

PARSHAT SH'LACH LECHA
NUMBERS 13:1-15:41
24 SIVAN 5782/23 JUNE 2022



String Theory VI
Acrylic on vinyl by Mildred Thompson (1999)
Collection of Georgia Museum of Art

STRING THEORY

1. “Speak to the Israelite people and instruct them to make for themselves fringes on the corners of their garments throughout the ages....I am Adonai your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God, I Adonai your God.” (Numbers 15:38-41)
2. שְׁלַח־לְךָ (Numbers 13:2)
According to your own understanding. I am not commanding you, but if you wish, you may send. (Rashi)
3. “We cannot attack that people, for it is stronger than we.” (Numbers 13:31)
4. The spies were not afraid of failure. They were afraid of success. (Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson)

5. The purpose for which this world was created is that the Holy Blessed One desired to have an abode in the lower worlds. (Midrash Tanchuma, Naso)

To serve God does not mean to withdraw from the world; it rather means to serve God within the world and together with the world, beginning with one's own home, which is to be run in such a way that the Shechinah would dwell within it, as Scripture says, "They shall make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them" (Exodus 25:8). (Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson)

6. In the mundane, nothing is sacred. In sacredness, nothing is mundane. (Dōgen Zenji)

The mundane and the sacred are one and the same. (Alan Watts)

By being mindful, we can turn the mundane into the meaningful, recognizing that this life is special and worthy of our attention. (Tal Ben-Shahar and Megan McDonough, cofounders of the Wholebeing Institute, developers of the SPIRE model)

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