

Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by E-Tek - 17 May 2012 23:00

Editing this post with info from my original thread by way of introduction.

Hello all.

I've been lurking for some time now, I figured I'll give a shout out. The name of my game is shpiegel- I'll just tell you all what I've been telling myself, to better affect myself. Introductions later, I really have to run to seder soon.

R' Leib Kelemen says over (B'Sheim Omro, don't forget!) that R' Chaim Vital writes: He was have a conversation with his Rebbe, the Arizal, and he asked him why the Arizal keeps saying that he (R' Chaim Vital) has a special neshoma. "We, who do not reach the toenails of the previous generation, can't possibly be considered special compared to those that have come before us."

The Arizal answered, because in every generation it is far more difficult to do the right thing, because of the forces arrayed against us, we cannot judge ourselves by our accomplishments. Rather, if we are anywhere near the previous generations in our activities, it means far more than it appears to mean, because the fight is tougher. On that scale, concluded the Arizal, you have a special neshoma.

Concludes R' Leib- in our generation the fight has become nigh on impossible. But if we realize how much we accomplish by simply considering ourselves part of the fight, and a kal v'chomer if we are succeeding to any extent at all- well then, Moshiach should be here any day!!

We are the generation to bring Moshiach, there's no doubt about it. And the proof is what we are up against.

Okay, and now to introduce myself.

I'm twenty(mumble) years old, and I've had this addiction since I was 14. When I was 16 or so, I learned it was bad (although if I had been honest, I knew from the start it wasn't quite right). I made several conscious efforts throughout my teens to stop, without very much success. Emotionally, I went from determined to depressed to ambivalent. About two years ago I started making more efforts on a very basic level- More of the "what" in Yiddishkeit than the "why". This path seemed to work for me- I took my intellectual knowledge I had gained and used it to make a long-term decision to physically remove myself from, well, everything. And all of a sudden, I found I was able to think straight. (I know, this phenomenon is common here.) I made an absolute ton of small steps to keep myself headed in the right direction, and the sum-total of all those has made me a different person. The most fundamental of those changes is a day-to-day, personal, emotional relationship with the Rebono Shel Olam.

I found out about the website a little less than three years ago, and kept it in my inbox until I was ready to work on myself. (It takes a certain emotional maturity to make a commitment, no? I was still a kid.) Started working with some success before I got a chance to start lurking here, but this site seems to be turbocharging my efforts.

I have not finished the handbook- I'm reading it slowly and deliberately. During the zman I spend less time working on this and more time keeping too busy with good things. Use the

Yetzer Hora's ANTI-THINK device against him, and all that.

Hatzlocha to all! Thanks for listening.

I'm posting to get some hugs, basically.

I'm lucky in that I'm sending my computer in for repairs, so I'll have some breathing room. I'm also going to focus on the handbook material, and think about a nusach for Taphsic. There is my parent's K-9 and password computer, so I'll be on, but not more often than daily.

Sigh... Sheva Yipol Tzadik Vokom, eh? The difference between a Tzadik and a Rosha is how many times they get up after falling... So here's for a new count. The old one netted me 4 days. That's about average for a serious try, but not for one I make in the States. So there is that. So, I fell big time today...

Thanks for listening.

Meir

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by E-Tek - 21 Oct 2012 00:34

Hi, everybody!

Only time for a quick update.

I'm still clean!

Day 11.

Eretz Yisrael is on the horizon!

Meir

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by alexeliezer - 21 Oct 2012 15:20

Hi back!

Hatzlocha!

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by jewish jew - 21 Oct 2012 17:08

I am sitting on the side reading and not contributing to this post but I am loving every bit of it.
keep it up chavirim JJ

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by Shteeble - 22 Oct 2012 12:59

kutgw

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by E-Tek - 02 Nov 2012 12:23

Hi everybody!

Still here, still trucking, still clean B"H!

Eretz Yisrael is AWESOME (in the real sense of the word).

Hatzlacha!

Meir

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by Gevura Shebyesod - 02 Nov 2012 13:16

KUTGW and Good Shabbos!

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Hi Meir. Aren't you glad you got out in time?

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by E-Tek - 03 Nov 2012 16:24

Yeah... That.

B"H. Hashem is very good to me.

Day 25.

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by Shteeble - 06 Nov 2012 00:12

good to hear.

enjoy Eretz Yisroel.

kutgwakoecadlmww

hi

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...

Posted by E-Tek - 28 Dec 2012 18:49

I'm finally back for another post... B"H I have no internet life these days. I had a long shmooze here in Eretz HaKodesh with on (former GYE, currently SA) member, which was nice, of course...

So just saying hello! (And gee, what a spiffy forum. Where did all my posts go?)

Hatzlacha, everybody!

Meir

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...
Posted by Dov - 29 Dec 2012 00:15

MEIR!!! and SHTEEBES!!!

Wow, lechem mishna!

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...
Posted by E-Tek - 29 Dec 2012 21:14

Shkoyach, Reb Dov!

And now for another hiatus, hopefully not as long...

Stay sober, everyone, at least for today.

Meir

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...
Posted by Dov - 31 Dec 2012 05:59

Hiatus, shmiatus. Whatever. "Abi gezunt! That's all that matters!", as my mother would say...boy, I always argued with her when she said that, saying that Torah and yiras Shomayim is what's only important and health is just whatever, blah, blah...

But I see now that health is a lot more than just *physical*.

Boy, how she was right!

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...
Posted by E-Tek - 29 Mar 2013 17:13

Thanks for your reply, Dov.

And here is mine.

Yup, it's really been three months. Great to be visiting.

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Re: Not Counting... But Anyway...
Posted by Dov - 08 Apr 2013 21:00

Ciao Meir!

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