

Slice of the Pie

A Shavuot Family Giving Resource

Shavuot is the celebration of the Jewish people receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai. It's a time for us to reflect on the wisdom and values that guide and hold the Jewish people collectively. Here are a few ways to start a conversation about philanthropy during Shavuot.

Reflection Questions:

- * Why do you think G-d wanted the next generation to be the guarantors of the Torah?
- * How does this text make you feel about different generations' ability to have an impact on your community?
- * What does it mean to be a guarantor of your family values? How does this impact the way you think about philanthropy?

When G-d was ready to give the Torah to the Israelites at Mount Sinai, G-d asked for a guarantor – someone who would ensure that the Torah would be studied, lived, and passed on through the generations. The Israelites offered the Patriarchs and the Prophets, but G-d said they were not sufficient. The Israelites then said:

"Our children will be our guarantors", and G-d replied, "Indeed, they are good guarantors. Because of them, I give you the Torah"

Midrash Tanchuma, Nitzavim 3

On Shavuot, it is traditional to eat dairy (like cheesecake!) to symbolize the richness and sweetness of the Torah. Here are some questions to chew on while you enjoy your cheesecake.

Cut out the slices and spread them around the table, or hand them out to each family member.

Who or what helps you make hard decisions around giving?

On Shavuot, it is tradition to stay up all night learning. What questions keep you up at night?

What would be your family's ten commandments?

Which causes do you care about the most and how might philanthropy make a difference?

What family stories guide you in how you approach philanthropy?

Which leaders in the Torah or Jewish world do you find most inspiring?



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Jewish Youth Philanthropy Reimagined

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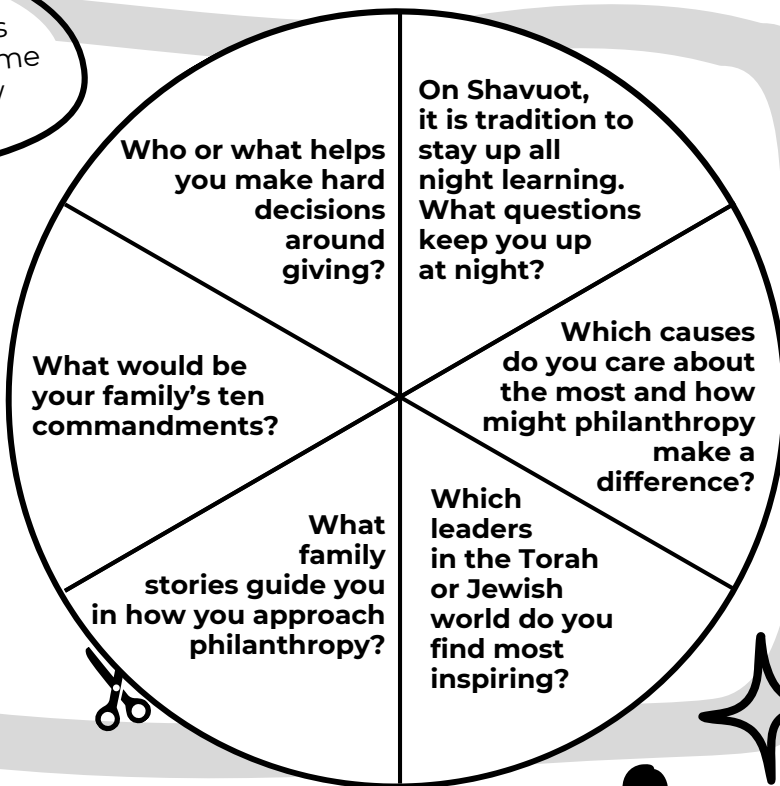
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