## **Shema: Mental Preparation**

When saying the *shema*, focus on the idea that God is:

- Everywhere,
- Infinite,
- Unique,
- Present now and always.

## Witness to God's Uniqueness

We are witnesses to the fact that God is unique, as alluded to in the word "*eid*"--made up of the "*ayin* " of *shema* and the "*dalet*" of *echad*.

## Love God

We are required to love God with our:

- Hearts (Good Inclination--yetzer ha'tov--and Evil Inclination--yetzer ha'ra),
- Souls (regardless of whether we are happy with Hashem's decrees or not), and
- "Much-ness" (interpreted to mean with all of our material belongings).

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