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# POWER OF QUESTIONING

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## Learning Goals

1. NCSYers will understand that questions are an essential part of Judaism.
2. NCSYers will consider their own questions.
3. NCSYers will have the opportunity to ask questions.

## Advisor Toolbox:

### ACTIVITIES/GAMES

- The Question Game & the No Question Game
- Human Guess Who

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Is it disrespectful to ask a question?
- Have you ever had a question and not asked?
- Who asks questions most often?
- Can you imagine a world *without* questions?

## Activities/Hooks

- The Questions Game
  - Challenge two participants to have a conversation using ONLY QUESTIONS. As soon as they stall, or respond without asking a question, they lose.
  - Consider asking the questions afterward:
    - Did you want to know the answers to your questions?
    - Did you only use rhetorical questions?
- No-Questions Game
  - Play the same game but without asking any questions.
    - Is it difficult to have a conversation WITHOUT questions?
- Human Guess Who
  - Just like the board game. Divide the group into two teams. One person from each team competes and has to “guess who” the other team chose.
    - Note: It’s worthwhile to have chairs to sit on during gameplay.

## A Little Explanation

1. This session can potentially be the most important session. It is so vital that teens are empowered to ask and if you don’t have the answer – it’s ok, find out and get back to them.
2. The Rashi example about Kayin/Hevel is (hopefully) straightforward. Even though Rashi doesn’t ask his question, if you read the passuk, you wonder “What did Kayin say to Hevel?”
  - Try leading the teens to the question, but don’t get bogged down. Then be sure to show how Rashi answers this question.
3. The Socratic method is used in education and a meaningful example of how questions lead to better understanding. Note: It is technical – if you don’t think you understand it, then don’t feel a need to bring it up!
4. One more point: **“TJJ is a unique opportunity. Take advantage and ask questions!”**