relationship with G-d.

To truly love G-d and constantly strengthen our connection with Him we need to keep on telling Him, "I love you"!



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