



Ima v'Abaz



- Which character did you most empathize with? Which character did you least empathize with? How do you understand the relationship these two characters have?
- Is this an episode that could only work in Israel?
 - What does this tell you about Israel?
- How do you explain Sami's friends, who on the one hand defy convention to the extent that they speak Hebrew in the feminine, but on the other hand are deeply hurt they were not invited to one of the most conservative patriarchal tradition-bound rituals the Jewish religion has to offer?
 - Do you sometimes find yourself surprising others with the seeming-inconsistency of your choices?



A WIDER BRIDGE

BUILDING LGBTQ CONNECTIONS WITH ISRAEL

- Why do you think that naming his son after his father is dismissed as an empty gesture by Sami's mother ("And if your father had been called Zacharia would you have named the child that?"), while Erez' parents are delighted when Erez reluctantly acquiesces to what he calls the "cruel and primitive" circumcision of his son?

The word "Brit" in Hebrew is often translated as a covenant, a binding commitment. Hence circumcising one's son, giving him a Brit, literally means to bind yourself to him and him to you. The symbolism is one of commitment and continuity, a link connecting your son to you and to your near and ancient past. It is this symbolism that the psychologist is keen for Erez to face.

- Is there anything of his near and far past that you believe your father passed on and bound to you?
- Is there anything of your near and far past that you would like to pass on and bind to your children when the time comes?



A Wider Bridge works to bring the LGBTQ communities of Israel and North America closer together. Our programs include educational and cultural activities here in the U.S., including this film series, LGBTQ trips to Israel, and our online magazine, www.awiderbridge.org.

A Wider Bridge commissioned these study guides from Makom, and consulted fully in their development. Makom is the think-and-do tank for adult Israel engagement. You can find Makom at www.makomisrael.org and at facebook.com/makomisrael.

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