



Facilitator's Guide: Text Study **א** - Aleph

Hatikvah as a Visionary Statement

Usage

This text study introduces the qualities of a good vision by having the participants analyze *Hatikvah* ("The Hope," Israel's national anthem) as a visionary statement.

Grouping of Participants

Small groups of three or four

Time Required

20 minutes

Facilitation

1. Break into small groups and ask each to read the *Hatikvah* text and share answers to the discussion questions.
2. After about 10 minutes, reconvene the Task Force and review the definition of vision and a vision's components. Ask the groups to share the words and phrases they think should be part of your Task Force's vision for the future.
3. You may want to have people stand and sing *Hatikvah* and then ask how singing it affects their view of it as a visionary statement.
4. Ask people to keep the definition of vision and how it functions in mind as they discuss an alternative model of children's Jewish education for your congregation.



Text Study א - Aleph

Hatikvah has a Visionary Statement*

After saying the blessing before study, please read this text and discuss the questions below.

כָּל עוֹד בְּלִבִּי פְּנִימָה,
נֶפֶשׁ יְהוּדִי הוֹמֶה
וּלְפָנָי מִזְרַח קְדִימָה
עֵין לְצִיּוֹן צוֹפֶה
עוֹד לֹא אֲבָדָה תְּקוּתָנוּ
הַתְּקוּהָ בֵּת שְׁנוֹת אֲלָפִים
לְהִיּוֹת עִם חֶפְשִׁי בְּאַרְצֵנוּ
אֶרֶץ צִיּוֹן וִירוּשָׁלַיִם*

So long as still within the inmost heart
A Jewish spirit sings,
So long as the eye looks eastward,
Gazing toward Zion,
Our hope is not lost—
That hope of two millennia,
To be a free people in our land,
The land of Zion and Jerusalem

***Hatikvah*, The National Anthem of The State of Israel
Written by Naftali Herz Imber, a Galician Jew,
and set to music in Palestine in the early 1880s**

Questions for Discussion:

1. What feelings and images do the words of *Hatikvah* evoke for you? Which words or phrases do you find the most powerful?

(continued)

*Transliterated on page 17.

2. Burt Nanus, in *Visionary Leadership*, defines institutional vision as “a compelling, organizing image of a desired future state of an organization.”

- Using this definition, to what extent do you think *Hatikvah* serves as a vision for the Jewish people and/or the State of Israel? In what ways do you find it “compelling?”
- In what ways does it present an “organizing image?” To what extent do you think it describes a “desired future state” (or condition)?

3. A vision has several functions:

- It motivates and sustains the leadership, guiding them in making decisions and setting priorities that align with the vision.
- It reminds all the stakeholders why they do what they do and what they aspire to become.

To what extent do you think *Hatikvah* meets these criteria? What historical and contemporary evidence do you have to support your perspective?

4. Recalling the definition of a vision, spend no more than five minutes identifying the words, phrases or images you think could evoke “a compelling organizing image of a desired future state” for your congregation’s alternative model of children’s Jewish education. Your responses will segue you into the next exercise.



Text Study X - Aleph

Hatikvah Music and Text

HATIKVAH

N. H. Imber

Folk Themes

Moderato (♩ = 68)

Dm Gm Dm Gm Dm

Kol — od ba-lei-vav p'ni — mah ne-fesh y' — hu-di

Gm A7 Dm Gm Dm

ho — mi — ya, ul — fa — a — tei — miz-rach ka — di — mah

Gm Dm Gm A7 Dm B♭ C7 F

a — yin l' — tzi-yon tzo — fi — yah. Od lo av-dah tik — va — tei — nu

B♭ C7 F Am Dm

ha — tik — vah sh'not al — pa — yim, lih — yot am chof — shi

Gm Dm Gmin7 A7 Dm Gm A7 Dm

b' — ar — tzei-nu b' — e — retz tzi-yon vi — ru-sha — la — yim.

Gm Dm C7 F Gm Dm Gm A7 Dm

Lih-yot am chof-shi b' — ar — tzei-nu b' — e — retz tzi-yon vi — ru-sha — la — yim.

As long as a Jewish heart beats,
and as long as Jewish eyes look eastward,
then our two thousand year hope
to be a free nation in Zion is not dead.

עוד לא אָבְדָה תְּקוּמָתוֹ
הַתְּקוּמָה בַּת שְׁנוֹת אֶלְפִים
לְהִיּוֹת עַם חֶפְזִי בְּאַרְצֵנוּ
אֶרֶץ צִיּוֹן וִירוּשָׁלַיִם

כָּל עוֹד בִּלְבָב פְּנוּמָה
נִפְשׁ יְהוּדֵי הַמְּקוֹה
וּלְפָאֵתִי מְנוּחָה קְדִימָה
עַן לְצִיּוֹן צוֹפֶינָה