

5 Finger Tips for Success



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## **Preface**

Would it be useful if you could sum up 5 main tips for growth in your daily life?

Would it be helpful to use an easy-to-remember system that you could link to your 5 fingers which you can recall when you see your hand?

We will be linking these lessons to the Gemara in Kesubos 5b and in Minachos 11a which name the 5 fingers and teach 5 Mitzva purpose-lessons that can change our lives.

## 1. Thumbs up!



The thumb is called 'Godel' because it is the thickest, and when you close the other 4 fingers it becomes the largest, sticking up towards Heaven. It can remind us that all of our energy and power come from the Source of all, from the Supreme, Absolute Creator of everything.

Rashi points us to Vayikra 8:23 where the great Aaron HaKohen goes through his initiation program to qualify him as the great leader to serve the Jewish nation. Part of the requirement is to apply the blood of the offering to his right thumb and his large toe to demonstrate that all of his limbs would be devoted and dedicated to Hashem's service.

## **2. Positive Reminders**

When we strive to serve Hashem positively, He helps us achieve our goals. “On the road one is determined to go, Hashem will lead him,” Makos 10b.

We should train ourselves to also connect with Hashem in prayer, to have Hashem’s name fluent in our words as we learn from the great Yoseif HaTzadik.

Even children know how to show the thumbs-up symbol to encourage others, to say ‘thank you,’ to generate excitement and ‘go-for-it’ feelings.

A thumb pointing to the sky is most encouraging as soldiers show before going into battle and astronauts before going into space.

We can use it daily and think of Mishlei 15:15 →

“One with a good attitude is always at a party”!

### 3. **Point to Succeed**

Using your pointer finger can remind us to harness all of our positive energy and prayer to aim for our personal goals. When we avoid distractions and keep our eyes on our goals, Hashem helps us focus better and achieve our targets.

Rashi points us to Vayikra 4:6 where the Torah says that for a 'Chatos' atonement offering, the Kohen should dip his pointer finger into the blood which he sprinkles 7 times before Hashem for purification. This is a symbol to remember Hashem Who created the world in 7 days. It will help us when we activate our hands to serve Him.

#### **4. Take Action**

You need a positive attitude, optimism, prayer and confidence. But you also need to take serious action.

Don't make the mistake of thinking Hashem will force you to be happy if you refuse to apply yourself to do what He tells you to do. "A rich person is one who rejoices with his portions," Avos 4:1.

We have 5 fingers on each hand. What a grand gift to learn their names - Godel, Etzba, Amoh, Kemitza and Zeres - and their messages.

By reviewing the two Gemaros Kesubos 5b and Minachos 11a about 10 - 20 times, you will have a useful speech to share at many occasions.



## **5. Measuring Tool**

The tallest finger, the middle one, is called 'Amoh' as it was used to measure the Beis Hamigdosh and the utensils used there.

We have a fear of asking for more in our prayers to Hashem, but Hashem encourages us in Tehilim 81:11→

“Open your mouth wide (think of your longest finger) in prayer, and I will fill it up.”

The word 'Amoh' (a certain measure) and 'Aim' (a mother) are related to 'Emuna,' to have faith in Hashem Who is like our mother and father and Who will help us grow tall, strong and great.

## 6. Positive Fear

It is good to be afraid in a positive way, as we learn in Mishlei 28:14, "Fortunate is a person who is always afraid."

As the Gemara explains in Gitin 55b→

- Rashi explains, "Always think ahead 'can this action lead to sin?'"
- Tosfos - be concerned not to forget your learning... thus always review your Torah lessons regularly.

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This positive fear is a form of excitement that leads to 'wow' instead of 'woe.'

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Learn to rejoice with your portions. Don't measure and compare to others. Hashem gave you your own 5 fingers and each is a different shape and size. This serves as a reminder - you are unique and special.

## **7. The Scoop Finger**

The fourth finger is called the scoop finger, Rashi explains, because that is where the Kohen begins to take the three-finger scoop for the Mitzva of a Mincha flour offering on the Mizbeach.

This serves as a reminder that Hashem wants us all to focus on the importance of taking even a small amount of action in our lives.

Our Sages teach, “It’s not how much you do, rather it all depends on your focus of serving Hashem.”



We are taught to always say →  
“If not now, when?”

## 8. Grab a Small Amount

Our Sages teach,  
“Tofasto muat,” when you go with a small amount to start with, you will succeed!”

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We learn from the Mesilas Yeshorim that we need to take actions first. Then we get motivated to love Hashem and people more.

Avos 1:15 teaches →

“Say less and do more.”

The 5 fingers also serve to remind us that Hashem has given us 5 Chumoshim to live and practice.

We all accepted our role with the words →

“We will do and we will listen.”

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Action comes first.

## 9. The Heart Link

The small finger is called 'Zeres' because it is used to measure the Kohen Gadol's breastplate which covers the heart!

A small finger can push a button that can cause a heartfelt explosion that can mean so much. Little actions can make a big difference. One acorn can produce a hundred trees.

[Imagine you send a friend of yours a copy of this booklet and they read it 10 times and go on to accomplish amazing achievements in their life.]

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Have you heard of a small comment that someone overheard that changed the world for that person?

10. One Kind Word

“You can do it!”

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Did anyone ever tell you →  
“You really know how to...”?

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Have you heard the idea that people tend to write their own checks for the amount of good fortune they hope Hashem will send their way?

The way we explain it is based on how you learn the Gemara about your 5 fingers and the message Hashem is sending you...

