**Tefillah Specialty Track Session II – Mussar**

**Deuteronomy 6:7**

וְשִׁנַּנְתָּ֣ם לְבָנֶ֔יךָ וְדִבַּרְתָּ֖ בָּ֑ם בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ֤ בְּבֵיתֶ֙ךָ֙וּבְלֶכְתְּךָ֣ בַדֶּ֔רֶךְ וּֽבְשָׁכְבְּךָ֖ וּבְקוּמֶֽךָ׃

Teach them to your children and [speak of them when you are at home, when traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up](http://bible.ort.org/books/torahd5.asp?action=displaypage&book=5&chapter=6&verse=5&portion=45#C3878).

(Translation from [bible.ort.org](http://bible.ort.org/books/torahd5.asp?action=displaypage&book=5&chapter=6&verse=5&portion=45), Hebrew text from sefaria.org.)

**Guiding Questions:**

* What are we supposed to be teaching?
* To whom are we teaching these things?
* If you could condense what you’re trying to teach your campers into one sentence, what would that sentence by and why?

**Pirkei Avot 1:6**

יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן פְּרַחְיָה אוֹמֵר, עֲשֵׂה לְךָ רַב, וּקְנֵה לְךָ חָבֵר, וֶהֱוֵי דָן אֶת כָּל הָאָדָם לְכַף זְכוּת:

Yehoshua ben Perachia says, "Make for yourself a mentor, acquire for yourself a friend and give every person the benefit of the doubt."

(Text from Sefaria.org, translation from Sefaria.org and Rabbi Ariella Rosen)

**Guiding Questions:**

* The camper/counselor relationship is sacred.  How can this teaching from the Ethics of our Parents help us explain why our (summer) work matters so much?
* Think about one camper with whom you’ve established a really close relationship.
	+ What are you able to teach them?
	+ What have they taught you?

**Rambam, Mishneh Torah, Laws of Torah Study 1:2**

כשם שחייב אדם ללמד את בנו, כך הוא חייב ללמד את בן בנו, שנאמר: והודעתם לבניך ולבני בניך. ולא בנו ובן בנו בלבד, אלא מצוה על כל חכם וחכם מישראל ללמד את כל התלמידים אף על פי שאינם בניו, שנאמר: ושננתם לבניך – מפי השמועה למדו, "בניך" אלו תלמידיך, שהתלמידים קרוים בנים, שנאמר: ויצאו בני הנביאים.

Just as it is a person’s duty to teach their child, so it is their duty to teach their grandchild, as it is written: “Make them known to your children and your children’s children” (Deuteronomy 4:9). This obligation does not refer only to one’s child and grandchild, but it is a duty resting upon every Jewish scholar to teach all those who seek to be their students, even though they are not that scholar’s own children, for it is written: “You shall teach them diligently to your children” (Deuteronomy 6:7). On traditional authority, the term “your children” in this verse has been interpreted to mean that your pupils are likewise called children, for it is written: “And the sons of the prophets came out” (II Kings 2:3). [CAJE translation. Edited for gender neutrality]

(Text from on1foot.org - more [on1foot.org resources for teaching here](http://www.on1foot.org/print.php?nid=4265))

**Guiding Questions:**

* Rambam teaches “it is a duty resting upon every Jewish scholar to teach all those who seek to be their students, even though they are not that scholar’s own children, for it is written: “You shall teach them diligently to your children” (Deuteronomy 6:7)” - you’re not parents yet, but what sort of parental responsibility do you feel for your campers?
* Do you feel any generational responsibility to your campers?
	+ Can you explain what sorts of traditions have been passed down to you?
	+ How do you want your campers to be as counselors and how are you setting them on that path?