Foundations

Helping Others As We Would Help Ourselves

Best for ages 3-8. **The purpose of this conversation is to help your children learn at a young age the importance of communal responsibility.**

A large part of receiving the Torah revolves around standing at Har Sinai "k'ish echad b'lev echad," like one man with one heart.

Explore with your children the beauty and privilege of being part of a nation in which each person has the same purpose and overall mission: to bring pleasure to Hashem.

Help your children understand how "happy" it makes Hashem when we help each other whenever we can. Explore with your children how their unique set of strengths not only can help them maximize their lives and grow but can help others around them, as well.

- Ask your child for an example of a recent time that he needed help and have him provide the details of the situation.

- Process with your child the resources that he was provided when he sought help, that he did not originally have. Next, ask your child for a recent time in which he used his own resources to help someone else and explore that as well.

- Explore with your child how all the resources in the world are here for us to serve Hashem and to maximize our potential. Often, that means using our resources to help those around us too.

Sample conversation:

Parent: We are coming up to Shavuos soon! What are some things you learned about Shavuos?

Child: We got the Torah on Har Sinai.

Parent: That's right! Did you know that the Torah says when we stood together at Har Sinai we were like one person with one heart?

Child: That's so cool. No, I didn't know that.

Parent: Yeah. When you think about it, it's amazing that all the Jewish people have the same purpose in life – to bring pleasure to Hashem. Do you want to know one thing that always brings so much pleasure to Hashem?

Child: Ok…

Parent: When Hashem sees us helping each other. Hashem gave each of us special skills and strengths to help us serve Him. When He sees us using them to help each other, it makes Him so happy!

Sivan

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