



# The Narrow Bridge

## גשר צר מאוד

### INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES

**Short Quotes from Various Tzaddikim - Week 120**

To join our Whatsapp group for daily messages, contact us at 845-641-2648

לע'נ פעסל בת ישראל מנחם / לזכות חילינו

***Don't worry, you are allowed to be both a masterpiece and a work in progress all at the same time.***

BASED ON THE TEACHINGS OF REBBE NACHMAN (1772-1810)

***Don't be quick to judge others. We are all broken in different ways;  
and compassion is the glue that can put us back together.***

BASED ON THE TEACHINGS OF THE BNEI YISSASCHAR, REB TZVI ELIMELECH OF DINOV (1783-1841)

***Don't try to fix people; try to love them. Love will do the fixing.***

BASED ON THE TEACHING OF REB NOSON OF BRESLOV (1780-1844)

***If you only knew how Hashem looks at you, you would never stop smiling.***

RABBI YAAKOV GALINSKY (1921-2014)



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*Tonight marks Lag Ba'Omer, the 33<sup>rd</sup> day of the Omer count. It is a day that pulses with joy, light, and deep spiritual meaning. Emerging from a period of mourning, Lag Ba'Omer is a time of celebration, commemorating both the end of a plague among Rabbi Akiva's students and the life and teachings of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, the great mystic and sage. At its heart, the day calls us to reflect on the values that bring healing and transformation: unity, acceptance, and love - and the unbreakable spirit to never give up.*

*Rabbi Akiva, whose students perished due to a lack of proper respect for one another, taught that the foundational principle of the Torah is "Ve'ahavta l'reiacha kamocha - Love your fellow as yourself." Lag Ba'Omer reminds us that spiritual greatness cannot flourish in a climate of division and judgment. Only through genuine love for one another, embracing each soul with kindness and dignity, can we build a vessel worthy of Divine light.*

*Yet what stands out just as powerfully is Rabbi Akiva's resilience, his tenacity in the face of devastation. Left with only five students after such a heartbreaking loss, he did not fall into despair. He started again, building a new generation of Torah leadership. Among those five was Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, who would go on to illuminate the world with the hidden light of the Zohar. Lag Ba'Omer teaches us that even in the face of loss, even when everything seems broken, we forge ahead. It teaches us that from even the smallest spark, the greatest light can emerge.*

*Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, whose soul ascended on this day, lived in unity with the hidden depth of every Jew, seeing not the outer shell but the holy spark within. His legacy teaches us that unity is not uniformity; it is the harmony of many souls, each unique, yet each essential.*

*As we gather around bonfires, sing songs, and rejoice together on Lag Ba'Omer, we ignite not only physical flames but also the inner fire of Ahavas Yisrael - boundless love for our fellow Jew, and the courage to rise again no matter the challenge. It is a time to set aside our differences, to remember that in our togetherness lies our strength, and in our love and perseverance lies our redemption.*