

Rabbis,

On behalf of all the students I would like to say thank you for providing such a quality weekend! On behalf of myself I would like to comment on how particularly impactful this weekend was for me.

Growing up I didn't think much about religion and surrounded myself with people who would convince me that "religion is dying out" in my generation and I never did anything to combat that statement. For a while I believed it too, until this weekend. In four short days I learned that maybe some religion is dying out but not ours; nor will people like the mentors I met this weekend as well as yourselves let that happen.

This weekend reminded me that Judaism has always been very much alive and will continue to breathe lessons from the Torah throughout the generations, keeping Jews aligned in the future through looking at our past. Studying Torah isn't a chore but rather an insight on how we should govern ourselves. Look for questions to ask when you don't understand something, don't blindly agree to something because it is the easier to do so than to dig deeper, and never stop learning.

I learned a great deal about snowboarding, Cabernet, the proper way to shvitz in a sauna, and my fellow JET students this weekend but only began to learn about myself as a Jew and what I can get out of studying Torah. I commend all who devote their careers or lives to the practice and for now could never see myself doing what you guys do 25 years from now but we shall see. I can see myself staying inquisitive though, continuing to ask these questions and to abide by a moral code in situations where life can get tricky.

I won't forget the generosity I experienced this weekend finically, holistically, and personally for as long as I identify as being Jewish, and I don't plan on changing that ever. Thank you all for your time and for teaching me a thing or two.

Sincerely,

Danny

Good morning Rabbi,

A most sincere thank you on behalf of myself and all of the other JET students for the privilege of being included in such an amazing, inspiring weekend. In addition to meeting new people, we were also provided with an opportunity to get to know our own JET rabbis even better. I look forward to maintaining a connection with a plethora of Rabbis, mentors, and students who I had the pleasure of meeting over the weekend.

Thank you for all of your efforts in making this unique, memorable experience possible!

All the best,

Jeremy

Dear Reb ,

I cannot thank you enough for such an amazing trip!!! It took me yesterday to recover, and even still I am basking in the glow of such great experiences. The kiruv, the people, the staff, the mentors...all were of just such high quality. Our chevra had a fantastic time and were genuinely moved on so many levels. I was so tired on Monday b/c Misha had to recap everything on the trip ESPECIALLY how much his mentors meant to him during our red-eye flight! He was deeply moved. More stories will be forthcoming, but I just wanted to send you my personal hakaras ha'tov for such a fantastic trip.

It was also fantastic that the OS rabbis were there. It is SO hard getting guys to a nebulous concept of yeshiva, but it is much easier when they have a face to the institution. We will be working closely with them on follow up.

Looking forward to being in touch soon!!! Please let me know if there is anything else that I can do.

My very best,  
Shalom

Hi R.,

Just wanted to extend my warmest gratitude for a truly amazing Shabbaton in Utah. I was not sure what I would be getting myself into, but needless to say the experience has exceeded any expectation I've had bar none. Thanks again for the opportunity: I am very excited to continue my learning journey when I get to Israel in August.

Sincerely,

Dan

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Thanks for allowing me to have one of the best spring break trips of my life. You do a great job at planning a trip with a bunch of young college gentlemen. I hope to see you again soon and hope to see another Shabbaton. Thanks for the great mentors that are very inspiring.

Jared

The ski trip was unbelievably awesome! I am so glad and fortunate to have had this opportunity! Every mentor on the trip was great and I enjoyed learning from each one. The students on the trip were just as great and I was able to leave Utah with dozens of new connections. Thank you for everything!

I am currently sitting at the Atlanta airport waiting for my connecting flight to Ft Lauderdale where I am going on a cruise with 30 of my closest friends. The cruise leaves Monday at 4:30pm, so after this time I will be unable to use my phone until Saturday evening.

Thanks again for everything!

Andrew

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I just want to thank you for your contribution to the Ohr Somayach organization, and for making guys like me feel welcomed and a part of the group. I had an amazing time on the Utah ski trip where I skied for the very first time, met some great guys, learned more about my Jewish heritage, and what it means to be a Jew in today's world. I will never forget the memories and knowledge that I gained on this trip so I want to thank you again. Let's stay in touch.

Regards, Chase

\_\_\_\_\_,

I can't stop talking about last Shabbat. After a couple days of reflecting, I officially decided my favorite part of the trip was learning with Rabbi Gross. I was truly lucky to have been paired up in a chevrotah with him and it was an honor. I really miss the slopes too, but I just wanted to say thank you for all your hard work. Chag Purim Sameach and Shabbat shalom!

Sincerely,

Kevin

Rabbi, thank you so much for an unforgettable experience! I still can't come down from the high...quite literally. This is exactly what I needed. I now realize how vital Yeshiva study is in my overall development. I think realistically I will take 3 months beginning of June to go to Israel.