Parashah 43 Mas’ei - יאוVESAm
“Journeys”

Torah: B’midbar (Numbers) 33:1-36:13
Aliyah 1 - 33:1 - 10 The first seven of the 42 journeys of the people of Israel after leaving Egypt
Aliyah 2 - 33:11 - 49 Remaining journeys described, including the death of Aharon
Aliyah 3 - 33:50 -34:15 Instructions to expel inhabitants of The Land; borders and division of The Land
Aliyah 4 - 34:16 - 29 Tribal representatives appointed to distribute The Land
Aliyah 5 - 35:1 - 8 Regulations for the 48 cities for the Levi'im and the land surrounding them
Aliyah 6 - 35:9 - 34 Instructions for the six cities of refuge for those fleeing manslaughter
Aliyah 7 - 36:1 - 13 Further instructions for the daughters of Tz'lo'chad to marry within their tribe

Haftarah: Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 2:4-28, 3:4 (4:1-2)
B'rit Hadashah: Ya'acov (James) 4:1-12

1. What do we learn from the long list of encampments (stages)? What does God command the people to do when they cross the Yarden? What is the consequence for failure?

2. What special accommodation was made for the L'vi'im? How are we like the L'vi'im today?

3. What was the purpose of vengeance killing in tribal societies? What is the purpose of the cities of refuge? What did a person have to do to use a city of refuge?

4. What is required to convict a murderer? How does this apply to us today in our personal lives? In the forms of the laws in our society?

5. In regard to the Cities of Refuge, what happens when the High Priest dies? How does this apply to us today?

6. What complication arose regarding the daughters of Tz'lof'chad? How was it handled? Does this have any meaning for us today?
Questions for reflection and application:

1. (33:18) What have you learned about forgiveness on your “journey?” (Zec 7:8-14, Eph 4:31-32, Mat 6:12, 18:21-22, 35)

2. (34:17) How have you “taken possession” of the promises God has made to you? (Joh 1:29, Joh 6:46, Joh 14:6, 1Jo 2:13-15, Rom 5:8, 2Co 5:21, Act 4:12)

3. (35:2) Do you recognize your role in the body of Messiah? How do you, like the Levites, serve others? ((Num 35:2-5, Joh 17:16, 2Co 4:8-9, 1Co 9:10-14, Gal 5:1)