



Welcome to Spark2, the Tribe weekly parsha activity sheet for Children's Service Leaders across the United Synagogue communities.

Thank you for offering to run a service. The US is very proud of the numerous Children's Services that are run every week across the UK and this would not happen without you.

Spark2 gives you an overview of the weekly parsha, a song, activity or Dvar Torah linked to the parsha or important event that week. Every children's service will be different, in terms of how many participants there are, their age range, its length and the varying abilities of the children. Please read through the document and find the activities that will best suit the needs of your group. It is advisable to read it before Shabbat in case there is some preparation that may be needed in advance.

I hope you and the children at your service will benefit from Spark2. Please be in touch if you have any queries, feedback or if I can be of any help.

With best wishes,
Sharon Radley
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Vayikra

Parsha Summary:

- This is the first parsha of the third book of the Torah – Vayikra / Leviticus.
- This book differs from Bereshit and Shemot, as it primarily talks about the laws which we are commanded to keep and contains a detailed description of the Mishkan.
- The parsha begins with God speaking to Moshe in the Mishkan. God tells Moshe about the korbanot – the offerings, that were an important part of the service in the Mishkan. We learn about various types of korbanot:
 - The Olah, also known as the burnt offering, which is burnt entirely on the alter.
 - The 5 types of Mincha offerings, which are sacrifices made from flour and olive oil.
 - The Shelamim, the ‘peace offerings.’
 - The Chata, various sacrifices brought as an atonement for someone who has sinned.
 - The Asham, a sacrifice brought for specific reasons.

There are many laws and intricate rules regarding the korbanot, but one rule applied to all – each one was brought with salt.

Children's Service: Tot's – Year 2

In this week's parsha we read about many of the offerings that were made in the time of the Temple.

Activity:

Play Chinese Whispers / Broken Telephone.

(The children should sit in a circle. The first person in the circle whispers a word or phrase into the ear of the person sitting to their right. The game continues until it reaches the last player in the circle. That person announces what they heard, out loud and compares it with the original word.)

Once the game is over explain to the children that sometimes, when messages are sent through other people, they can get a bit lost along the way..... When we had the Mishkan and the Bet Hamikdash, korbanot were offered straight to God as a way of expressing what we wanted to say to Him. Now, when we no longer have the ability to offer korbanot, we use prayer – Tefilla, instead. Prayer is our opportunity to talk directly to God. We can say whatever is in our hearts, in whatever language we want, with no one else able to hear.

Children's Service: Years 3-6

Discussion:

In this week's parsha we see that the 'Aleph' in Vayikra (the first word of the parsha,) is small. Vayikra means 'and He called.' And in this instance it is referring to God calling Moshe. The small aleph symbolizes that Moshe was so modest and humble, that he

did not even want to be written about in the Torah. If possible show the children the small alef in a Chumash.

Discuss:

- Ask the children how they would define the word modesty.
- Is modesty something you would expect from a leader? Is it necessary in a leader?
- Is it hard to be modest and if so why?
- Is there a time it is not good to be modest?

Activity:

Play Chinese Whispers / Broken Telephone.

The children should sit in a circle. The first person in the circle whispers a word or phrase into the ear of the person sitting to their right. The game continues until it reaches the last player in the circle. That person announces what they heard out loud and compares it with the original word.

For this second game, the all the children must be standing in a circle holding hands aside for one person who is told to leave the room. Whilst they are out, decide on one person to be the message sender and another person to be the message receiver. The person then comes back in. The sender starts sending his / her message, in the form of a hand squeeze to their neighbor. The message / squeeze, has to be sent all the way to the receiver. The child who was sent out must try to 'catch' the squeezes as they are being done, and work out who is the sender and receiver.

Bring the children back to sitting in a circle. Ask the group what were the similarities between these two games? Both games

involved sending a message of some sort between other people. Hopefully, the children will learn from the above two games, that using intermediaries sometimes means that the message gets a little lost along the way.... When we had the Mishkan and the Bet Hamikdash, korbanot were offered straight to God as a way of expressing what we wanted to say to Him. Now, when we no longer have the ability to offer korbanot, we use prayer – Tefilla, instead. Prayer is our opportunity to talk directly to God. We can say whatever is in our hearts, in whatever language we want, with no one else able to hear.