Notes from the Coder Rabbi

- Cultivate a mentor(s)
  - Apprentice yourself to a mentor that you can lean on and learn from.
  - http://www.phpmentoring.org
  - Identify potential mentors, interact with them.
- Acquire for yourself a colleague(s).
  - Pair coding. Allows for unlimited opportunities to learn and grow in real time.
  - Code review. Having your code reviewed and reviewing others' code can have a substantial impact on your skills.
  - Side projects with your colleague.
  - Learning groups.
  - Accept an apprentice under your wing. Teaching others often makes your knowledge grow and forces you to see it from the student's point of view.
  - http://www.hackpledge.org
  - Write and blog about your experiences and ideas. Share your knowledge with others.
- Stay a part of the community
  - Learn and share with and from everyone.
  - User groups
  - Conferences
  - Virtual communities
  - Contribute to open source projects
    - http://www.up-for-grabs.net
    - http://www.twitter.com/yourfirstpr
  - Create open source projects
- Endeavor to be someone – grow as a developer
  - Push your boundaries.
  - Check out other languages and how it solves problems.
  - Consistent progression and continue growth.
  - ABC – Always Be Coding!
  - Your vocational coding should mimic your vocational coding.
  - Rubber ducking. Explanation and verbalization improves your understanding and concentration.
  - Pre-emptive commit messages.
  - Diagram your solutions.
  - Be disciplined about reviewing the diff before a commit.
  - Code katas.
  - Do not be timid.
    - Ask for help.
    - Share.
    - Take chances, though it main mean failure.
  - Find your niche and be the best you can be at it.