

just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started

Posted by strivingfortruth - 18 Oct 2009 16:01

Hi-

this is my first time posting. i am a little nervous as to how this may go. Needles to say i have no idea what to expect, but i need help.

I was in a modern orthodox yeshiah high school, all boys. i messed up with porn pretyt frequently, and i was involved int he usual high school activities. namely, basketball, girls and the like.

I went to Yeshivah in Israeel after high school. everything was unreal i grew a tremendous amount. i was clan for about a year an a half! i felt like no one can ever stop me. i was beyond all the troubles left behind. i did not think i would ever have to look back.

when i got back to America, i started college. the first few months went pretty well. i tripped up here and there but nothing consistent. i still felt like i was growing for the most part. granted, not as much as before. but that was expected

then the summer rolled around. i met a girl and we started dating. we were shomer. things esccalated and we slipped up with with being shomer. this went on for 2 months. finally, i decided i wanted to move on and be alone, because i wanted to grow again. i felt like she was holding me back. we had other reasons to break up, like school, but the main reason was because i wanted to get back to the place i was befre. we both felt this was true for both of us.

after e broke up, we still spoke. i felt fine. i was growing. then a few weeks later, something happened and we cut each other out of our lives. this just happened.

i feel terrible. this is hat i wanted the whole time, yet now that i have it, i feel liek garbage. i feel like i dont want this. i dont want to continue on this teshuva path anymore. i dont feel inspired. this is what i wanted, but now i dont want this to be the realty.

how do cope with this issue? i cant focus on anything anymore and i feel like i might mess up because im feeling depressed. please help

thank you

hope to hear from you soon

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Posted by the.guard - 19 Oct 2009 12:51

while i appreciate the support, i need concrete solutions to help me get past this. i need to convince myself this is what the truth is, and this what im supposed to be doing. i dont want to feel this empty and alone.

Dear striving,

I am the admin of this site. I wish I had more time to post, but I am super busy with everything... I want to share with you something that I wrote to someone else recently. He is also in your situation... In college, frustrated, disillusioned, and unsure if it was worth keeping to a path of teshuvah... I hope it helps a little...

I understand your bitterness and desires. Sexual desire is not fake, but it is fake in relation to the spiritual pleasure that we will have one day for giving up our desires to G-d. It's like comparing the pleasure of a sucking candy to the pleasure of becoming President of the U.S.A. - and even more than that.

The beauty of Judaism, that we take every little mundane aspect of life - and we elevate it to G-dliness by being concerned with Halacha (read: "the will of G-d") in every aspect of our lives. The Halacha tells us how to get up in the morning, which shoe to tie first, how to take a shower, how to eat, etc... There isn't one aspect of a Jew's life that doesn't have myriads of Halachos associated with it. And that is how Hashem wanted it. He put us into lowly bodies on a lowly

world where he is so well hidden, but when we concern ourselves with His will in everything we do, we uplift the world and make it a G-dly place.

There's a story of an Israeli non-religious soldier who once took a hitch with a religious person and was invited for Shabbos. After a nice Shabbos, the religious guy asked the soldier to accept upon himself one small Halacha to remember that there was a G-d of Israel. The soldier agreed and they opened up the Shulchan Aruch and found one of the first Halachos, that a person should put on his right shoe first, but he should tie his left shoe before tying the right. The soldier agreed to accept that upon himself, even though it sounded completely silly. Why should G-d care which shoe we tie first?? Anyway, each day he would put on his army boots that way. One day, a big general was coming to inspect them, and they all hurriedly got dressed and stood at attention outside waiting... Suddenly the soldier remembered that he had put on his boots wrong that morning. He had forgotten to put the right one on first. He asked his commander for permission to quickly go back for something important. The commander thought there was still some time until the general was due to arrive, so he gave him permission. The soldier went back, took off and re-did his boots (army boots take a few moments to tie), and came running back outside only to see the general had arrived already. The general was angry and asked the soldier where he had been and why he was late. The soldier tried to explain and mumbled something about Halacha and tying shoes... The General blew up in a rage and ordered the soldier put into the army prison for a week. Meanwhile, his division was scheduled for a very important helicopter exercise in the coming days. This soldier was in prison and was unable to join the exercise. Unfortunately, there was a terrible accident. See here for details. Two of the helicopters collided in mid-air killing 73 Israeli soldiers. This soldier's entire division was killed.

Needless to say, this soldier became a complete Bal Teshuvah.

This story shows the power of keeping even the most simple and seemingly insignificant halacha!

Chassidic literature often emphasizes how important it is for a Jew to value each and every deed that he does for Hashem, no matter how small. It is brought down from Tzaddikim that more a person values every little thing he does for Hashem - the more precious it is in the eyes of Hashem as well. One great Chassidic Master went as far to say that a Jew should feel that he wouldn't sell the smallest thing that he did for Hashem for all the riches in the world! If we would only be successful to internalize this, we would be the richest people on earth! Think about it. You said "no" to the Yetzer Hara today, or you put on Tefillin. Even though we are not on the spiritual level to feel the "divine light" of the Mitzvah that we did, still, if someone would come and offer us a million dollars to sell him that Mitzva, would we sell it? No! So in a very real sense, every Mitzva is (or should be) more precious to us than winning the lottery. So I ask, how

can we not rejoice when we are winning the lottery every day?!

Please read the daily chizuk e-mails for new chizuk and lots of inspiration every day!

Rejoice that G-d is part of your life, unlike 95% of the world. Rejoice that you can do something for Him.

You will be at the front lines to greet Moshiach when he comes!

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Posted by strivingfortruth - 19 Oct 2009 13:44

thanks so much again for everyones support. it is a major chizuk to know there are people out there who actually care about your growth, even though they dont know who you as well most other people wo care about you do.

today is day one of this journey. i am 6 days clean, but today is the first day im moving on without this girl in my life (for the most part) im excited to iy"h complete this journey.

i find it har to go more than 5 minutes without thinking about what happened, about how far i fell. yes, i understand that teshuva and time will heal these symptoms, but i wanted to let everyone know non the less.

my goal for today is ignore any text or call from her for about a half hour, then reply and say that i am busy. she does not think i am cutting her out of life, so i dont want to just ignore her. this is my plan for today. im hoping as the days go by, we will talk less and less, and i will grow moe and more, while i move on.

thanks guys! i really hope today is a succses for all of you!

-striving

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Posted by TrYiNg - 19 Oct 2009 13:54

today is day one of this journey. i am 6 days clean, but today is the first day im moving on without this girl in my life (for the most part) im excited to iy"h complete this journey.

Keep Going! We're all routing for you!

And WELCOME TO THE GUE FAMILY!

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Posted by the.guard - 19 Oct 2009 13:55

Go to this page www.guardureyes.com/GUE/GUEList/GUEList12.asp and scroll down to Chizuk e-mail #596... Read the story of "X-Addict"... This boy started his journey after his girl friend dumped him and he thought his life was coming crashing down on him!

Often, difficult situations are turning points in our lives. We can either "self-destruct" or use it as

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
But Chodesh
Posted by Habib613 - 19 Oct 2009 14:27

R' Guard is always right.

you'll learn that soon enough.

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Great idea with the texting
Posted by strivingforhim 19 Oct 2009 15:48

reb guard-

thanks for the link. inspiring as usual.

thing is, this guy did not want to break up with his girlfriend.

the weird thing with me is that for many point in our relationship, i knew this wasnt me. i even broke it off myself! but now that this sityuation came up where she is out of life and in another position, for some reason its eating me up alive!

obviously, everyone has their own unique matzuv. but this is mine. i want to know how to overcome this feeling. i want this feeling! and now that i have it, i cant stand it!

by the way, im loving the music you have posted. very moving.

day one is so far so good, bli ain hara!

thanks a million,

-striving

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Posted by yechidah - 19 Oct 2009 16:13

dear striving

just came on to see your arrival here

welcome

as you see this is a very pleasant safe place to be.

you can do it

we are all rooting and cheering for you

hatzlacha and beracha

yechida

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started

Posted by strivingfortruth - 19 Oct 2009 18:13

its around 2PM and baruch hashem i have not been tested to reach my goal for the day..yet. i guess hashem wanted the first day to be easy.

i just wanted to share with you guys a self-generated quote that i made for myself, both as a reminder and as some sort of inspiration.

please tell me what you guys think..is it a little too intense? im really not trying to go overboard here.

here it is:

SORRY I CANT TALK NOW: I HAVE A G-D TO SERVE, PEOPLE TO IMPRESS,
EXPECTATIONS TO MEET, AND OTHERS WAITING TO BE PROOVEN WRONG.

thanks

-striving

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Posted by Ineedhelp!! - 19 Oct 2009 18:28

Hey strivingfortruth,

I hope this day is a the first day in your new life of being lust free. Your quote sounds beautifull, but theres no need to impress other people. You are an Eved Hashem and nothing else. The first step in our process is to realize we are powerless and everyhting is in the hands of the Ribono Shel Olam. I do love your attitude, its the samething ive been doing and has worked for me. I say to the Yetzer Hara: "Um, I'm not ready today how about you come back tomorrow and we'll talk then".

-INH

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started

Posted by strivingfortruth - 19 Oct 2009 18:47

wow that sounds like a great attitude to have. i understand what you mean about the quote, it was more of a spur of the moment type thing when i wrote it down.

but thanks for for your help.

ill let u know how the day progresses.

-striving

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started

Posted by strivingfortruth - 19 Oct 2009 21:02

its 5:00 PM and i now have my first test. i will wait until 5:30 and declare myself victorious.

heres to day one

-striving

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started

Posted by habib613 - 19 Oct 2009 21:16

i have learned from people on this site that talking to the YH is very very dangerous.

i still do it sometimes, but i try to make sure that after i yell at him i slam the door in his face.

and good job on a successful day ;D

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Posted by strivingfortruth - 20 Oct 2009 04:20

one full day has gone by. i passed the goal i set for myself today.

my thoughts are still hard to bear. im still having trouble not thinking about everything that happened.

how much longer is this going to bug me? its just too much. i wanna forget and just move on.
bottom line. does this mean i should cut her off completely? or do i just limit the talking?

please help, im not sure what my next move here is.

thanks guys,

-striving

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Re: just took a step forward....but feel worse than when i started
Posted by Kedusha - 20 Oct 2009 04:32

Dear Striving,

I strongly suggest that you only begin dating when you are ready for marriage. You'll save yourself from a roller coaster of emotional swings that will serve no purpose in the long run, if at all.

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