

Alternative Tfilot: Tekes Todah/ New Siddur Ceremony

I. Prep-work

- a. Hide the old siddurim in the office.
- b. Hide the new siddurim next to the ark.
- c. Arrange the benches in a circle.
- d. Write a “ransom note” from Estie
- e. Keep some old siddurim and get a trash bag

II. Introduction

Have the campers sit in a circle, with the siddurim already hidden. Find the ransom note and read it out loud.

Where are the siddurim? Estie took them on her day off because she made new ones! But she’s not ready to give them back until she’s sure that we’re ready for them. Follow Avraham and Ayelet on a scavenger hunt to find the new siddurim and show Estie that we’re ready to use them!

III. Stations

a) Modeh Ani- Saying Thank You:

Modeh Ani is about saying thanks to God. We can say thank you to Estie for making us new siddurim. Have everyone sign a giant thank you card (Staff too!)

b) Halleluyah- Listening and Singing:

It is important to know when is a good time to talk and when is a good time to listen. The siddur teaches us when is a good time to sing and when is a good time to be quiet. Let’s practice being quiet and then singing with Halleluyah and the instruments.

c) Or Chadash- Goodbye to the Old, Hello to the New:

Before we can get the new siddurim, we have to show that we are ready to say goodbye to the old siddurim. Explain that we throw some old things away in the trash but some things that are really important to us and don’t belong in the trash. Just like people who we love and care about, we bury siddurim in a Genizah because they are special and have God’s name on it. Bring out the old siddurim and the trash bag. “Throw away” things we want to get rid of (i.e. my laziness, my junk food etc.). Then have every camper put one siddur in the trash bag/Genizeh.

Step III. Conclusion

Congratulations! We have completed the scavenger hunt! Hand out the siddurim. Depending on how much time remains, sing a few tfilot and go over the schedule/announcements.