

Peulat Shabbat Magshimim

Goals: Discuss Jewish identity, what it means to be Jewish

Start off with an *edah* wide introduction/back story

Backstory: Nimrod Shmuel, an elderly Jewish businessman dies, and upon reading his will, it is revealed that his entire inheritance is to go to only one of his three sons. The will dictates that the money must go to whichever of them is the “best” Jew. The three brothers are very different in their Jewish identities.

Then go into a brief discussion for about 5 minutes on Jewish identity to get the campers thinking about the theme of Jewish identity.

What makes someone Jewish? What are different ways that Jews express their Jewishness? In what ways is your expression of our Jewishness different from other Jews you know?

The *edah* will then be split into three groups of 22, with each of the three sons played by Marcia Glickman, Gal, and Rachel Fraade. The characters will rotate from group to group, giving a 2-5 ish minute dialogue about themselves and their Jewish identity (based on their characters). After they have described their characters, the groups will ask questions about more details of their Jewish involvement, aided by the counselors if needed. (IE: Do you keep Kosher? What is your involvement in synogogue and t'fillot?) After all the groups have met all of the characters, the groups will then divide further into 6 groups with two counselors in each, and discuss each character., their unique identity, and the extent of their Jewishness.

Discussion Questions:

Which qualities in a Jew do you consider to be most important

Which character do you or your family most identify with? Explain

Are some people more or less Jewish

Is it fair to judge them and not include them in your community because of certain characteristics

As a group, try to come up with a consensus definition of a Jew, and include the most important characteristics

Which of the three brothers is the “best” Jew? Why?