

# to the teacher

This unit was developed to be easily adaptable for use by youth groups, traditional day schools and afternoon religious schools. It is geared for high school students, but can be tailored to the level of junior high school. Please select the materials which best suit your needs and teaching style.

The unit is divided into four major sections. After the introduction of background information about the soldiers and the concept of *Pidyon Shevuyim*, each section represents a major positive concept that the students should strive to master: “Empathy,” “Responsibility” and “Action.” Within each section, there are opportunities for hands-on student participation in the form of interviews and monologues which can be performed. Each section also encourages ethical and intellectual analysis and debate through discussions of Jewish issues such as *Pidyon Shevuyim* and *Tikkun Olam*.

Here are two alternative lesson plans consisting of three sessions of 45 minutes each, one for a youth movement and one for a religious school class. In either case, the goals of the unit remain to generate enthusiasm among your students for advocating for the cause of social justice and for the students ultimately to take action on behalf of the soldiers through letter-writing and raising public awareness (see the **Take Action!** section).