

The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by AvigdorBenYisroel - 03 Jan 2017 22:13

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Topic: Middos

The very first statement in Even Sheleima (likutim from the Vilna Gaon) asserts, "The entire service of Hashem depends on improving the character traits".

We must take working on our middos very seriously. It's not enough to read through Mesillas Yeshorim! Someone once asked Rabbi Miller, "How many times a year should a serious yeshiva bachur finish Mesillas Yeshorim?" The rav answered, it doesn't matter how many times he goes through it, the main thing is that it should go through him!

Working on our Middos is not something we do by relaxing on the couch with a light "self-help" book. We must be ready to invest in it.

It is the most important business in our life!

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by AvigdorBenYisroel - 04 Jan 2017 23:20

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Topic: Middos

The Gra Continues...

The main purpose of a man's life is **always** to strengthen himself, to break his character.

Otherwise, why does he need life?!

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by AvigdorBenYisroel - 05 Jan 2017 02:54

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Topic: Mussar

You have to learn Mesillas Yeshorim with the Rosh's peirush.

You're wondering, how could there be a perush from the Rosh on an acharon?

I mean your own Rosh! Use your head!

Some people learn mussar as if they were reading through a book, and they find it interesting. Yup, now he's describing this fellow, now he's talking about him, I'm ok baruch Hashem.

When you learn Mussar, you haave to want to see yourself in the pages, you have to want to find your sins.

Some people make a seder in Mussar, "For ten minutes I'll read this sefer" and then they think, "Yeah, he brings some nice maamorim, nothing major, I can write something like this too."

What a waste of ten minutes!

You have to study each word of our Mussar masters!

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by AvigdorBenYisroel - 06 Jan 2017 01:37

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Topic: Bechira Aveiros/Growing from addiction

The Chovos halvavos says that sometimes a person must do an averah, because the benefits he will subsequently gain, far outweigh the negative. Sometimes the tshuva for the averah is very strong and it brings a person to a level of humility he would never gain otherwise. And the person becomes much closer to Hashem as a result of the averah.

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Markz - 06 Jan 2017 01:55

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Rabbi Avigdor jr, do you mind if I share on this groundbreaking thread, some more Rabbi Miller thoughts which are interspersed on the forums and are great Chizuk too?

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Shlomo24 - 06 Jan 2017 02:55

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I'm confused. What's the tachlis of this thread? (Please don't answer, Mark).

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by AvigdorBenYisroel - 06 Jan 2017 03:18

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[Markz wrote on 06 Jan 2017 01:55:](#)

Rabbi Avigdor jr, do you mind if I share on this groundbreaking thread, some more Rabbi Miller thoughts which are interspersed on the forums and are great Chizuk too?

Aderraba! go ahead!

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Markz - 06 Jan 2017 03:34

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**#1) Don't focus on guard your eyes**

quote="battleworn" post=1282 date=122908566 catid=1]1)R' Avigdor Miller zt'l said that shmiras einayim is pointless, if you are not also guarding your thoughts![/quote]

Short and sweet - it applies to me very much so

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Markz - 06 Jan 2017 03:37

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#1) **Guard** your mind more than **your eyes**

??? ????? ????? ???

[battleworn wrote:](#)

R' Avigdor Miller zt'l said that shmiras einayim is pointless, if you are not also guarding your thoughts!

Short and sweet - it applies to me very much so

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Markz - 06 Jan 2017 04:08

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[Shlomo24 wrote:](#)

I'm confused. What's the tachlis of this thread? (Please don't answer, Mark).

My friend Shlomo I think the man answered it in his introduction [here](#)

Can I get a minus karma now for disobedience please

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Shlomo24 - 06 Jan 2017 05:05

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But it is going to be related to addiction or whatever? So far it just seems like vertlach, which is nice, but why GYE?

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Yosef Tikun HaYesod - 06 Jan 2017 14:11

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[AvigdorBenYisroel wrote on 06 Jan 2017 01:37:](#)

Topic: Bechira Aveiros/Growing from addiction

The Chovos halvavos says that sometimes a person must do an averah, because the benefits he will subsequently gain, far outweigh the negative. Sometimes the tshuva for the averah is very strong and it brings a person to a level of humility he would never gain otherwise. And the person becomes much closer to Hashem as a result of the averah.

What? Explain!

We must NEVER do aveiras.

"I'll sin and do teshuva" is not a valid option, for anyone...

even if a Navi told him he will ultimately grow closer to HaShem as a result.

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Markz - 06 Jan 2017 14:24

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[Yosef Tikun HaYesod wrote on 06 Jan 2017 14:11:](#)

[AvigdorBenYisroel wrote on 06 Jan 2017 01:37:](#)

Topic: Bechira Aveiros/Growing from addiction

The Chovos halvavos says that sometimes a person must do an averah, because the benefits he will subsequently gain, far outweigh the negative. Sometimes the tshuva for the averah is very strong and it brings a person to a level of humility he would never gain otherwise. And the person becomes much closer to Hashem as a result of the averah.

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R' Avigdor jr, can you please give us the reference Chovos halvavos Chapter and verse

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by Markz - 06 Jan 2017 14:26

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[jack wrote on 29 Dec 2008 13:51:](#)

you said you hope you dont have such urges after 90 days?

you will have urges even into your old age! i heard a story of **rabbi avigdor miller, zt'l**.

he was in the hospital and wanted a male nurse.the doctors said to him 'but you're an old man already!' he replied 'yes, but i dont want to become young again!'

and this is from a godol b'torah. i dont know who you are, after all, you're anonymous, but maybe rabbi miller was greater than you, just maybe.and HE was worried about hirhurim! jack

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Re: The Rabbi Miller Thread

Posted by AvigdorBenYisroel - 06 Jan 2017 18:31

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[Yosef Tikun HaYesod wrote on 06 Jan 2017 14:11:](#)

What? Explain!

We must NEVER do aveiras.

"I'll sin and do teshuva" is not a valid option, for anyone...

even if a Navi told him he will ultimately grow closer to HaShem as a result.

Mark, I can't give you the reference, I never saw it in Chovos Halvavos myself (yet), But I heard it from Rabbi Miller. And to answer Yosef:

We must never do aveiros.

However, the Chovos Halvavos is noting that sometimes, Hashem causes us to sin, whether we like it or not. Ay, Kasha yediah bechira, nu nu. Not the first time someone's asking the kasha, and not the last.

But the Chovos Halvavos is saying, that looking back we sometimes see that people grow from their teshuva, and it "paid" for Hashem that they did the aveira. You can disagree with the Chovos Halvavos if you want. I don't care either way.

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