

## Peulat Shabbat 7/6

**Theme:** Freedom of Choice

**Parshat:** Balak

**Goal:** to demonstrate how getting older and having a bar/bat mitzvah gives you the opportunity to make more choices independently, while also exposing them to the consequences of these choices.

**Plan:** the edah will be divided into 8 groups, with one counselor per group. The group will go through the daily routine of a Shoafim camper, and with each item in the schedule there will be a scenario and the campers will be presented with three different options. The counselor should read them their choices and then the group should choose an option all together. Once they have decided, the counselor should read them the result of this choice, and also read the results of the other choices. Then, the counselor should talk with the group about whether or not this was the right choice to make.

### Activity:

#### 1. Wake up

You wake up 30 minutes earlier than everyone else and you want to go on a run. You're pretty sure it is ok to do so but you aren't sure. Do you...

- a. Wake up your counselor to ask if it is okay
- b. Decide to let your counselor sleep and go on the run

#### *Results:*

- a. *You wake up your counselor and he/she says that you're not allowed to go on a run, but thanks you for asking first. You're able to go back to sleep and you're glad that you didn't go on a run because you needed that extra sleep.*
- b. *While you're running, you see a Rosh Edah and she tells you that you're not allowed to be out of your bunk right now, especially without telling your counselors. You're upset that you got in trouble and that you wasted time while you could have been sleeping.*

You are on your run and you lose track of time. you get back 5 minutes before you must leave for T'fillot. You are really sweaty and you need to take a shower, but if you do then you will most likely be late. Do you...

- a. Decide to take a quick shower so you aren't sweaty for T'fillot
- b. Wait until after nikayon to shower

#### *Results:*

- a. *You're in the shower and you hear your counselor telling people to leave the bunk for T'fillot. He/she comes into the bathroom and notices*

*that you're taking a shower. He/she is extremely upset that you're not ready and that you'll be late. You try to hurry up but you feel bad that you're going to get your counselor in trouble.*

- b. You get back from breakfast, do your job quickly, clean your area, and then have extra time to shower. You're glad that you waited.*

## **2. T'fillot**

You are at T'fillot and you see your best friend who you promised you would sit next to. But you also see your other friend who you know struggles often with the brachot and finding the pages and you know you could help him/her out. Do you...

- a. Keep the promise you made to your friend and go sit next to him/her
- b. Go sit next to your other friend and help him/her out with the t'fillot and pages

*Results:*

- a. You sit down next to your friend who you promised you would sit next to and you notice that your other friend is really struggling across the room. You feel bad that you didn't go to sit with them since they're having a really hard time.*
- b. You sit down next to your friend and you're glad that you did, because you were able to help him/her find a lot of the pages and learn some of the prayers. He/she is new at camp, and you're glad that you were able to be of use to him/her.*

## **3. Aruchat Boker**

You are at breakfast and you are meltzer for the day. You have to leave breakfast a bit earlier than everyone else because you have to go to the marp for your meds. If you leave early then you will miss passing up and won't be able to bring up the tray to the front of the kitchen. But if you leave normally with everyone else, then you will come late to nikayon. Do you...

- a. Leave to the marp and assign the meltzar duty to someone else
- b. Wait until breakfast is done to go to the marp and come late to nikayon

*Results:*

- a. You ask your friend from your bunk if they will meltz for this meal, and you offer to do their job during Nikayon. You go to the marp to get your meds. There was a really long line at the marp so when you get back to the bunk, Nikayon is almost over and you don't have enough time to do your friend's job, which is a problem.*
- b. You wait until the meal is over and go to get your meds. Since you were Meltzer, all you need to do in the bunk is clean your own area. You get back to the bunk a little bit late because the line was really long at the marp, but you have enough time to do your area.*

## **4. Nikayon**

You make your way back to the bunk for Nikayon. your counselor instructs you to

take all the clothes and towels off the clotheslines because it is going to rain soon. You don't really feel like it because your area's really messy and you want to clean it first. Do you...

- a. Go outside and collect everybody's clothes and give them back to everybody inside the bunk
- b. Clean your area first, then go outside to get the towels

*Results:*

- a. *You collect everyone's stuff from the line and it begins to pour a few seconds after you get back inside. You're glad you brought it all in because your favorite shirt was drying outside and you didn't want it to get wet. Your counselor thanks you for doing it.*
- b. *While you're cleaning your area, it starts to pour outside and everything on the line is already soaking wet. Your favorite shirt was out there, as well as everyone else's stuff, and now you're mad you didn't listen to your counselor's directions. Everyone else is also upset that their stuff is wet.*

**5. Chug Aleph**

It is time for chug aleph. You are at tennis and today everyone has broken up into pairs to play their own matches on the different tennis courts. While you are playing your match, you notice that one kid playing a match on the next court over is saying some not so nice things to the kid he is playing against. He is also using some inappropriate words. Boaz does not notice any of this because he is all the way on the other side of the courts and is preoccupied with a few kids. You know you should probably him know what is going on but you are pretty close friends with the kid who is cursing. Do you...

- a. Go to Boaz and let him know what's happening so he can stop it
- b. Ignore it

*Results:*

- a. *You tell Boaz that your friend was cursing and you ask to remain anonymous. He goes over to your friends and asks them politely to stop, and tells them that their language is inappropriate. They understand. You're glad you told Boaz because their language was making you uncomfortable, and your friends weren't mad at you because they didn't know that you told on them.*
- b. *You ignore their inappropriate language and continue on with the chug. Later in the bunk, your friends continue making inappropriate remarks and it's making you really uncomfortable. You wish you had stopped it earlier.*

**6. Hinuch**

It is time for Hinuch and it's not your favorite parak. The only thing that makes it bearable for you is that your best friend is in your group. You are about to leave to the grove from your bunk when your other friend stops you and asks if you want to skip it with him. You really want to and you don't want to leave your friend

hanging. Do you...

- a. Skip Hinuch with your friend
- b. Tell your friend sorry and go to Hinuch

*Results:*

- a. *You skip Hinuch and you go to walk around Tzad Bet with your friend. You run into Emily and she asks you why you're not at Hinuch. She sends you back and tells you that she'll discuss it with you later and that it's not okay. Now you're upset that you're in trouble. By the time you get to Hinuch, the parak is over and you're sad because it looks like your class got candy.*
- b. *You go to Hinuch and you're happy that you did because your class got candy. You're also happy that you got to spend time with your friend in your class who isn't in your bunk.*

## 7. Agam

Now it's free swim. You are in the water and a thunderstorm starts approaching. The lifeguards don't notice and you feel like you should say something because you know it's not safe to be in the water. Do you...

- a. Get out of the water and let one of the lifeguards know that you heard thunder
- b. Say nothing because you want to stay in the water with your friends

*Results:*

- a. *You let the lifeguards know and they thank you for telling them. They get everyone out of the water and it soon starts to pour, and there's thunder and lightning. You're glad you told them.*
- b. *You decide not to say anything. It soon starts to rain and there's lightning. Everyone's freaking out and it's incredibly chaotic getting out of the water. Your towel is soaked and so are you. Everyone's getting scared and you're rushed to the Beit Am Aleph. You wish you had said something earlier so that it wouldn't be as chaotic.*

## 8. Aruchat Tzorayim

After eating your lunch, your counselor says that it's time to pass up but you really need to go to the bathroom. Do you...

- a. Ask your counselor if you can go, aware of the risk that he/she will say no
- b. Go to the bathroom without asking because it's an emergency and you don't want your counselor to say no
- c. Wait until after the brachah is said, then go to the bathroom

*Results:*

- a. *Your counselor says that you need to wait until the end of the meal, but thanks you for asking first and assures you that you will be able to go after the meal is over.*

- b. *You get back from the bathroom and your counselor yells at you for leaving without asking. He/she did not know where you were and was very worried.*
- c. *You are able to wait until the end of the meal and then you go to the bathroom. You're happy that you didn't make a big deal about it, because it wasn't that hard to wait.*

## 9. Menucha

You're walking back to the bunk from lunch and your friend says that she needs to stop by the marp to get her afternoon meds. You decide that you need to get some anti-itch cream for your mosquito bite. Do you...

- a. Wait for your counselor to catch up and ask if it's okay to go
- b. Go straight to the marp, figuring that your counselor will probably say yes
- c. Ask your friend to pick you up some anti-itch cream when he/she goes to the marp while you walk back to the bunk

*Results:*

- a. *Your counselor says that you can go and is happy that you asked. He/she says to go straight back to the bunk afterwards.*
- b. *You go to the marp without asking and then walk back to the bunk with your friend. Your counselor is mad at you because you didn't ask, and they did not know where you were.*
- c. *You walk back to the bunk for menucha, figuring that getting anti-itch cream is probably not an emergency. You rest in the bunk and your friend brings you back some anti-itch cream. You're happy that you came back because you definitely needed some time to rest.*

## 10. Ivrit

You're on your way to Cafe Ramah and you run into your sister who's on Tzad Bet. You never get to see her and she tells you that she has free time right now and that you should come. You really want to hang out with her. Do you...

- a. Go to Ivrit and ask your teacher if it's okay to miss just one lesson
- b. Go off with your sister
- c. Tell her that you'll hang out with her on Shabbat instead

*Results:*

- a. *You go to Ivrit and your teacher says that you're not allowed to skip. However, since your sister has free time, he lets her come to the class with you. You're happy that you get to spend some time with her and you end up having a lot of fun.*
- b. *You go off with your sister without asking anyone and while you're hanging out in the Sif, one of your counselors walks in and gets mad at you for skipping your chug. She sends you back to Ivrit and you're upset that you got in trouble.*
- c. *You go to Ivrit and you're a little bit sad that you didn't get to hang out with your sister. However, you're looking forward to hanging out with*

*her on Shabbat because you know that you'll get to have even more time with her then.*

### **11. Getting Ready for Shabbat**

You didn't get to shower last night because there was a thunderstorm and now you feel sweaty and gross from running around all day. You really want to shower and get ready for Shabbat but there isn't a counselor in the bunk yet. A couple of your friends are already inside getting into the shower and you know it's not allowed. Do you...

- a. Decide to wait outside the bunk until your counselor comes back
- b. Go inside the bunk and shower also
- c. Go inside and tell your friends that they're not allowed to be in there, and then wait outside all together

#### *Results:*

- a. *Your counselor comes after 5 minutes and lets you go into the bunk and start showering. He/she is glad that you waited.*
- b. *You go inside and your counselor comes in as you are getting in the shower. He/she is upset that you went in the bunk, knowing that there wasn't a counselor there. You wish you had just waited outside on the swings – it would've been a better use of time.*
- c. *You go inside to tell your friends to come outside. They don't want to but you know it's against the rules to be in the bunk alone. They stay inside and you go outside to wait. Your counselor comes back 5 mins later and thanks you for waiting and following the rules, despite the fact that your friends were already inside.*

### **12. Aruchat Erev**

It's Friday night (Shabbat) and you're not in a good mood. The meal is over and Nivonim comes in to start leading shira. You don't really want to sing or get up from your seat but everyone around you is encouraging you to. Do you...

- a. Find a friend to go outside with you until shira is over because you're really not feeling it
- b. Disregard your bad mood and get up to sing and dance anyway
- c. Sit at the table quietly and patiently wait for shira to be over

#### *Results:*

- a. *You go outside with your friend and decide to sit in the gazebo until shira is over. After everyone comes out of the chadar, your friends tell you about how much fun it was. Now you're in an even worse mood because you feel like you missed out on the fun.*
- b. *You decide to get up and dance, and you actually end up having a lot of fun. Your bad mood soon goes away and you're happy you chose to sing and dance. You feel like the younger kids on Tzad Aleph are looking up to you and following your lead.*
- c. *You sit at the table quietly while all of your friends are dancing. A few of your friends and your counselors motion for you to get up out of your*

*seat. It looks like a lot of fun but you're just really not feeling it. Soon, they give up on trying to get you to sing/dance, and you're sad that no one cares that you're not having fun.*

### **13. Harga'ah/Bedtime**

You get back to the bunk after dinner and you can't see anything. It's so dark in the bunk and you can't find your pajamas or toiletries. You ask your counselors if you can turn on the lights and they say no because it's against the rules at camp.

Do you...

- a. Turn on the lights just for a second so that you can find what you need
- b. Try to find your stuff in the dark
- c. Use a flashlight in your own area so that you can locate your stuff

*Results:*

- a. *You turn on the lights in the entire bunk and your counselors yell at you to turn it off. They already told you that it wasn't allowed and they're disappointed that you didn't listen. Now you're in a bad mood because you got yelled at and you didn't even have enough time to find your stuff.*
- b. *At first you can't really find anything, but the light in the bathroom is on so you open the bathroom door all the way so that there's enough light to see some of your clothes. After a few mins, you're able to find everything you need. You're glad you didn't turn on the lights.*
- c. *You shine your flashlight on your shelves and you're able to find everything easily. The light in the bathroom is on, so you're able to find all of your toiletries. You're glad you didn't turn on the lights.*