

Areyvut's Seminar on Jewish Teen Philanthropy ♦ June 17, 2010

Texts and Jewish Philanthropy

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Outline

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Philanthropy

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Philanthropy

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Text Study

You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor, and to your needy, in your land. Devarim 15:11

- Who do you think the text refers to as “your brother,” “your poor,” “your needy,” and “your land”?
- Based on this text, what criteria would you set for deciding who to support?

Our rabbis have taught: We support the poor of the non-Jews, along with the poor of Israel, and visit the sick of the non-Jews, along with the sick of Israel, and bury the poor of the non-Jews, along with the dead of Israel ... for the sake of peace. Gittin 61a

- How do you understand “for the sake of peace”?
- Based on this text, what criteria would you set for deciding who to support?

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Why Jewish Texts?

- Jewish connection adds new meaning to the program's goals
- Jewish texts as a means of building a Jewish community of learners
- Provides additional Jewish education for participants who do not participate in other formal Jewish programs
- Provides new perspectives for participants who do participate in other formal Jewish programs

How Have You Used Jewish Texts in Your Work as a Jewish Educator?



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How To Use Jewish Texts in Jewish Teen Philanthropy?

A. Ongoing Uses

- Open each session with a “classic” text study
- Open each session by doing an activity related to a text without actually using the text
- Use texts as prompts for student reflections as they arrive, either in journals, in pairs, or aloud.
- Assign texts for students to reflect upon in between sessions, perhaps on optional basis
- Use key Hebrew words from related texts as part of your regular vocabulary

How To Use Jewish Texts in Jewish Teen Philanthropy?

B. Occasional/One-Time Activities

- Devote one introductory session to engaging with Jewish texts on philanthropy
- Use texts on Jewish values to when creating a mission statement for your program.
- Use chavruta study as a way of teaching collaboration
- Include in allocations process by studying texts related to each grantee's area of focus
- Plan parent/participant program that involves text study or related activity
- Use text study or related activity to introduce concept of Jewish philanthropy to lay leaders

How To Use Jewish Texts in Jewish Teen Philanthropy?

C. Jewish Texts as a Frame of Reference

- Include text on each meeting agenda to put work in a Jewish context
- Provide texts in binder, as resource for motivated students to explore on their own

Application

- If you were to use this text to frame one component of the teen philanthropy program, which component would you choose? Why?
- Brainstorm activities that you could do to teach this text. Choose 1 to think through thoroughly.
- Brainstorm 1-3 questions that you could ask if you were using this text for a text study.
- Be prepared to share with the group.

Questions???



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