Good intentions Posted by Machshovo Tova - 19 Apr 2012 21:34

Hi everybody,

After almost 6 months of observing this forum as a guest, I finally decided to introduce myself (...painfully shy - even in anonimity). I'm not a youngster - over 40 years on the roller coaster; so obviously my addiction started long before the internet. Like many of you, I've tried and failed over and over, but B"H never gave up. Until finally Hashem helped me discover GYE. I had a good streak of 168 days which ended this week (still not ready to say "f-e-I-I"). I am starting again be"H. The following is my 3-point plan, based on what I learned on this forum.

I am using a Mishne in Pirkei Avos to remember these 3 points:

Im ein ani li mi li - I must avoid all forms of lustful images and thoughts at all times.

Uchshe'ani le'atzmi moh ani - I must surrender my lust to Hashem and pray and ask for his help.

Ve'im lo achshav eimosai - Forget about yesterday or tomorrow - one day at a time.

Looking forward to meet you

MT

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Re: Good intentions Posted by Gevura Shebyesod - 28 May 2014 23:53 ====

Re: Good intentions Posted by Machshovo Tova - 29 May 2014 00:41

Gevura Shebyesod wrote:

I thought MT was for Monstuh Truck plates

In my part of town there are no monstuhs and no trucks, only people and horses. By us the expression goes: "Keep horsin' around!" Or as Rabbi Dr. Abraham Twersky writes in his book (Generation to Generation), his father used to always say to the children, "Lebedig kinderlach, lebedig!"

Hatzlacha

MT

Re: Good intentions Posted by Machshovo Tova - 30 May 2014 18:46

A Great Strategy Against the YH

There is a piece in Mesilas Yeshorim (chapter 13) that relates to this week's parsha and is worth repeating:

Our sages teach us regarding lust, that one who sees a degraded Sotah should stay away from wine. Note that this is a great strategy for a person, so that he may save himself from his evil inclination. For when one is in the throes of the sin, it is difficult for him to control and subdue his desires. Therefore, when he is still far from the sin he needs to continue keeping himself at a safe distance. This way, it will be harder for the YH to get him close to the sinful act.

Hatzlacha / Shabbat Shalom / Gut Chodesh

MT

Re: Good intentions Posted by cordnoy - 30 May 2014 19:38

and this is even after he sees the sotah 'blow up'!

It is truly amazin' the powers of lust!

b'hatzlachah

Re: Good intentions Posted by Pidaini - 01 Jun 2014 08:13

I saw a very similar thing in Sifsei Kohein who brings down the Medrash Rabbah (Shemos, parsha 16, 2)

(2) ???? ??? ???? ???? ?? ???? ?

Don't have time to translate now, sorry.

Re: Good intentions Posted by Machshovo Tova - 01 Jun 2014 17:45

Thanks Pidaini for that 'tzushtel'. Interestingly, the Mesilas Yeshorim also brings that Medrash in an earlier chapter (ch. 11) and he explains that from here we see that in the Parsha of Sotah the torah is actually teaching us what to do in other areas such as lust - to make fences and to keep our distance.

Hatzlacha

MT

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Re: Good intentions Posted by shivisi - 02 Jun 2014 08:40

On Shabbos I was discussing this Maamar Chazal with someone,

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and we realized that each of us had understood the poshute' meaning of it in a different way.

The person I was speaking with (my son in law) said that he had always thought it meant, that if a person sees a woman who was mezane', he should be concerned that this may have a negative affect on him, and bring him to lessen his zehirus from ervah and avizrayhu D'arayos, similar to what the Chofetz Chaim says that when a person sees chilul shabbos he should be mechazek himself in shmiras shabbos because it causes a rifyon in hi feelings of shmiras shabbos,

Probably both explanations are true, I was just wondering which is the more poshet pshat???

Re: Good intentions Posted by dd - 05 Jun 2014 23:07

shvisi, i think both of those can be considered pshat,

i want to shear just another vort on the matter from the rebbe r' mendelah of vitepsk zy"a

really if someone saw already what happens when a lady is mezaneh he realized already to keep away from problems so why does he need to keep away from wine? but if someone learns

something and doesnt put it into actions he missed the boat so chazal say if you did see a sotah then make sure to make something out of what you learnt so thats why yazir atzmoe min hayayin.

just felt it can be of use to the members that everything we learn needs to be put into actions.

Re: Good intentions Posted by Machshovo Tova - 03 Sep 2014 19:10

Turning our curse into a blessing

In this week's Parsha we find that Hashem turned Bilaam's curse into a blessing because Hashem loves us. Perhaps we can say pshat, that this refers to the great nisayon of lust which Bilaam brought upon us. This is indeed a great curse. But Hashem teaches us that we can turn this into a blessing by using it as a springboard to get closer to Him.

Hatzlacha

ΜT

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Re: Good intentions Posted by Pidaini - 04 Sep 2014 10:20

Where do you live, Zeidi? Or did you not put on your reading glasses before looking at the calender? Or were you hearing aids not working when they announced the parsha this week?

Re: Good intentions Posted by cordnoy - 04 Sep 2014 17:39

Pidaini wrote:

Where do you live, Zeidi? Or did you not put on your reading glasses before looking at the calender? Or were you hearing aids not working when they announced the parsha this week?

From one Zaidy protectin' another Zaidy....

Pidaini, please take your comments back.

Zaidy's eyes and ears are workin' just fine.

Re: Good intentions Posted by Machshovo Tova - 04 Sep 2014 18:33

Re: Good intentions Posted by cordnoy - 04 Sep 2014 18:45

You're nicer than me; I was gonna make 'em be maavir sedra first.

===== ==== Re: Good intentions Posted by Pidaini - 04 Sep 2014 20:14
