



MAROM מרומ

# Which Way To Go - Stories and Reflection



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<b>Author</b> Marom team	<b>Read time</b> 5- 30 min	<b>Level</b> 1	<b>Amount of people</b> 1-4 recommended
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# Which Way To Go - Stories and Reflection

*Let's get inspired*

To quote the Israeli navigation app, Waze:  
“Recalculating... Recalculating...”

Rosh Hashanah is a chance to recalculate and choose the path on which we want to be. Take a few moments to read these stories, which seem to be simple, but can be taken to a deeper level.

## **Instructions**

Take a seat, either by yourself or with a few friends. Grab a cup of tea, lemonade, or a beer. Dive into the text and see where your thoughts and discussion take you.

Alice: “Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?”

The Cheshire Cat: “That depends a good deal on where you want to get to.”

Alice: “I don’t much care where.”

The Cheshire Cat: “Then it doesn’t much matter which way you go.”

Alice: “...so long as I get somewhere.”

The Cheshire Cat: “Oh, you’re sure to do that, if only you walk long enough.”

(Lewis Carroll, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland, 1865)

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Rabbi Chaim Halberstam of Sanz once shared the parable of a person lost in the forest for days on end, unaware of the proper path. Suddenly, he saw someone else heading towards him. His spirits were lifted, certain he would soon know the proper path by which to continue.

When they met, he asked: “Brother, tell me, where is the proper path? I have been wandering for days.”

The other man responded, “My brother, I do not know, for I too have been wandering for days. I can tell you that the way by which I have come is a path that leads people astray. Now, let us search for a new path.”

Such are we, continued the rabbi. The way by which we have come is not the way by which we should continue, for it leads people astray. Rather, we must seek out a new path.

(From Shmuel Yosef Agnon, Days of Awe)

## Questions for discussion or reflection:

- In the parable, what does the path represent?
- What does the forest represent?
- What is the significance of two wandering people meeting?
- Does the proper path that the people are seeking exist?
- What is the meaning of searching?
- What, in your opinion, is the primary objective: the search for the path or actually finding it? Explain.
- What was Rabbi Chaim Halberstam of Sanz attempting to impart to his disciples with this parable?

(From the Midreshet website)

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