

### Grapes of Wrath *Spin It!*

<b>AUTHOR(S):</b>	Sara Beth Berman
<b>SUMMARY:</b>	Discover how the Torah can teach us about confronting our fear of change and dealing with peer pressure as we journey back in time and encounter the adventure and tragedy of the Israelite Spies! Discover new ways to learn and teach this amazing story from our summer Torah readings. - <i>Submitted by Sara Beth Berman</i>
<b>TOPIC(S):</b>	Jewish Text, Israel Programming
<b>LEARNING OBJECTIVE:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants will be able to tell the story of <i>Shlach Lecha</i> from the perspective of the negative spies.</li> <li>• Participants will have a better facility with comparing biblical Zionism to today's Zionism.</li> </ul>
<b>AUDIENCE:</b>	Cabin or Unit - no fewer than 10 people, possible to do with up to 100.
<b>TIMING:</b>	20 minutes
<b>APPENDICES:</b>	Shlach Lecha Text
<b>MATERIALS NEEDED:</b>	
<b>SET-UP DETAILS:</b>	

#### SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

- Grabber - Fomenting Rebellion (5 minutes)  
Listen. LISTEN. There are 12 of us. TWELVE! But while 10 of us are telling the real story, there are two punks that are going out of their way to convince our people to move forward. Move FORWARD. Into a land that sure, may have some milk and honey, but it also has GIANT GRAPES. And those grapes feed giants. And those giants. Those giants are going to feed on US. I WILL NOT STAND FOR THIS. My name is Gaddiel son of Sodi, from the tribe of Zebulun, and just let's see what Moses and Aaron want us to check out:

<i>Numbers 13: 17-20 Retrieved from Sefaria.org, with small translation edits</i>		
Hebrew Text	<p>Reflect on the statements and questions in this column.</p> <p>The TIME of your answer is up to you: Time of the Bible? The 1960s? 2018?</p>	English Translation
<p>17 וַיִּשְׁלַח אֹתָם מֹשֶׁה לְתוֹר אֶת־אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים עָלָיו זֶה בְּנֶגֶב וְעֲלִיתֶם אֶת־הַהָר:</p>		<p>When Moses sent them to scout the land of Canaan, he said to them, “Go up there into the Negev and on into the hill country,</p>
<p>18 וַרְאִיתֶם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ מֵה־הָהוּא וְאֶת־הָעָם הַיֹּשֵׁב עָלֶיהָ הַחֲזֵק הוּא הֲרַפָּה הַמְעֻט הוּא אִם־רַב:</p>		<p>and see what kind of country it is.</p> <p>Are the people who dwell in it strong or weak, few or many?</p>
<p>19 וַיִּמָּה הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־הוּא יֹשֵׁב בָּהּ הֲטוֹבָה הוּא אִם־ רָעָה וַיִּמָּה הָעָרִים אֲשֶׁר־ הוּא יֹשֵׁב בְּהִנָּה הַבְּמֻחָנִים אִם בְּמִבְצָרִים:</p>		<p>Is the country in which they dwell good or bad?</p> <p>Are the towns they live in open or fortified?</p>
<p>20 וַיִּמָּה הָאָרֶץ הַשְּׂמִנָּה הֲוּא אִם־רָחָה הַיִּשְׁבָּה עַץ אִם־אֵין וְהִתְחַזְּקוּתֶם וּלְקַחְתֶּם מִפְּרֵי הָאָרֶץ וְהֵימָיִם יְמֵי בְכוּרֵי עֲנָבִים:</p>		<p>Is the soil rich or poor?</p> <p>Is it wooded or not?</p> <p>And take pains to bring back some of the fruit of the land.” — Now it happened to be the season of the first ripe grapes.</p>

Worksheet (5 minutes): Taking what you know about Israel (yesterday and today), try to answer these questions in a small group of people from different camps - fill it in on the sheet. Go ahead, try. I'll wait. And I refuse to tell you which time period you are in for your answers - it's totally up to you.

**PROTEST (5 minutes):** You know, as Gaddiel, how I feel about that wild land overrun with giants. In your groups, you have to decide your position - you're either pro-Israel or against it. If you have a BLUE paper you're pro-Israel, and if you have a GREEN paper, you're anti-Israel (for the purposes of this activity). Please create a 1-line chant for why we should - or shouldn't - go into the land. In the book of Numbers, not today.

Discussion (5 minutes)

- There were different ways to answer the questions. Which did you choose to focus on and why?
- If you knew the Bible story, did that color your answers to the questions? How and why?
- How did it feel to enter into a battle about going into the land or not?
- How do you feel about your argument, knowing how the story worked out in the Bible? In the 1900s?

### **ADDITIONAL NOTES FOR BRINGING IT BACK TO CAMP:**

- It's possible to scale this so each cabin represents a different spy
- It's possible to increase timing on different parts of the program, spending more time on text or Zionism, as would work at your camp.