

BS"D

CONNECTIONS ISRAEL

Bringing the Jewish People Together

The Ship Story and Sderot

Goal: Understanding that each of us as an individual Jew is part of a greater whole called The Jewish People. As a part of that whole group, we each have a responsibility towards every other member of the group.

Target group: 6-12 year olds

Activity Duration: 1.5 hours

Required Materials: movie about Sderot, paper and crayons, the statement below in Hebrew and English.

Activity Outline:

I) Without much introduction, show the movie about Sderot.

II) Then the group leader gives each participant a copy of the following statement in Hebrew and in English:

"כל ישראל ערבים זה לזה. "למה הם דומים?
לספינה שנקרע בה בית אחד,

אין אומרים: נקרע בית אחד בספינה,
אלא נקרעה כל הספינה כולה."

תנא דבי אליהו רבה י"א

"All of Israel is responsible one for the other."

To what can this be compared?

**To a ship where one area has been punctured.
We don't say, "One area of the ship has sprung a
leak, rather we say, the ship is damaged in its
entirety."**

Tana Davei Eliyahi Rabba: 11

(a midrashic commentary on the first quotation)

III) The group leaders asks the participants how they understand this statement and its accompanying analogy and asks them to provide other examples of this.

IV) Next, the group leader asks the participants to close their eyes and try to see the ship. He/she tells them that there are many different aspects to this short story:

The storm

The water starting to come into the ship

The ship sinking

The people on the ship trying to escape.

(This short story can even be a starting point for viewing the film The Poseidon Adventure, a full length movie which makes the point in full detail).

The participants are asked to focus on a particular moment in the story and draw what they see.

Each student will share his picture with the others and also discuss why they chose that scene.

V) The group leader now shows the movie about Sderot again, giving the group the directive to apply the story of the ship and the quotation "All of Israel is responsible one for the other" to what they have just seen about Sderot.

VI) Challenge question: What can you do for the people of Sderot and/or another group in need that you have not done before?