

# Activity 11

Cross

Formed

Kids

## What is Torah?

Torah is the life-giving word of God that teaches and trains us in God's ways.

*Ya think you know a guy!*

### Materials

- Cup, bowl or something to hold small pieces of paper
- Pencil and paper

### Instructions

1. "Best friends" can be made in minutes on the playground or in a classroom. Young children really don't need much to form seemingly close bonds that, to them, are inseparable friendships. But do they really know each other? We want to show your child the difference in knowing who someone is, and really knowing their heart.
2. Make a list of people- some who your children know well (siblings, parents, family members, close friends), some they may know a bit (people at church, their doctor, a character on a tv show), and some they don't know at all (your old friends, random celebrities or scientists, former neighbors).
3. Rip the list so each name is on its own sheet of paper and add it to a container they can grab from.
4. Have each child (and you!) go one at a time, drawing a name and trying to impersonate the person on the paper. Feel free to give prompts like - "What would this person do when they

were angry?” “How would they act if they saw a puppy?” Or “What is the funniest thing this person has ever done?” Help with reading when needed, but don’t give hints on who they are!

5. The rest of the family are the guessers. Do they know who you are trying to be? What happens if you don’t know that person? Or you haven’t seen them in a really long time? Is it hard to be like someone you have never met?

### **Point**

The Torah taught the Israelites all about who God was, how he loved them, what he would do for them, and what he thought was important. They went from just knowing who God was, to really knowing him personally. It is so much easier to act like our family because we spend so much time with them. We see them when they are sad, scared, happy and excited! We know what makes them laugh, what they love to eat most, and even some silly things they do when they are nervous. Knowing lots of little details like that is what makes us love those people so much!

God gave the Israelites this sort of inside view to His heart with the Torah. They could see his love for them and his desire to redeem the world. They learned of the ways to really encourage each other and show the world how great God is. The Torah came as a way to really know and love God before Jesus could come to be love for the whole world.

