Peulat Shabbat Devarim

Season 2, episode 1

Planners: Ethan, Hannah AP, Hadar G

Materials: 28-30 tennis balls

Theme: The partnership between God and the Jewish people 🡪 everyone taking responsibility in being a partner with God

Read the following summary of Parshat Devarim:

Before Moses dies and the Jewish people enter the land of Israel, he expresses to the people through speeches what they need to do. He reviews all the events that occurred during their wandering in the dessert as well as reviewing all the laws they must follow. This is his way of telling the people of Israel after they have been wandering in the desert for 40 years that they must take responsibility for themselves, their actions, and their neighbors.

Have a chanich read the following quote from Parshat Devarim:

“I said to you at that time: I cannot bear the burden of you by myself. The Lord your God has so multiplied you that you are today as numerous as the stars in the sky…But how can I possibly bear the heavy burden of you and your disputes all by myself?”

Discussion Questions

1. What is God trying to tell the Jewish people at this point in the Torah?
2. How do you use teamwork at home?
   1. If they struggle to come up with responses, mention Sport teams, schoolwork, etc
3. How do you use teamwork at camp?
   1. If they struggle to come up with responses, mention Nikayon, Roo, etc.
4. In what ways are you responsible for how you practice Judaism?
   1. Do you feel like you have free reigns? Or are you always told what to do?
   2. How does having a strong community elevate your Judaism?
5. On Tzad Bet, we give you the structure, but in order to make your Kayitz amazing, you must work together to step up and make it what you want it to be. In what ways will you step up?

Following the discussion questions, start the game (this game has no name)

* Tell the chanicim to stand up in a circle
* One madrich starts throwing a tennis ball- start slowly. Everyone should get the ball- the madrich/a that started the game should end the round with the ball. Tell the chanicim to remember who they passed to
* Then pass the ball again. After a few passes, throw another tennis ball in, and continue this.
* As the madrich continues to receive the tennis balls, start throwing them into the group faster and faster- make sure the kids are passing them fast.