

<http://www.shema-yisrael.org/>  
**Torah Portion Emor 2010/5770**  
**Countdown to Shavuot**

**Deuteronomy 16:9-10** Counting the Omer and celebrating Shavuot.  
**Leviticus 23:9-10** Waving the firstfruits and Day One of the Omer count.  
**Leviticus 23:15-17** Counting the Omer and the countdown to "ripeness".

*The counting is intended to remind us of the link between Passover, which commemorates the Exodus, and Shavu'ot, which commemorates the giving of the Torah. It reminds us that the redemption from slavery was not complete until we received the Torah. -Judaism 101*  
<http://www.jewfaq.org/holidayb.htm>

Is this a lot like watching grass grow? We know the grain will ripen. Why count off the days? Pentecost comes from the Greek word for "fifty", so it isn't a Christian "disconnect" from Torah commandment of counting the 49 days of the Omer. It is an acknowledgment that something big happens on the fiftieth day.

The seed of redemption planted in us at Passover has forty-nine days to grow and mature until the harvest of Pentecost. **-FFOZ commentary**

**Acts 2:1-4** The Shavuot/Pentecost event.  
**1 Corinthians 15:20** Yeshua is the firstfruits...the culmination of our count.

**Why do we care if the seeds we plant grow?**

**Matthew 13:3-9** Sowing seeds.  
**Luke 17:5-6** Mustard seeds.  
**Matthew 7:24-27** Is laying a good foundation like planting a seed?

**Hebrews 5:12-14** Seeds refusing to grow.  
**James 1:2-8** The growth process.

**Leviticus 22:31-32** Obedience = sanctifying God's Name and disobedience = desecrating God's Name  
**1 John 3:4-6** Sin is lawlessness.  
**James 1:22-25** Listening and then doing.

**Revelation 22:20-21** The harvest we're waiting for at the end of the count.  
**Matthew 28:16-20** What we do in the meantime.

The counting of the Omer is like the days of our lives. We are in a constant state of growth, but rather than taking that growth for granted, we count each day as precious and we must also make each day count for the sake of others.

**Psalm 90:12** Teach us to number our days.

**More reading:** [https://ffoz.org/resources/edrash/emor/the\\_seed\\_of\\_redemption\\_planted.php](https://ffoz.org/resources/edrash/emor/the_seed_of_redemption_planted.php)