



(c) Sharing stories (25 min):

- Each participant has 5 min. to share their story within the small group. Clarifying question can be asked for a minute after each participant shares.
- Listening participants should write down specific points that either opened them up to new information valuable to their own story, as well as points that they experienced as being difficult and contrary to their own opinions.

(d) Engaging in a Learning Conversation (30 min):

- Participants share one question they have for another participant in a respectful manner always speaking from within their own experience and asking others from within their experience and stories. These questions can be about one point they felt challenging or perhaps “missing” from another participant’s experiences / story, explaining why.
- Facilitators can also propose questions to be discussed, for example (choose 1-2!):
  1. How do you relate to the Biblical commandment according to the Ramban: “We are commanded to inherit the Land which G-d may He be blessed and exalted, gave to our fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and that we may not leave it in the hands of the other nations or leave it to be desolate.”?
  2. How do relate to the Kerry Peace initiative (even though we do not know the exact details of this proposal it is based upon a Two State solution).
  3. How should Israel/ the American Jewish community relate to the BDS? (This is an increasingly hot topic both in the US and Israel as more and more companies have been divesting in Israel).
  4. What does it/ should it mean that Israel is a Jewish and Democratic State (Judaism in a Democratic state or Democracy in a Jewish State?)
  5. What should be the role of the American Jewish community regarding Israel? (This can relate back to the previous two questions or other questions).
- Facilitator ensures that the conversation on these questions be in the spirit of learning and not attacking, keeping in mind the context of each participant and 9Adar!

(e) Sum up: 5 min.

- Each participant shares one sentence/ very short thought that they learned from the conversation and will take with them in their own story as well as for helping to foster more constructive conversations about Israel in general.
- We will do a very quick round of key take homes people have for ensuring the Israel conversation be a machloket leshem shamayim.