

## Havruta

Havruta is a Jewish practice of conversation over a text. Havruta is usually used in Yeshiva/religious school settings. It is a structured conversation around a text, based in asking questions.

Jews seldom study Torah alone; the study of Torah is, more often than not, a social and even communal activity. Most commonly, Jews study Jewish texts in pairs, a method known as havruta (“fellowship”). In havruta, the pair struggles to understand the meaning of each passage and discusses how to apply it to the larger issues addressed and even to their own lives.

Havruta is a several-hundred year old practice where two people are reading a sacred text together (for us it will be the Bible) and the idea is that two people together can learn everything that they need to learn if they are willing to have an open and rigorous discussion amongst themselves and with the book.

### **How to do Havruta:**

1. One person will pose a question
2. That same person will also pose a potential response to a question.
3. The next person will give another response to the question.
4. And this can back and forth can go on and on because there’s an endless depth to these things.

So the idea is that it isn’t any one answer that is right, but it is the combination of all of the answers that are right.