

SEASON 1



OLAMI MENTORSHIP

**SESSION 10:
TAKING THEORY INTO PRACTICE:
WRITING YOUR MISSION STATEMENT**

DEAR MENTEE AND MENTOR,

After six months of working for your company, it's time for your evaluation. You walk into the boardroom, where three designer-suit-clad personnel managers are sitting behind a mahogany desk. The one on the left scans your file, looks up at you accusingly, and says, "I see here that you did not report for work at 9 am even once."

The woman in the middle shakes her head and remarks, "This is a Fortune 500 Company. Instead of a jacket and tie, you report for work wearing jeans?"

The man on the right stares at the papers in his hand and says grimly, "Our surveillance cameras show that you spend less than 10% of your working hours at your desk. The rest of the time you're walking around the building."

The first evaluator shoots the question: "Do you have anything to say for yourself?"

"Yes," you reply with confidence, "I was hired as the night watchman."

-Adapted from Aish.com



As we discussed in previous sessions, Jewish wisdom asserts that every soul comes into this world charged with a positive purpose. No one has ever or will ever come into this world with the exact same mission as yours.

**Let's Get Started With
Actually Crafting Our
Mission Statement:**

In the previous sessions we devoted a lot of time to identifying our unique qualities, our talents and abilities, values, and purpose. In this session, we will attempt to distill and record how these play into your personal mission.

We encourage both of you - mentor and mentee - to craft your statement.

Step 1: Brainstorming

Write down your unique qualities:

I am _____

I am _____

I am _____

I am _____

I am _____

I am _____

I am _____

I am _____

I am talented in these areas:

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

My talents _____

The values I defined (if helpful, refer back to session 7):

My values _____

My values _____

My values _____

My values _____

My values _____

My values _____

My values _____

My values _____

My values _____

My values _____





I am passionate about:

I want to contribute to the world by:

I believe my purpose in life is to:



Step 2: Constructing

Let's put your brainstorm into your mission statement.

Select from the section above to fill in this statement:

My mission is to use my [unique qualities and talents] to [reach my purpose] because I believe [passion and values].

Example: My mission is to use my [creativity and knowledge] to [inspire and guide others toward personal growth and creativity] because I believe [everyone has the potential to achieve greatness.]



Step 3: Reflecting

1. Personal vs. Professional Mission

Some people view their personal and professional missions as separate, but the most impactful lives are those where both are interconnected. For instance, a teacher who values community might see their work as an extension of their personal commitment to nurturing others.

- How can your professional role advance your personal mission? What changes can you make to integrate the two?
- Does one take precedence over the other?

2. Personal vs. Collective Mission

Jewish wisdom teaches that we are always balancing our personal journeys with our role in the greater story of the Jewish people. Our individual missions are not separate from, but rather woven into, a larger tapestry. As Rabbi Akiva famously taught, “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Leviticus 19:18)—the fundamental principle of the Torah. Living a life of purpose means striving for personal growth while also contributing to the well-being of our community and the world around us.

- How does your personal mission contribute to your family, community, or society?



Step 4: Actualizing

1. Can you identify moments when you lived in alignment with your mission? How did it feel?
2. What are the biggest obstacles preventing you from living your mission?
3. How do you feel now that you have a defined purpose?
4. Do you think your mission statement will change as you go - or grow - through life? How?
5. What practical steps can you take today to make your mission a reality?

Conclusion

We hope this exercise is helpful to consider your life's purpose and how you can achieve your personal, professional, and spiritual goals.

While you have completed the first module of Olami Mentorship, we hope this is not the end, rather it should be just the beginning. The next module offers a glimpse into various character traits that you may choose to work on in order to fulfill your goals. We hope that you continue to focus on growth by identifying the traits that will help you achieve your mission and, together with your mentor, reflect on them through the lens of Judaism's timeless wisdom.

**For educational questions or support,
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