

Title: Peulat Shabbat 6/25 Chukat

Location: Beit Am Bet, Grove

Materials: printed pictures

Goal: learn about Parasha, teach campers value of decision making skills and how their decisions have consequences

Procedure:

- Get campers into Beit Am Bet and sitting down
- Divide campers into 6 groups – read lists and counselors and locations
- Groups spread out around area
- Counselors read **Part 1** of the story and give the campers 2 options (see below)
- Have the campers do a blind vote to determine which decision the group will make
- Based on the decision, give them a picture of their choice and then go to the corresponding location
- Once you get to your next location, read **Part 2** of the story, give the campers 2 options (see below), give picture and go to new corresponding location
- Once you get to your next location, read **Part 3** of the story, give the campers 2 options (see below) and give them the picture of their choice
- After they have made their third decision, sit as a group somewhere and explain the Parasha to the campers using the **Parasha summary** below
- Then debrief the activity using the **discussion questions** below
- Select a delegate from your group that will present your story/pictures to the edah
- Bring group back to Beit Am Bet, have delegates from each group sit in front
- We will give each delegate a chance to explain their choices and where they ended up

} 10 mins

SCRIPT

PART 1

Imagine that you are at home on a Sunday morning and you're going to the dentist. You get to the dentist, walk into the office, and the first thing they ask you is what flavor toothpaste you want. Your choices are bubble gum and mint. Which do you choose?

Mint – go to grove

Bubble Gum – go to Sifriyah

PART 2 (read this regardless of which flavor your group chose)

Now that you have chosen your toothpaste flavor, the dentist begins examining your teeth. While she is doing this, she tells you about a volunteer opportunity at a local soup kitchen. She asks if you would be interested in going to volunteer at the soup kitchen tomorrow after school. You are excited about her offer, but then you remember that you have a big test on Tuesday in a class in which you are not doing as well as you would like to be. Fast forward to Monday afternoon and you just got dismissed from school. You know that you need to study some more in order to do well on your test and get your grade up, but you are torn because you are passionate about helping the community and want to volunteer at the soup kitchen. Which do you choose?

Soup Kitchen –go to Beit Knesset

Study for test – go to medurah between the Beit Am Bet and staff lounge

PART 3A (read this if your group chose to volunteer at the soup kitchen)

While handing out food at the soup kitchen, all of the sudden, a celebrity walks through the doors. It's Beyonce! She came to surprise the volunteers and the people they are serving. You get to meet her and talk to her for a couple minutes and she gives you a copy of her autograph. You are so excited about meeting your favorite celebrity. A couple days later at the dinner table, your parents tell you that they got a call from your teacher saying that you didn't do very well on your test. They ask you if you spent enough time studying, and you tell them that you didn't. Your birthday is coming up next week, but because your parents are disappointed in you for not putting in enough work in school, they offer you either a new sweatshirt or a 25\$ iTunes gift card as a birthday present. Which do you choose?

PART 3B (read this if your group chose to study for their test)

You go home after school to study for your big test. You study for three hours and then decide to go to bed and get a good night's sleep. The next day you take the test and feel confident in how you did. Also in school that day, a few kids that volunteered at the soup kitchen tell you that Beyonce came in and they all got her autograph. You are disappointed that you missed Beyonce but know that you needed to study in order to bring up your grade. A couple days later, your teacher calls you up to her desk and tells you that you got a 100 on your test! You are so excited so you run home after school to share the good news with your parents. Your birthday is coming up next week and because they are so proud of you, they offer to either take you and a friend to 6 flags for a day or to get you a new bike. Which do you choose?

Parasha Summary – Chukat

After 40 years of journeying through the desert, the people of Israel arrive in the wilderness of Zin. The people are thirsty for water, so Moses asks for water from God. God tells Moses to speak to a rock and command it to give water. However, Moses is so frustrated at the Israelites than rather than speaking to the rock, he strikes it and water comes forth from the rock. God gets angry at Moses for not following his directions and for acting violently toward the rock. God decides that as a consequence for his actions, Moses will not be able to enter the land of Israel.

Group discussion questions:

What do you think the point of this activity was?

How does Moshe's decision affect himself and those around him?

How do Moshe's emotions affect his ability to make a rational decision?

As a leader, did Moshe set a good example for the Israelites?

Was God too harsh with his punishment?

How would you have punished Moshe if you were God?

If you were Moshe, would you have acted differently?

How would you have dealt with the complaints and nagging of the Jewish people?
