From tragedy to redemption
Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 08 Jan 2015 10:00

I am a middle aged person, highly talented, but leider unaccomplished. I seem to have some strengths but not the strength and the resolve to do what it takes to use my talents to be what I can be. I have had lot's of tzaros in my life which have gotten the better of me and eventually removed me from my learning and my general Ruchnius success. I was not omed benisoyon. I am ashamed of myself. On the outside I still seem like a basically Choshever person but nobody knows what I really am. When I was a Bochur and a young yungerman, everybody was sure I would turn out to be one of the Gedolim. That hasn't happened(yet). I would never tell anyone of my worst failings, but this failing of me not succeeding to fulfill my potential is known. I guess people may have long ago forgotten what was supposed to become of me but looking at me now they see nothing but an empty wasted soul. I haven't forgotten the original plan and somewhere deep down I still hope Hashem will give me back my neshama. My Boosha is maybe a good thing in a way because it keeps things from getting more out of hand. But it makes it impossible for me to get the support and encouragement that might help me do what I should. Maybe I could get the support here. I am middle aged but my mind knows that it isn't too late. I need my heart to know it too.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 07 Aug 2015 16:46

I think that Newaction's ideas are great but they will work ONLY if he has a commitment to either a group or sponsor or the like which will create constant immersion in the new way of life. Otherwise the aitzos are like a musar vaad. He has this and he does this, but he refuses to say that THAT is really the key to his recovery - the fact that he is LIVING in recovery. I'm sure Dov would agree that if someone reads the entire big book and understands the concepts but doesn't join some sort of group, just the knowledge won't do the trick. I am saying this berabim on the forum because I think it is of utmost importance to everyone.

The hope that I have that my new approach might work isn't only because I found it in a Torah source, but because it is done with accountability to another person and to the program. I think that this is a very important aspect of any program that works, including 12 steps.

Chevra please understand then point that I am making because I think it is crucial.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 07 Aug 2015 16:56

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serenity wrote**:**

I'm so glad that I found a simple program that has kept me clean from Z"L since October 19, 2014.

Searching for the solution in Torah didn't work for me for 40 years. I agree that the solution is in Torah, but I'm just probably just not smart enough to figure it out.

I don't think the problem is that Torah solutions didn't work for you, but because you missed some crucial aspects of those solutions, as I have been saying here with great fervor. Doing it with a change of lifestyle which includes

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accountability,

long term commitment,

commitment to another person or a group of people.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by shlomo613 - 07 Aug 2015 16:58

Hashiva,

I've just caught up on about the lat month of posts on this thread. You are really trying to figure out something important and I really relate to what you're doing and also what you're aiming for.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 07 Aug 2015 19:51

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shlomo613 wrote**:**

Hashiva,

I've just caught up on about the lat month of posts on this thread. You are really trying to figure out something important and I really relate to what you're doing and also what you're aiming for.

Thank you for understanding and appreciating. I have been searching this vehemently and have even been tremendously pained by it. You can find my searching comments recently in other threads here as well, and before that I was just speechless and not posting anything because I felt that I really don't have a grasp on things at all and have nothing of merit to say. I hope now that I am heading in the right direction.

I am sharing in order to give others what I have come to so far, and in order for others to build on this idea so that we can all build upon and grow from one another

B'SIYATA D'SHMAYA!!!

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by serenity - 07 Aug 2015 22:35

As I said, I'm just a simple person and your probably right, I just missed finding the solution in Torah. Once again, that's why I'm glad there is a simple program available for plain folks like me.

I just want to point out, and this isn't coming from me but from someone a lot smarter, one of the reasons Torah doesn't work for people is because it is very hard or impossible for them to separate their ego from their avodah and learning. So, in addition to the requirements you listed above, you may need to add that. Personally I couldn't put my ego aside until I humbled myself enough to walk into a room filled with average people who were unknown to me and admitted who I really am.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by newaction - 08 Aug 2015 22:33

Hashivalisesonyishecho wrote**:**

I think that Newaction's ideas are great but they will work ONLY if he has a commitment to either a group or sponsor or the like which will create constant immersion in the new way of life. Otherwise the aitzos are like a musar vaad. He has this and he does this, but he refuses to say that THAT is really the key to his recovery - the fact that he is LIVING in recovery. I'm sure Dov would agree that if someone reads the entire big book and understands the concepts but doesn't join some sort of group, just the knowledge won't do the trick. I am saying this berabim on the forum because I think it is of utmost importance to everyone.

The hope that I have that my new approach might work isn't only because I found it in a Torah source, but because it is done with accountability to another person and to the program. I think that this is a very important aspect of any program that works, including 12 steps.

Chevra please understand then point that I am making because I think it is crucial.

My dear Hashiva if you found a way or THE way for your recovery , I would be more than glad really. Just to remind you that i am still struggling,especially in my relationships; and of course with that stupid attraction women have on my person. The attraction is always here in a relentlessly way. Sometimes it is easier,sometimes it feels like an electric powered magnet and sometimes i feel i am riding on a rodeo horse about to throw me off the saddle and i have to hold dearly on to it. My north is, looking at women is not a luxury i can have.Just like the first sip for the alcoholic.The first sip becomes a slip becomes a fall. I give looking at women the same gravity as a full fledged fall.This is me according to my books , and its a good advise to anyone involved in this struggle. Hatzlacha in your journey. Keep On Trucking.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by newaction - 08 Aug 2015 22:58

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serenity wrote**:**

I just want to point out, and this isn't coming from me but from someone a lot smarter, one of the reasons Torah doesn't work for people is because it is very hard or impossible for them to separate their ego from their avodah and learning.

Apparently this does not make sense. We have learned that Tora is the tavlin against the Yetzer hara. But this explains why after a great hour of learning mishna or gemara after saying tikun Chatzos in the night, suddenly the urges by me would start going wild wild. Somebody real experienced explained to me what serenity wrote.Imagine the mess we are in . The ????? is ???? ?????, oy if we do not learn torah , oy if we do learn torah. That is why it is vital for us to be spiritually fit and do not stop our soul-work outs. So when we do learn Torah it will enhance our spirituality and not the opposite.It is said Torah is like water to seeds and makes them grow. Whether the seeds are bad or good its up to you.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by serenity - 09 Aug 2015 03:20

I'm not sure if you made an error in your first sentence.

I just want to add that I'm not saying that no one can separate their ego from their learning and avodah. I'm specifically talking something someone who has been acting out for years while being frum. People like us end up confusing our ego-worship for avodas Hashem. To quote a friend "we who were frum all along and still failing always ended up inviting Hashem right into our ego-worship that we label 'avodas Hashem".

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by peloni almoni - 09 Aug 2015 03:29

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serenity wrote**:**

one of the reasons Torah doesn't work for people is because it is very hard or impossible for them to separate their ego from their avodah and learning.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by serenity - 09 Aug 2015 04:15

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peloni, I think I explained a little more later in my later comment. More than the explanation, what is important is that we are talking about the actual experience of many people.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 09 Aug 2015 05:23

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serenity wrote**:**

I just want to point out, and this isn't coming from me but from someone a lot smarter, one of the reasons Torah doesn't work for people is because it is very hard or impossible for them to separate their ego from their avodah and learning. So, in addition to the requirements you listed above, you may need to add that. Personally I couldn't put my ego aside until I humbled myself enough to walk into a room filled with average people who were unknown to me and admitted who I really am.

Bingo! That's exactly what I am saying. The most important part of what you are doing is the fact that you are putting your ego aside and admitting your issues to others. That's also what I am doing by telling a chaver my every shortcoming as it comes up in my daily life, and not hiding anything from him out of shame. This is what The Rebbe Reb Meilach says in the tzetel katan that we need to do. Have you heard from people who tried this that it doesn't work? It is humbling and it hopefully works.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by peloni almoni - 09 Aug 2015 05:32

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serenity wrote**:**

peloni, I think I explained a little more later in my later comment. More than the explanation, what is important is that we are talking about the actual experience of many people.

reb yakov, i am asking pashut pshat after reading both of your last posts. i came accross this idea several times in the past few days, and i cannot understand it AT ALL. what does it mean to do avodas hashem for your own ego and drag hashem into it? what does ego worship look like, and what are the ramifications of it in terms of day to day life? any link to any post or further

birur would be appreciated.

once its becoming a discussion somehow on this thread, i thought it may be a chance to ask for some elucidation.

when i joined gye just over a year ago, the first thing i listened to was a shiur by RAJT which i will never forget. he ased why learning torah and mussar is not enough and why you need AA and the 12 steps. he said that an alcoholic leaves an AA meeting thinking if i take even one drink, i will die. but when u learn mussar, you dont think this bad midda youre learning about will kill you. plain and simple, it does not have the same effect when u walk away from a session. he also said that perhaps ideally it should not be this way ...

dont know if this is exactly what ur talking about, but this made a lot of sense to me.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by newaction - 09 Aug 2015 05:39

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serenity wrote**:**

I'm not sure if you made an error in your first sentence.

I just want to add that I'm not saying that no one can separate their ego from their learning and avodah. I'm specifically talking something someone who has been acting out for years while being frum. People like us end up confusing our ego-worship for avodas Hashem. To quote a friend "we who were frum all along and still failing always ended up inviting Hashem right into our ego-worship that we label 'avodas Hashem".

No mistake . I thought apparently means ??????. Meaning at first glance.But your statement remains correct.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 09 Aug 2015 06:23

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Disclaimer

Someone after reading my posts was under the impression that I profess to have knowledge of the 12 step program, which is in fact not the case. So In order not to be misleading to anyone I find it correct to disclose that I don't know the 12 steps.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption
Posted by newaction - 09 Aug 2015 06:35

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So we hereby are encouraging you to start delving in these 12 steps ????? ???.

You can start by Having the AA book at hand and joining (even just to listen) one of the three telephone conferences daily about the subject. One of them is Duvid Chaim's at 12:00 noon NY time. And there are another two at different times in the day. They start and finish the AA book twice a year.

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