



## **Student Dvar Torah - Parashat Yitro** **By Kayla Brand - Grade 7**

In this week's Parashah as the Jewish people are approaching Har Sinai, The Pasuk states (19:2): "And he [the Jewish people] camped there, opposite the mountain." The Torah uses the word Vayichan (encamped) in singular. Rashi explains that it's because the Jews were as one unit, "as one person with one heart". From this we learn that one must love his fellow Jews in order to be prepared and ready to accept the mitzvot and obligations of the Torah. Another definition for Vayichan is "chein" (finding favor). The Jews found favor in each other's eyes and therefore found favor in the eyes of Hashem. When one seeks the negative in other people, they become distant from one another. On the contrary, if one seeks the positive in other people, you become closer with them. Unity is a foremost requirement in the acceptance of the Torah. Jews must accept each other in order to accept the Torah.