

Winter 2021 Dayenu Circle Meeting Torah and Activity Guide



In the Hebrew month of Kislev, here in the Northern Hemisphere, the weather cools and the nights stretch towards their longest. In the cycle of the Jewish year, winter offers us a season to pause, to turn inwards and to dream for the future. The Torah contains ten different dream sequences from seven different dreamers, and during the month of Kislev, we read nine of these ten dreams.

Joseph, the most famous dreamer in the Torah shares his dreams and visions with his father and brothers:

וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלֵיהֶם שְׁמְעוּ-נָא הַחֲלוֹם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר חָלַמְתִּי:

"Hear this dream which I have dreamed:" - Genesis 37:6.

Joseph courageously shares his vision, even when his dreams are difficult for his family to hear or to accept. All of us organizing around climate change have bold dreams for a just, livable future, and for us too, it takes a lot of courage to embrace hope and vocalize our dreams.

Use this prompt and continue the sentence:

"Hear this dream which I have dreamed..."

ex. "Hear this dream which I have dreamed: in 2022 we will elect climate champions!"

ex. "Hear this dream which I have dreamed: we will grow our Circle to 100 people!"

In this moment of winter reflection, all of us at Dayenu are incubating dreams, ideas, and future campaigns – dreaming of what is to come and of the world we are creating together.

Winter Collective Dreaming Exercise

20-35 minutes

During your winter Dayenu Circle meetings, we invite you to celebrate the light and the hope you've created this year and to dream boldly of a just and equitable future. Here is a reflective exercise you might use to guide your visions and dreams for your upcoming work together:

20-35 min

5 min

Read the reflection above. Perhaps each person reads a paragraph out loud.

5-8 min

Read the journaling prompts below, and then take 5-7 minutes to write down your dreams. Dare to articulate a bold vision for the future. You might play music to help everyone get going. We recommend "All the Leaves" by Batya Levine: <https://soundcloud.com/batyalevine/all-the-leaves>

Journaling Prompts

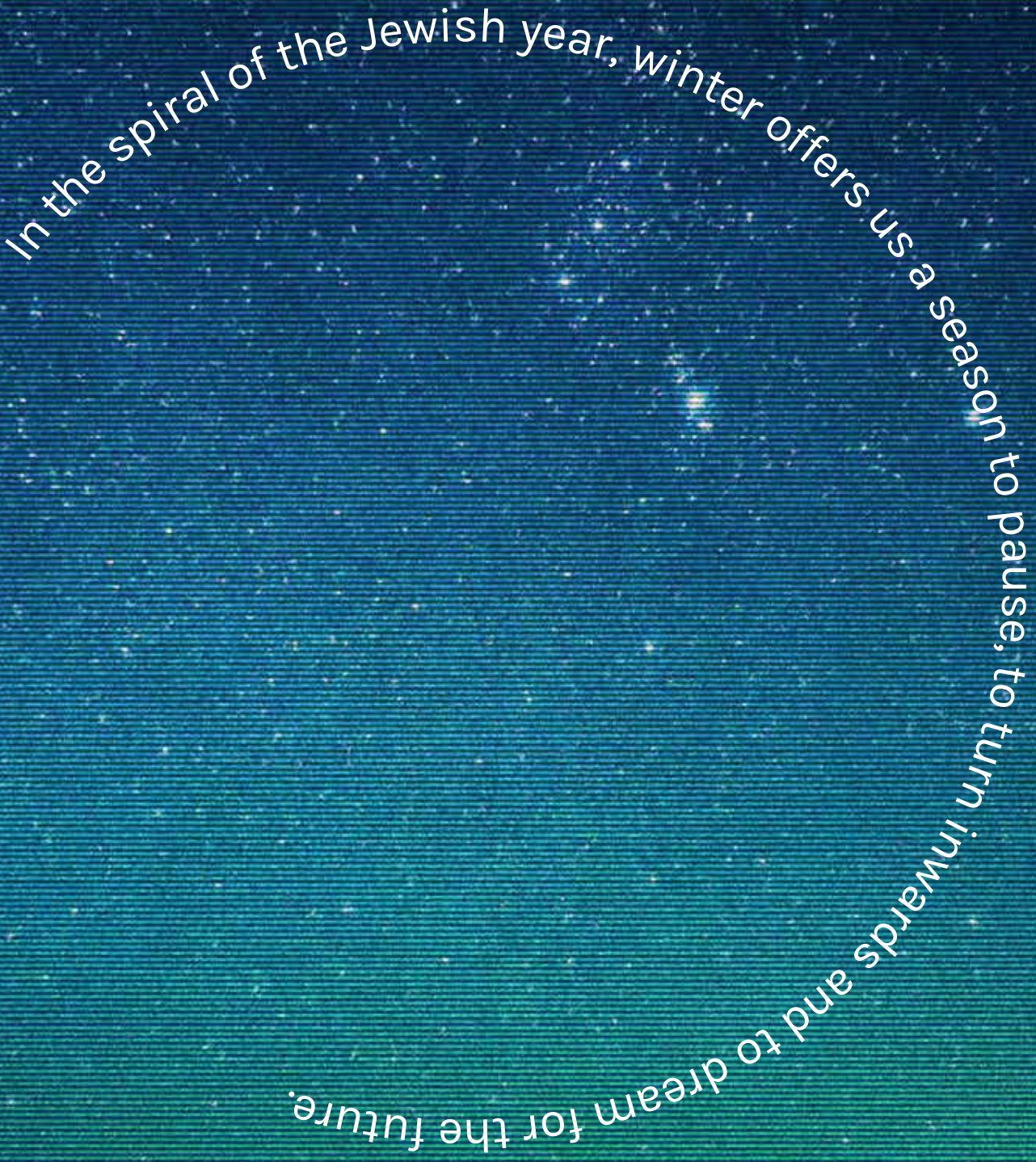
1) What dreams did you manifest this year? What about your Dayenu Circle are you most proud of? Lift up your hard work that deserves celebration!

2) What are your dreams for the coming year? It might be helpful to think about this on several levels:

- What are you dreaming of in your own life: what do you hope to build or plant? What are your personal goals for climate organizing and activism?
- What are your dreams for your Dayenu Circle? What might a successful year of organizing look like?
- What are your hopes for your whole community – your synagogue, campus, or Jewish community, your town or city, your state, your country?

10 - 12 min

Come back together to share. Talk about the things you're celebrating as a Dayenu Circle. Then, as folks feel comfortable, share your dreams for the future: what are you excited to give voice to, to put out there, to dare into being?

A night sky with a starry background and a faint spiral galaxy, with text overlaid in a circular path.

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