

Peulat T'fillah 8/5/12

Goals:

- Impress the board (no, but actually)
- What does it mean to praise God?
- How is praising God different than thanking Him or praising someone else?

Part 1:

- Split into 8 groups: 4 groups of girls and 4 groups of boys
 - Ego sheets:
 - Each kid receives a piece of paper and writes his or her name on the page
 - The paper is passed around the circle and each kid writes a sentence or a word about the person whose paper it is
 - Ego sheets will be directed. Questions to consider:
 - ▪ Something physically nice about the person
 - ▪ Something nice about their personality
 - ▪ One action that they did that you appreciate/admire
 - ▪ One thing they did for someone else that was kind
 - ▪ Something they've said that you admired
 - ▪ Something you admire about their Judaism
 - ▪ A talent of theirs that you admire
 - ▪ Repeat questions in the cycle until you get around the circle
 - Each group will have one ego sheet that belongs to God. The counselors will pass around this ego sheet and each child will be responsible for writing on God's ego sheet just as he or she would write on his/her friends' sheets.
 - Each kid will say the most meaningful compliment that they received and why it was the most meaningful
 - The counselors will read out God's ego sheet
 - Questions to ask:
 - ▪ What was the most meaningful compliment on God's ego sheet? Why?
 - ▪ How and why is it different to praise God?
 - ▪ Is praising God easier or harder? Neither?
 - ▪ Could you actually think of things to praise God for, or was it a struggle because we don't necessarily see everything that God does?
 - ▪ What does it mean to praise God? How is praising Him different from thanking Him?
 - ▪ Is it different praise God in Tefillah versus in everyday life, and if so, how?
 - Conclusion: introduce the Amidah and how we praise God in both general Tefillah and in the Amidah specifically
 - Invite campers to think about praising God during Tefillah and to pay extra careful attention during the first three brachot of the Amidah
- BE AWARE: THERE WILL BE A BOARD MEMBER IN EACH GROUP. REMEMBER TO BE REALLY, REALLY ON TODAY!**