

## Back from Israel Shabbaton Sicha – “Now that we’re back”

The sicha begins with a little Hebrew exercise based around the word “Shaliach.” This is the first concept introduced, so it will hopefully be on their minds when they get to part II. The second part is the core of this sicha though. Please encourage the USYers to be as descriptive as possible and to explain their answers. We are more interested in the “why” of their responses than the “what.” By the end of the sicha, ideally the USYers will be empowered to be shlichim in explaining their Israel experience, and what Israel means to them.

### I. Intro “Shaliach”

#### 1. What is the meaning of the word Shaliach?

- Comes from the Hebrew word “lishloach” – to send. The Shoresh (root) is Shalach (Shin, Lamed, Chaf Tzofit) – send.
- A messenger

#### 2. What are other kinds of Shlichim?

- Cantor is a Shaliach Tzibur (messenger of the community)
- JJ is a Shaliach from/for Israel
- When someone is given money prior to a trip to Israel to give Tzedakah in Israel, he is a Shaliach Mitzvah

### II. What Israel means to me...

#### 1. Each participant picks a place in Israel that they had a personal connection to. They should describe the place and their connection to it as best they can, emphasizing on the WHY it’s important to them.

- This SHOULD NOT be a superficial connection (ie, not falafel on Ben Yehuda Street, or snorkeling), but ideally something that had a spiritual connection, or moment of personal growth.

#### 2. We will lay out pictures of scenes from Israel, and the participants will choose the picture THAT BEST REPRESENTS WHAT ISRAEL IS TO THEM.

##### A. pics should include:

- attractive Israeli men and women
- USY Pilgrimage banner
- Haredi
- Tzfat
- Settlement
- Hizbollah flag
- Israeli basketball player
- Gal Friedman
- Chagim
- Nasrallah
- IDF Soldiers
- Kotel
- Jeruslaem
- El Al