



An Educators Guide to
**LEGENDS
AMONG US**
with
Rabbi *Benji*

Foreword

This guide is designed to help educators facilitate meaningful discussions around the powerful stories shared on the Legends Amongst Us podcast. The included questions serve as a starting point—feel free to adapt or expand them as needed.

If you create an activity or project inspired by these stories, we'd love to hear about it! Share your ideas at hello@rabbibenji.com.

Additionally, if your group would like to send messages of support to the families featured in the podcast, email them to the same address, and we'll ensure they're delivered.

Thank you for honoring these stories and sharing their impact with others.

Introduction to October 7th

On October 7th, as Jews worldwide celebrated Sukkot and Simchat Torah, Hamas launched a coordinated attack on Israel. Militants breached the border with vehicles and paragliders, using rockets as a diversion. They targeted kibbutzim near Gaza, attacking civilians, taking hostages, and committing brutal acts. Simultaneously, they attacked the Nova Music Festival, killing attendees and capturing hostages. Over 1,200 Israelis were killed. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) eventually regained control and confirmed more than 240 hostages had been taken to Gaza.



**What does
October 7th
mean to you?**



Rabbi Leo Dee

In honor of Lucy, Maia, and Rina Z'L

- 1.If you received the call that a loved one was in an accident, who would be the first person you'd call?
- 2.What methods did Rabbi Leo Dee use to help himself move on and heal his grief?
- 3.When Rabbi Dee talks about blood libel; what are some examples of blood libels you've learned about?
- 4.Why do you think Rabbi Dee didn't cry "as much as people would think"?
- 5.What are some ways people deal with grief? (What do you think it says about a person?)
6. If you can make a worldwide movement, like "Free Palestine", what would your slogan be?
- 7.What are ways people can honor those who were killed by acts of terror.



Activities

1. Write a message of strength to someone who has lost a person they love.
2. Create a video of strength for Am Yisrael that can be sent to soldiers/ people who are struggling.
3. Write about a hard experience you went through and discuss the methods you used to heal.

Rabbi Doron Perez

In Honor of Daniel Perez Z'L

1. How would you respond if you received news of tragedy in your family?
2. How do you discover within yourself, situations that trigger big feelings, and how do you deal with them?
3. What are ways to cope with uncertainty?
4. How does Rabbi Perez deal with loss on a day-to-day basis and what can we learn from this to help us in our own lives?
5. How do you find happiness during hard times?
6. Rabbi Perez said “It's possible to feel immense joy and sadness at the same time”, What do you think he means and how can we implement that in our own lives?
7. What is antifragility? What are some examples in your life where you see antifragility?
8. How has the antifragility in your life impacted you?
9. How do you make a decision and stick with it, without doubt, like Rabbi Perez did with Aliyah?
10. What can you learn from Daniel and his resilience to not give up?
11. What lessons can we take from tragedy?
12. What does Rabbi Perez mean when he says “honor the pain?”



Activities



1. Imagine you are a parent. Write a message to your next generation, expressing who you are and your wishes for them.
2. Create a memory box to honor and remember loved ones that you have lost. This box can include photos, letters, mementos, and other items that hold significance for you.
3. Write letters of gratitude to loved ones you've lost, focusing on happy memories and the positive impact those individuals have had on your life.

Michal Santhouse

In honor of Moshe and Eliad Z'L



1. If you heard terrorists were in your community, how would you respond?
2. If you weren't in school learning, and instead doing volunteer work, what work would you do?
3. What can we learn from Eliad, who encouraged officials in the pilot army unit to teach about the importance of equality and the importance of treating everyone the same way?
4. Just as Michal and her family split up Eliad's happiness among themselves, what are emotions that you can split up with your friends and family to help one another?
5. Since not everyone can serve in the army, how can you help the Jewish people like Moshe did?
6. Why is it important to treat people with fewer opportunities than you fairly, while still encouraging them to work for what they earn?
7. What can we learn about respect from Moshe (whether he was helping the poor or helping the old)?
8. What is something that you can have in common with your enemies?
9. How are you making every day count?

Activities

1. Make a bucket list of things you want to accomplish in your life (highlighting the theme of making everyday count).
2. Together as a class, make a bulletin board of notes as to why you are grateful for your life, each day you can pin another idea to the board.



Ambassador Yechiel Leiter

In honor of Moshe Leiter Z'L

1. What do you think is the significance of Moshe pinching his father's cheek?
2. What do you make time for? What's something you want to make more time for like Moshe did?
3. Who are modern-day Maccabees that you know/ know of?
4. What values has society forgotten or ignored since the beginning of this war?
5. How can you show your Jewish pride without giving in to fear and victimization from non-Jews?
6. Do you think holocaust education is enough to create Jewish pride?
7. Do you think Haredi people should be commanded during wartime or in general to serve in the army?
8. Do you think more or less people will be making aliyah since October 7th?
9. What can you learn about peacemaking from Moshe?
10. Moshe said "Know who you are, know where your friends are, and know where your enemies are", How can you use this in your daily life?
11. How do you think we can make the world a better place?
12. Rabbi Benji speaks about the missing void now present due to Moshe's death, how do you think people deal with this missing void present in their own lives?





Activities

1. Research and present stories about modern-day heroes (Maccabees) who have shown bravery, resilience, and dedication.
2. Set up a "Wall of Fame" where you can nominate and write about individuals you consider modern-day Maccabees.
3. Organize a community service project where you can emulate the spirit of the Maccabees by helping others.
4. Write letters to your parents expressing their appreciation, love, and any unspoken words.
5. Interview your parents about their lives, values, and any lessons they want to pass down.
6. Organize a day where you and your parents switch roles for a few activities. This can help you appreciate the responsibilities and experiences of your parents.
7. Make a PowerPoint reflecting the similarities between the Maccabees and the soldiers today.

Edna Zussman

In honor of Ben Zussman Z'L

1. How do you think you would react if you got a call that your family member died?
2. Why do you think it was meaningful for Edna to be standing with hundreds of strangers she didn't know on the way to the funeral?
3. What would you do in a time of tragedy where you were unable to help?
4. How do you appreciate every day?
5. How often do you call your grandparents and do you wish you made more of an effort with them?



Activities

1. Write a page about the person you're named after or a grandparent that you admire, once finished give the paper to said grandparent in honor of Ben and his grandmother's connection.
2. How do you think we should “fight the bad”?
3. How do you think people balance the dichotomy of being both a ‘soldier’ and a ‘family man’?
4. Keep a gratitude journal for a week, focusing on your parents and family.
5. Organize a day where you do an activity with their family members, such as cooking a meal, playing a sport, or working on a project together.
6. Create a piece of art, a poem, or a song dedicated to your family members, reflecting the bond you share together.



Sarit Zussman

In honor of Ben Zussman Z'L

1. How do you honor someone who's died, whether a family member, friend or mentor?
2. What can we learn about the meaning of life, from death?
3. What does Sarit mean when she says "death is part of life"?
4. We see that Sarit is saying it's a simple choice to be happy in life, however in our own lives when we're personally going through tough times, how do you stay strong and happy during hard times?
5. How do you show that you're living life to the fullest and not allowing yourself to feel defeated?
6. What's your relationship like with your parents? Are you close to them and how can it be improved?
7. How do you connect to your roots and values as a Jewish person?
8. How do you respect other people?



Activities

1. Write a letter, reflecting on your life, addressed to those who love you.
2. Write 5 ways you are living and enjoying your life, not just surviving.
3. Fill a box with positive notes, intended for yourself for when life is hard.



Tzvi Zussman

In honor of Ben Zussman Z'L

1. How do you think you would react if soldiers came to your door with bad news?
2. Do you admire your siblings like Boaz does about Ben?
3. Have you ever pushed yourself so much just to get what you want, if so, when?
4. If you were writing a letter to your family from the front lines what would you write in it?
5. Is there a cause that is so important to you that you are willing to die for it? Which cause and why?
6. How can you tell what is real or fake evil?
7. Do you have such a connection with your parents that they would know every story and not be surprised?
8. How would you cope or deal with being the only religious person in a non-religious environment?





Activities

1. Write about shared experiences with your siblings, such as adventures, challenges, and lessons learned.
2. Create a scrapbook dedicated to your memories with your family members, filled with photos, stories, and significant moments.
3. Interview your siblings/ family members about their favorite memories together, their perspectives on their relationship, and their hopes for the future.
4. Create a short video tribute to your siblings/ family members, compiling photos, video clips, and messages. This can be shared with your siblings and the class.

Zussman Family

1. Do we see any recurring themes in how the Zussmans reacted to their heartbreaking news?
2. What are ways that we can learn about strength and courage from the Zussman Family?
3. How can you learn about Jewish pride from the Zussmans?
4. What are ways you can fight the evil, that Zussmans discuss?
5. What is your definition of a hero?
6. What message would you say to the Jewish world after learning about the Zussman family?



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United

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