

kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 09 May 2011 07:34

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I'm very tired right now. It's worth saying anyway (why wait!?). I have BH years of sobriety, happy marriage and kids, normal daily struggles etc.. I find that we see CLEARLY on these blogs that being 'religious' doesn't 'save' anyone. I've learned to see ALL yidden completely equal. I'm 'religious' (Shomer Shabbos, beard, tefilin etc), but once a week, I DAVKA, go visit a secular jew on my lunch break. He doesn't care about my lusts at all! He thinks it's just normal life... BECAUSE IT IS! He appreciates that I'm honest with him and that I hold myself to a 'higher standard' by staying committed to my wife BH. Our entire relationship started when I asked if he's jewish. He said 'yes' (he really is) and I've been seeing him 1/2 hour a week over a year so far. We talk about jusaism, he plans to come for Shabbos. I walk in to his office and dance and sing some chassidik melodies. He dances with me. The 'highlight' of his week is when I come' he tells me. I got him matza for pesach. I mention this because instead of just thinking how 'bad' we are here (which is TOALLY A LIE) we can actually do THE BEST 12TH STEP IN THE WORLD by (gently and patiently)sharing our glorious heritage with our brothers who (for so many, many reasons; the war etc..) 'just don't know' the greatness of yiddishkeit. And if YOU don't know the greatness of yiddishkeit, well,.. Try it! Watching another yid get inspired to Hashem has GREATLY helped my OWN sobriety and judaism together these past few years. Even on my 'tired/down/confused days, I visit him. He shouldn't miss out, just 'cause I'm 'out of it'.. I think one of the reasons we suffer with this here on GYE is because it teaches us that "yes! All yidden are equal". By us connecting here, and with yidden everywhere, gives Hashem the greatest nachas as a father who sees the children who have what to offer, helping their siblings who 'don't know their way around'. I have a handful of connections like this, and BH we seen our 7 and 8 year old children teaching brochas to 'grown adults'. I share my human desires and passions with these 'fry' jews (but really, with a yetzer hara like mine, exactly who is the 'fry' one here???), and we all learn to grow, each on his own level, closer to Hashem.. So there! That's 3:30 in the AM for you. And BH I plan to be up @ 6 for a shiur and another blessed day of sobriety, family, work, Torah, Tefila, responsibility, and most importantly: phone calls and friends!

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by luuustig - 30 May 2011 13:56

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gevaldiga vort. thats so true. But being in a good avira certainly helps me.... The truth is i find that the "state" im in (excuse pun) isnt nearly as important as the "state" of mind im in. Im a real statesman, haaa.

I hope you're pain subsides soon.

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by lamAdam - 30 May 2011 16:58

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Puns to the max! Nice work, luuu.

As much as I run from this fact all the time, pain exists in order to be felt. Sounds like you're feeling it -- and we're all here to help you move through it when you're ready! Chazak v'ematz.

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 30 May 2011 21:58

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Yep. We all here to help :-)

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 31 May 2011 03:43

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My gosh! Sometimes my headache is so big... U'll need a tylenol just by coming within 3 feet of me..

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 31 May 2011 12:05

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Sobriety is a gift. A few days ago someone said to me "Hey!, you really look like your in a good mood today!" :-).....

"Don't worry", I replied. "I'll get over it"

The heat + schedules + city life = big constant headache...

Aint my cup of tea...

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 31 May 2011 15:44

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Simply sharing right now, just not to have machshava zaras (MZ's).. As they want to FLOOD into me on these hot tiring days with many things remainging to be seen.. Tuition for next year, summer camp, family vacation, approval from work etc.. And many more.. Hashem help my head stay as pure as possible

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 01 Jun 2011 01:00

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I am in GYEA gye anonymous.. I'm BH addicted to GYE

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 01 Jun 2011 02:12

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BH 2 struggling boys from frum homes put on tefilin today.. All it took was a bit of smiles and care (Tonight is the yartziet of Shmuel ha'navi. Chidah writes that ever since the churban Shmuel has given up his place in gan eden ha'elyion to 'come down' to the lower gan eden to express his efforts in mourning. So to I was more than happy to 'go down' out of my comfortable seat to interact with these young men and bring some more yiddeshe light where there wasn't too much.) One of the boys is even the nephew of the rabbi in this AMAZING(!!!!) Shavuos story [www.fjc.ru/news/newsArticle.asp?AID=904005](http://www.fjc.ru/news/newsArticle.asp?AID=904005).

I'm convinced that these efforts add even small bits of zechusim to help stay connected to H' even when the outer and inner darkness is MASSIVE. Also today I was part of a group to help raise \$ for a newly BT couple have a kosher kesuba w/a rov on a bes din.. BH not too much \$\$\$\$. Instead of chasing the passions of the world, I channeled the passion (the very same passion) to help another. Good night.

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 01 Jun 2011 08:58

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So here I am: with my wife's happy agreement I fell asleep @ 10 (very early for me) woke up @ 2:30 am, finished learning (I am alone now w/access to web... What a brocha H' helps me to choose learning!) And now it's 4:45 am. May'oyvay t'chak'maynee (from my enemies I became smart)(tehilim 119 yom 26 b'chodesh) .. I used to keep insane hours In my destructive days... The flip side is learning to use that trait with loved ones as I sometimes need to 'keep crazy hours' in kedusha..

Davka now, it's quiet, no kids to chase, no phones insanely ringing, I even get to clean parts of the house now too :-)...

The levi'I'm carried the mishkan in a midbar, all around a deathly midbar. They didn't start until they were at least 30 years old...

Even if we were in the worst inner or outer midbar up until now, it doesn't matter at all! We have Hashem's blessings to be holy not only for ourselves but to even have full confidence as yidden as we walk, full of kedusha, even in a deathly midbar... And even more; wherever the yidden went in the midbar, beautiful fruit trees and springs of living sweet waters grew!(Bamidbar Rabba)

I'm not excited that the world looks like a midbar of death..I don't care at all..

With Hashem's blessings it just means it's time to make another call, another prayer, another

assistance to another friend, or even another smile to another stranger, and slowly a beautiful world is created for all.

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 02 Jun 2011 02:00

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Let's make no mistake here: on 'auto pilot' just going with the flow, I am ONE STEADY  
STREAM OF CONSTANT MACHSHVAS ZORAS!

The only way I've learned to 'be good' is through choosing constant interaction (in the mind,  
heart and hands) with Hashem Himself: very often as He is found in other people..

It's not all the time a 'glorious' experience...

It is constant though.. And includes ALL of my speaking, laughing, hugging, singing, learning,  
praying, screaming, kicking and crying..

It's a very real life.. BH

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by luuustig - 02 Jun 2011 02:54

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Beautiful, I love your posts, They are full of positive energy, Keep em coming.

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 02 Jun 2011 20:14

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Hey! You! Yes you!

Headaches, stress, confusion and tension are still ZERO EXCUSE to act out!  
Sobriety/shmayety!! I guarantee my headaches are as big as anyone's right now!..

Acting out is still out of the question!!

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv  
Posted by Serene smile - 03 Jun 2011 08:31

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Here's one unquestionable fact I have zero doubt about whatsoever:

Life is unimaginably much, much better than we think it is.

Even in my best moments: it's still beyond words, better than that.

And it's working in our favor.. All the time.

"Ach le'lokim domi nafshi"

"L'cha dumiya s'hilah"

With A deep breath with a quiet, inner resolve..

A good deed done with joy and faith that the blessed Al-Mighty is supporting and encouraging you with love..

And most especially with endlessly positive thoughts,..

We access this 'reality' beyond our limited human minds.

The greatest blessings are always, at every moment, readily available.

It'll only help us by actively attempting to 'let them in' and not 'spoil' them.

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Re: kiruv, outreach, kiruv

Posted by Serene smile - 03 Jun 2011 18:01

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One benefit of B'tachon "reduction of aggravation felt in business: if products don't sell. Or you can't collect money, or if one becomes sick. For one is sure that the Creator, may he be blessed, arranges his affairs and chooses what is for his good better than he (the yid) himself can. As it says "ach lay'lokim domi nafshi"

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