

Relationships: Everything Else is Commentary

**IT'S ALL
ABOUT
RELATIONSHIPS**

Tjj Bus 5 ♥ Shabbat Relationships ♥ July 22nd, 2017

Source 1

1. You shall have no other gods before me

2. You shall not make for yourself an idol

3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God

4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy

5. Honor your father and your mother

6. You shall not murder

7. You shall not commit adultery

8. You shall not steal

9. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

10. You shall not covet... anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Source 2

גמרא מסכת יומא פ"ה:

עבירות שבין אדם למקום יוה"כ

מכפר. עבירות שבין אדם לחבירו אין

יוה"כ מכפר עד שירצה את חבירו.

Gemara Yoma 85b

For transgressions between a person and G-d, Yom Kippur atones; But, for transgressions between a person and another, Yom Kippur does not atone until he appeases the other person.

Source 3

ויקרא י"ט:י"ח

יח) לֹא-תִקֹּם וְלֹא-תִטֹּר אֶת-בְּנֵי עַמֶּךָ וְאַהֲבַת לְרֵעֶךָ כְּמוֹךָ אֲנִי ה'.

Vayikra 19:18

18) You shall not take revenge or bear a grudge against the people of your nation. Love your fellow as yourself: I am Hashem.

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Source 4

רש"י על ויקרא י"ט:י"ח

ב) ואהבת לרעך כמוך. אָמַר רַבִּי עֲקִיבָא זֶה כָּלל גְּדוּל בַּתּוֹרָה (ספרא):

Rashi on Vayikra 19:18

Love your fellow as yourself: Rabbi Akiva said this is a fundamental principle of the Torah

Source 5

גמרא מסכת שבת ל"א.

שוב מעשה בנכרי אחד שבא לפני שמאי א"ל גיירני ע"מ שתלמדני כל התורה כולה כשאני עומד על רגל אחת דחפו באמת הבנין שבידו בא לפני הלל גייריה אמר לו דעלך סני לחברך לא תעביד זו היא כל התורה כולה ואידך פירושה הוא זיל גמור.

Gemara Shabbat 31a

There was another incident involving one non-Jewish man who came before Shammai and said to him: Convert me on condition that you teach me the entire Torah while I am standing on one foot. Shammai pushed him away. The same man came before Hillel. He converted him and said to him: That which is hateful to you do not do to another; that is the entire Torah, and the rest is its interpretation. Go study.



Advisor Copy

Before we begin, I would like to highlight a few points:

1. It is VERY IMPORTANT for you as an educator to put your effort in and prepare this session well. If you don't prepare, it will show. Kids will be able to tell if you don't know what you're talking about.
2. The goal of this session is purposefully open-ended. By giving this session, we are not trying to get specific points across. The goal is to make the NCSYers think and ask questions.
3. That being said, there is a lot of material here. It's totally ok if you don't get through all of it. It's possible you get caught up on a discussion of one of the sources. That's just as good if not better than getting through all the sources.

Goal:

To help the NCSYers think about how big the role relationships play in our lives

Content of the Session:

- I. The NCSYers will have just seen a skit depicting the scene of the gemara of Shammai and the ger, ending right when the ger asks Hillel Hazaken what the Torah and Judaism is all about.
- II. To start off I would ask the NCSYers what they think Torah and Judaism is all about. What should Hillel answer?
 - A. Discuss it and of course validate their answers!
 - B. One of the ways to look at Judaism is through the mitzvot. There are 3 different types of mitzvot in general:
 1. Chukim- Mitzvot that we don't necessarily know the reason for.
 - a) Give classic examples of chukim. Like Sha'atnez, Parah Aduma, etc.
 2. Edot- Mitzvot that we have as a remembrance for certain things
 - a) For example, pesach is zecher l'yitziyat mitzrayim
 3. Mishpatim- Mitzvot that we can easily understand
 - a) Most mitzvot fall into this category.
 - b) Mishpatim can be further broken down into three categories:
 - (1) Bein Adam L'makom
 - (2) Bein Adam L'chaveiro
 - (3) Bein Adam L'Atzmo
 - C. One of the clear depictions of the break-up between bein adam l'makom and bein adam l'chaveiro is in the Aseret Hadibrot.
 1. Have an NCSYer read source 1.
 2. Ask the NCSYers to classify which category each of the dibrot fall into

- a) Show the separation between the first five dibrot and the second five.
 - b) They will most likely try to put #5 in with the bein adam l'chaveiro group
 - (1) Show how it's more like bein adam l'makom because it's more of a vertical relationship (bein adam l'makom) as opposed to horizontal (bein adam l'chaveiro). And that respecting your parents is also respecting Hashem.
 - 3. We see that there are different categories like bein adam l'makom and bein adam l'chaveiro. But which one is more important?
 - a) See what they have to say before taking a look at source 2.
 - D. When discussing the concept of tshuva, the gemara explains that going through the process of Yom Kippur only helps in regard to one's sins in the category of bein adam l'makom. But for bein adam l'chaveiro, one needs to go ask forgiveness from their friends.
 - 1. The gemara puts so much emphasis on both types of mitzvot. Both are equally as important. Both require their own processes to be forgiven.
- III. These three categories are all built around the three relationships we have in our lives. Let's move on to source 3 to see how important these relationships are.
 - A. The Torah actually commands us to love other people!
 - B. Check out Rashi on this pasuk in source 4
 - 1. Not only does the Torah command it, but Rabbi Akiva says this is a major principle in the whole Torah.
 - 2. Why is it so important to love other people?!?
 - a) What do you guys think?
 - C. Let's break down the second half of the pasuk together to get a clearer picture.
 - 1. At first, the pasuk seems like its just about loving other people.
 - 2. But the next word is strange "Kamocho"
 - a) What does it mean to love other people like you love yourself?
 - b) Before you can truly love other people, you first need to love yourself. It's kind of like a "pre-req" for the other mitzvot
 - 3. The pasuk doesn't just end there though. The last words are "Ani Hashem"
 - a) Somehow, by us loving each other and of course ourselves, we come to love Hashem as well.
 - 4. The pasuk is a combination of all 3 of these relationships!
 - a) V'ahavta L're'acha- Bein Adam L'chaveiro
 - b) Kamocho- Bein Adam L'atzmo
 - c) Ani Hashem- Bein Adam L'makom
 - D. Rabbi Akiva was right! This is a fundamental principle of the Torah. So much of our lives revolves around our relationships.
- IV. Rabbi Akiva wasn't the only one to recognize how important this idea is. Let's finish up with source 5.
 - A. This gemara is very similar to the skit we saw to open this session. What's Hillel's answer?
 - 1. "That which is hateful to you, don't do to your friend". Same as Rabbi Akiva, right?

2. Nope! Hillel is saying don't do things that you don't like to other people. While R' Akiva is saying to love other people like yourself. Those aren't the same thing!
 3. The Torah is broken down into two types of commandments. There are positive mitzvot and negative mitzvot.
 - a) Let's apply these two types of mitzvot to the two approaches of Hillel and R' Akiva.
 - (1) Hillel seems to be approaching it from the negative side. Don't do bad things to other people.
 - (2) R' Akiva is approaching it from the positive. Actively love other people like yourself.
- B. In reality, both approaches are important and both Hillel and R' Akiva are correct.
1. Negative mitzvot are there so we do not detract from the relationships we have (make us more distant to God, other people, ourselves)
 2. The positive mitzvot are there to make are relationships stronger (make us closer to God, others, ourselves).
- V. Thank the group for their participation and rejoin everyone to finish up with a recap of the session.