

### **Hunger Banquet**

One of the very first programs that we did this summer was Oxfam's Hunger Banquet. In short, our *edah* was divided into three groups according to accurate percentages representing the world's hungry population. Over half the *edah* (approximately 40 campers) was in the poorest group, given very little food to share among many people. Seven people were placed in the privileged group and given more food than they could possibly eat. The rest of the *edah* was in the middle group, given an adequate amount of food - but not nearly the variety or abundance of the privileged group.

While some kids caught on to the point of the program almost immediately, many in the poorest group felt frustrated at the lack of food they had to eat. [As a side note, this program took place after dinner, so no one was actually hungry, just jealous.] After processing the program in small groups, we gathered as a large group while the thunder and lightening raged outside. While we couldn't have planned for the storm, it truly couldn't have worked out better. A conversation quickly ensued about how privileged we all are to have had safe shelter from the storm. This led to a nice conversation about tikkun olam, tzedakah, and our Take Home Ramah project. Campers and counselors shared many stories about times they have done community service and their reactions to it.