

# JSU CLUB ACTIVITY



## POWER OF SPEECH

<b>Time needed</b>	<b>30 mins</b>
<b>Age range</b>	Any teen
<b>Background of teen</b>	Any background
<b>Set up</b>	Classroom or groups around a table

**Goals:** To explain the Torah's view that speech is a powerful tool

**Relevance:** Lashon Harah, treating people well.

### Supplies needed:

1. Varieties of sodas or colas
2. Little kiddish cups or small cups
3. Blindfolds

### Active Learning:

Prepare varieties of cokes (diet coke, cherry coke, dr pepper, zero, etc) in little cups. Make a few sets of these varieties. Give students a chance to taste and guess the coke. You could also have students pour directly from the bottle for blindfolder volunteer to engage more of the group.

Lead into a discussion about how unbelievable the power of the human faculties are- and in particular- the tongue- how it has the ability to detect the slightest difference in taste and how even without the ability to see- you can still have clarity from your taste buds. Naturally, the conversation leads into discussing how powerful our tongues are that it can do such astounding physical things such as the taste test- and that the same way it has such power in the material sense, our tongues are an incredibly powerful tool in the spiritual realm as well...the same human tongue that had the power to give you clarity in your material pursuit to distinguish the taste of extremely similar sodas is the same tongue that has the power to speak words that create, and sometimes, sadly- destroy.

### Step by step planning:

<b>Time</b>	<b>Facilitator Activity</b>	<b>Teen activity</b>
15 mins	Facilitate taste activity	participate
5 mins	Facilitation questions	Participate
10 mins	Torah wrap up	discussion

### Facilitation Questions:

1. What was the most memorable thing you can remember someone saying to you? Why did it have such an impact on you?
2. Was this memory stronger or weaker than your strongest memory of something you ate?
3. Can you think of something you said that you deeply regret?
4. If you could say something to someone that you have been holding back what would it be?

**Wrap up message and Torah thought:**

<b>Genesis Chapter 2</b>	<b>בראשית פרשת בראשית פרק ב</b>
"And the Lord G-d formed man [from] the dust of the earth, and He blew into his nostrils the breath of life. And man became a living soul."	(ז) וַיִּצְרֶה יְקוֹק אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָאָדָם עֹפָר מִן־הָאֲדָמָה וַיִּפַּח בְּאַפָּיו נְשִׁמַת חַיִּים וַיְהִי הָאָדָם לְנֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה:
<b>Onkulus Translation</b>	<b>תרגום אונקלוס בראשית פרשת בראשית פרק ב</b>
Onkelos, in his Aramaic translation/commentary on the Torah, translates the words "And man became a living soul," as "And man became a speaking spirit."	(ז) וּבְרָא יי אֱלֹהִים ית אדם עפרא מן ארעא ונפח באפוהי נשמתא דחיי והות באדם לרוח ממללא:
<b>Other Resources</b>	
<a href="http://www.chabad.org/global/popup/default_cdo/aid/2632/jewish/The-Storyteller.htm">http://www.chabad.org/global/popup/default_cdo/aid/2632/jewish/The-Storyteller.htm</a>	