Peulat T’fillot

Dates: 7/19-7/20

Goals:

* Greater involvement in t’fillot
* Better understanding of specific T’fillot

Tfillot and Themes would could talk about

* Birkot HaShachar, What do these small prayers mean, why so rapidfire in the morning, maybe pick one to focus on
* Baruch She’amar, Power of words, speech, how we construct narratives or worlds through our interactions.
* Halleluya, Adonai ohev tzadikim (What does that mean, how does he love the righteous, what is righteous)
* Hallelu, What does it mean to praise God, what are other ways we can pray, heschel praying with feet
* Az Yashir, what is the value in stories like this, aggressive version of God, pro/con of celebrating defeat of enemies
* Ahava Raba, What does it mean to be loved, how do we love God/each other
* Shema, what is the significance of each paragraph and the order we say them in, what makes this prayer so important
* Amida (Knowledge Blessing), what is knowledge vs. wisdom vs intelligence, why would we pray for smarts, is knowledge fluid enough to be worth praying for
* Amida (Sim Shalom), asking for peace vs working for it, what does peace mean
* Aleinu, how can we celebrate our differences without disparaging other people and cultures

For this peulah, on Wedneday morning we will start tefillot at 8:35 and upon arriving in the moadon we will explain the peulah and split them into groups and assign each group a different tefillah. From there they will have until 9:00 to meet with their group and discuss their tefillah, going off the themes in this writeup. Each group should read the tefillah out loud in both english and hebrew. They should come up with a *short* dvar tefillah (1 minute long) that encompasses some of their thoughts on the tefillah. Feel free to relate the tefillah to a song, book, movie, etc. By 9:00, everyone should be back in the moadon and we will run a shortened tefillot.

On Thursday morning, we will run tefillot as normal but before each groups’ tefillah, one member will stand up and deliver the dvar tefillah, giving each prayer a new significance!!

Role of madrichim: Madrichim should be circling around the groups and making sure that discussions are focused and on topic.

**Group 1**  
Faith White  
Eric Kruglak  
Gaby Danziger  
Isaac Gelb  
Jacob Sher  
Victor Weir  
Becca Klayman  
Gabe Stillman  
Benji Krueger  
Max Portnoy

**Group 2**  
Abbe Piels  
Ella Feuerstein  
Ethan Askainam  
Noah Kuperberg  
Sarah Bernstein  
Julia Traiger  
Jacob Cannon  
Devasha Solomon  
Barrie Brodsky  
Lauren Dembo

**Group 3**  
Jessie Lehman  
Shawn Tarloff  
Benson Luddy-Dunn  
Jacob Schwartz  
Arielle Lavi  
Nell Schwartz  
Matthew Lessans  
Danny Koenig  
Zev Sigfeld  
Bennett Werbel

**Group 4**  
Sarah Clement  
Lily Harris  
Rachel Coll  
Hadas Bromberg-Seltzer  
Joey Horwitz  
Brian Kirsh  
Kate Sosland  
Evan Berney  
Dora Mendelson  
Chloe Ross

**Group 5**  
Ethan Ripps  
Josh Bermel  
Max Stravitz  
Alyssa Edelheit  
Bo Rider  
Leah Packer  
Sara Sporkin  
Shoshie Cohen  
Ezra Schwartz  
Noah Felsen

**Group 6**  
Ben Kotton  
Macie Gelb  
Gillian Weisman  
Rachel Weisman  
Adira Blumenthal  
Shai Sperber  
Shayna Grossman  
Abby Gilman  
Elijah Labowe-Stoll  
Aliza Reinstein

**Group 7**  
Henry Sosland  
Ilan Gasko  
Yoni Weill  
Rachel Ader  
Jacob Mannes  
Liam Shemesh  
Zoe Blumenfeld  
Zach Leventhal  
Ben Harris  
Riva Blinderman

**Group 8**  
Ethan Swagel  
Elise Gendrich  
Ari Yantovsky  
Talia Mitre  
Hannah Weiner  
Annalise Jacobson  
Ilana Kaplan  
Devira Friedman  
Alon Jacobson

**Group 9**  
Zach Leonard  
Josh Fisch  
Yoni Eligberg  
Max Harris  
Aaron Forman  
Alex Kurland  
Michal Loren

Talia Harlow  
Marin Warshay

**Group 10**

Ezra Pemstein  
Gideon Malkner  
Rena Edery  
Ben Skromne  
Ahna Bielek  
Faye Lessans  
Addie Bard  
Trinity Tilden  
Maris Linder

Birkot HaShachar

*Page 10/11*

What do these small prayers mean?

Why so rapidfire in the morning?

Can you think of a song/book/movie/tv show that has parallels to the themes of this tfilla?

You could talk about these brachot as a whole, or just pick one to focus on. Come up with a ~1 minute d’var tfilla for tomorrow.

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Baruch She-amar

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What is the power of words and speech?

Can speech create or destroy in a physical sense?

How do we construct narratives or worlds of our own through our interactions?

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Discuss the Tfilla and come up with a ~1 minute D’var Tfilla for tomorrow.

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Halleluya (Psalm 146)

*Pages 82/83, 84/85*

What does it mean to trust G-d over people?

How does G-d love the “just” or righteous? What does that mean?

What is “justness” or “righteousness”?

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What does it mean to praise G-d? What is the value of the act and what qualifies?

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel said that when he marched in Selma with Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr he “felt my feet were praying”. What are ways we pray outside of Tfillot?

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Az Yashir

*Page 92/93*

What is the value in repeating our stories like this every day?

Are you comfortable with the aggressive version of G-d portrayed here?

What are pros or cons of celebrating the defeat of our enemies?

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Ahava Raba

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What does it mean to be loved?

How do we love G-d?

How do we love each other?

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Shema

*Pages 100/101, 102/103*

What is the significance of each paragraph?

Why say them in this order?

What makes this prayer so important? Why is it so central to Judaism?

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Amida (Knowledge Blessing)

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What is knowledge vs. wisdom vs. intelligence vs. understanding? What distinguishes them?

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Amida (Sim Shalom)

*Pages 120/121*

What is the significance of asking for peace rather than working for it?

How can we reconcile the message of peace with other more violent tfillot we say every day?

What does the vision of peace in this tfillah entail?

Discuss the tfillah and come up with a ~1 minute Dvar Tfillah for tomorrow

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Aleinu

*Pages 160/161, 162/163*

Are there things that you distinctively enjoy about being Jewish?

How can we celebrate our differences without disparaging other people and cultures?

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