

Pirkei Avot 2:11 states, "Rabbi Tarfon used to say: It is not your responsibility to finish the work, but neither are you free to desist from it." This verse is a powerful reminder that we are all responsible for making the world a better place, even if we cannot complete the task on our own.

This verse is particularly relevant to my life as a Jew because it reminds me of the importance of social justice. As a member of a minority group, I have experienced firsthand the challenges that come with being different. However, I also recognize that there are many others who face even greater challenges, and it is my duty to help in any way that I can.

At the same time, this verse reminds me that I cannot do everything on my own. There are many problems in the world that are simply too big for one person to solve, and it is important to recognize our limitations. However, this does not mean that we should give up. Instead, we must do what we can, knowing that every small action can make a difference.

Another way that this verse informs my life as a Jew is by reminding me of the importance of community. We cannot make the world a better place on our own; we need the support of others. By working together, we can achieve great things and make a real difference in the world.

Finally, this verse reminds me that social justice is not just a one-time effort but an ongoing process. There will always be more work to do, and we must remain committed to the cause even when it is difficult. We may not see the results of our efforts in our lifetime, but we can take comfort in knowing that we are doing our part to make the world a better place for future generations.

In conclusion, Pirkei Avot 2:11 is a powerful reminder that we are all responsible for

making the world a better place, even if we cannot complete the task on our own. This verse is particularly relevant to my life as a Jew because it reminds me of the importance of social justice, the need to recognize our limitations, the importance of community, and the ongoing nature of the work we must do. I will carry these lessons with me as I work to make the world a better place, one small action at a time.