**Peulat Shabbat 7/23 - Parashat Balak**

**Themes: Choose your own adventure/life**

**Goals:**

1. To have chanichim think and analyze daily choices they may face at camp.

2. To relate to the parsha, the way that Balaam made a choice to give a blessing rather than a curse.

**Set Up:**

1. The Edah will meet at the Mirpeset at 5:00pm on Shabbat

2. The edah will be divided into small groups and the parsha and peulat will be introduced.

**How the Peulah is going to work:**

1. Madrichim will read out loud each scenario and then give the chanichim options for how to solve the problem posed

2. The chanichim will be given a minute or two to discuss the options presented and madrichim should engage the campers in thinking about the pros and cons of each option

3. After the chanichim choose which option they will take, the group will physically move to different location depending on which path they choose **(or so they think, but you** **will actually be moving to pre-assigned locations)** and everyone will end up at the Beit Am Aleph for a discussion and singing Ma Tovu.

**Introduction to the Peulah: Mirpesset**

In this parasha, King Balak of Moab hires the sorcerer Balaam to curse the Jewish people. As Balaam leaves with the Moabite dignitaries, his donkey stops in the middle of the road because it sees an angel of G-d. Balaam strikes the donkey in an attempt to force it onward and the donkey miraculously speaks, criticizing Balaam for striking. G-d eventually opens Balaam’s eyes so he sees the angel and they have a conversation. When Balaam arrives in Moab, he blesses the Jewish people instead of cursing them. During today’s Peulat Shabbat, you will all be Balaam and choose your fate.

**Scenario #1: T’fillot → Mirpesset**

Read the situation to the chanichim and then explain the two options to them and tell them that whichever option they choose will determine the path they take.

**Situation:** Your tzrif had a sneak out last night so you are really tired in tefilot this morning. You know that you are not allowed to talk during tefilot, but want to tell your friends from the other tzrif about your sneak out and don’t feel like participating. What do you do?

**Options:**

1. You actively participate in tefilot anyways

2. You don’t want to participate so you sit respectfully and quietly for the rest of the service.

**Scenario #2: Being a Bystander → Outside the agam**

Read the situation to the chanichim and then explain the two options to them and tell them that whichever option they choose will determine the path they take.

**Situation:** You are walking to the Chadar with a few of your friends for Aruchat Boker. As you are walking you see a younger Chainich walking on the wrong side of the road and walking on the private property. You know they are not supposed to be there. What do you do?

**Options:**

1. You step up as a leader on tzad aleph and politely tell the younger chanich that they are on the wrong side of the road.

2. You tell a madrich who then explains to the younger chanich that they are on the wrong side of the road.

**Scenario #3: Bullying→ Outside Tzrif 10**

Read the situation to the chanichim and then explain the two options to them and tell them that whichever option they choose will determine the path they take.

**Situation:** You are in the bathroom of your tzrif during Nikayon with a few other chanichim. A few are working on their jobs and a few are not. One chanich is making fun of another chanich for doing their job. You see other chanichim starting to make fun of this chanich too.

**Options:**

1. You stand up and tell the chanichim to stop making fun of the chanich for doing their nikayon job and you keep working on your job.

2. You find a madrich and tell them what is happening and they deal with it. You continue your nikayon job.

**Scenario #4: Skipping Perakim → Mirpeset of Misrad**

Read the situation to the chanichim and then explain the two options to them and tell them that whichever option they choose will determine the path they take.

**Situation:** You are on your way to chinuch and see another member of your edah walking towards the Bet Am Gadol with the intention of skipping the perek. You’re not super friendly with this other chanich, so what do you do?

**Options:**

1. You remind the chanich yourself that Shoafim has chinuch during this perek, not free time.

2. You tell a member of tzevet chinuch and they tell the chanich to come to this perek.

**Scenario #5: Chanichim and Madrichim respect → Outside Tzrif 25**

Read the situation to the chanichim and then explain the two options to them and tell them that whichever option they choose will determine the path they take.

**Situation:** Your madrich tells you that you have five minutes (chamesh dakot) before you have to leave the tzrif after Shaat Menuch. What do you do when you receive this five minute warning?

**Options:**

1. You start getting ready to leave the tzrif (putting on shoes, filling up your water bottle) when you get the five minute warning. You leave the tzrif and are on time to your next chug.

2. You start getting ready to leave the tzrif when the five minutes is up. You leave a few minutes late and arrive to your chug a few minutes late.

**Scenario #6: Passing Up → By the turtle**

Read the situation to the chanichim and then explain the two options to them and tell them that whichever option they choose will determine the path they take.

**Situation:** Both Meltzerim are bringing up silverware and plates from the table during pass up. However the two pitchers are still on the table. Even though Meltzer is not your job you know the pitchers need to be brought up.

**Options:**

1. You bring up the two pitchers to help out the tzrif and the Meltzerim!

2. You wait for the Melzerim to come back to the table and remind them that the pitchers need to be brought up.

**Scenario #7: Night Time → Volleyball Court**

Read the situation to the chanichim and then explain the two options to them and tell them that whichever option they choose will determine the path they take.

**Situation:** Your edah has just finished Raad Hayom and you run across the migrash to the tetherball courts. You know that you need to go straight back to your tzrif, but you really want to play a game of tetherball with your friends. What do you do?

**Options:**

1. You decide to go straight back to your tzrif without your madrichim having to ask you to go inside to get ready for harga’ah and bed.

2. You play ONE game of tetherball and then go into you tzrif to get ready for harga’ah and bed.

**ONCE YOU ARE DONE WITH THE SCENARIOS AND PRIOR TO THE DISCUSSION READ THE CONCLUSION TO CAMPERS**

**Conclusion:**

Congratulations! You have made it through the day! Everyday, inside and outside of camp you have choices to make. You have the ability to make smart choices that can better your life and the ones around you. Like Balaam you have the ability to choose blessings rather than curses.

**Discussion Q’s → Mirepest**

1. How were you like Balaam throughout this peulat?

2. Did you find it difficult to make these decisions? Why or why not?

3. Did we provide all the options for you to choose between?

4. What was the blessing that Balaam gave to the the Jewish people?

(Hint: we sing it everyday→ Mah tovu

5. Read aloud Mah Tovu in English: "How goodly are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel! ... G-d, who has brought them out of Egypt with the strength of His loftiness He shall consume the nations which are his adversaries ... Those who bless [them] shall be blessed, and those who curse [them] shall be cursed." **Why is this** **blessing significant?**

6. How can we use what we learn about living and being with other people at machaneh to our lives at home?

**End with singing Mah tovu in rounds!!**

**Do not tell campers that they will be going to the same location regardless of their choice**