

## Or Hamidbar – Black Lives Matter from a Jewish Perspective, Aug. 3, 2020

### 1) Deuteronomy 6:7

... and you shall teach them diligently unto your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when thou lie down, and when you rise up.

### 2) Proverbs 22:6

Educate a child according to their way; They will not swerve from it even in old age.

### 3) Mishnah Avot 1:6

Yehoshua ben Perachia said: Make for yourself a mentor, acquire for yourself a friend; and give every person the benefit of the doubt.

### 4) Mishnah Avot 4:3

[Ben Azai] would say: Do not disparage any person, and do not shun any thing.

For you have no person who does not have their hour, and you have no thing which does not have a place.

### 5) Mishnah Avot 4:12

Rabbi Elazar son of Shamua said: Let the honor of your students be as your own...

### 6) Maimonides (12th-13th c.), Mishneh Torah, Laws of Torah Study 1:2

And not just his son and his grandson: rather, there is a commandment upon each and every wise person in the community to teach all students, even though they are not their own children. As it says, "And you shall teach them to your children" (Deut 6:7) – our tradition understands that "your children" refers to your students, for students can be called children, as in "And the children of the prophets left" (I Kings 2:3).

### 7) Parker Palmer, The Courage to Teach

"In the face of the apparent judgment of the young, teachers must turn toward students, not away from them, saying, in effect, 'There are great gaps between us. But no matter how wide and perilous they may be, I am committed to bridging them—not only because you need me to help you on your way but also because I need your insight and energy to help renew my own life.'" (p. 49)

"To teach is to create a space in which the community of truth is practiced." (p. 90)

### 8) Rabbi K'lonymus Kalman Shapira (Rebbe of Piaseczna), (Warsaw, 20<sup>th</sup> c.), Chovat HaTalmidim

King Solomon said in Proverbs (22:6): "Educate a child according to their way; They will not swerve from it even in old age." This is the core of education: that not only at the time when children are young and in the domain of their parents that they will listen and do according to the commandments, rather also when they grow up and is in their own domain, even when they become elderly they will not turn from it. Because education is not only commands, that one should command one's child or student "Do such and such," so too is it not just habit, that one accustoms one's child or student to good deeds. Education is far, far beyond commands or habit, and these two things, commands and habit, are simply tools used in its implementation which the educator is forced to use, to command or to habituate, in order to educate on the path of the LORD.