

Free Choice?!!

Posted by stillgoing - 28 Apr 2015 23:01

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Hello. I'm new here, and I was going through the handbook and I got a little bit stuck on the part about free choice. it seems from there (page 79 in case you haven't memorized it yet:) ) that when we have a huge urge to act-out, we almost don't have bechira. But in that case then what we did was not a sin, since we had no free choice about it. When my two year old is alone at the table with a piece of gooey cake and he grabs it, I don't punish him for that since I know that he has no free choice, but MZ'L *is* a huge sin. Maybe someone can help me understand this.

Thanks.

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Re: Free Choice?!!

Posted by shlomo613 - 05 Jun 2015 02:15

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Lol

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Re:i flubbed my Free Choice.

Posted by hwhap@gmx.com - 05 Jun 2015 02:25

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[stillgoing wrote:](#)

But what can I do right now to relieve some of the pressure without the pot exploding.

Why are you angry? Are you thinking that something or someone should be different than what they are?

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Re: Free Choice?!!

Posted by Gevura Shebyesod - 05 Jun 2015 03:55

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[skeptical wrote:](#)

**Guard Your Ears!**

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Re: Free Choice?!!  
Posted by stillgoing - 07 Jun 2015 15:06

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**Gevura Shebyesod**

Nice! I've been wanting to do that too. Maybe we can make a band  
You seem skeptical of our musical talent

Maybe we can get Zemmy to sing Zemiros.

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Re:i flubbed my Free Choice.  
Posted by stillgoing - 07 Jun 2015 15:07

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[hwhap@gmx.com](mailto:hwhap@gmx.com)

Why are you angry? Are you thinking that something or someone should be different than what they are?

Isn't that why people get angry?

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Re: Free Choice?!!  
Posted by stillgoing - 07 Jun 2015 16:10

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Re: Free Choice?!!  
Posted by stillgoing - 07 Jun 2015 16:10

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Re:i flubbed my Free Choice.  
Posted by hwhap@gmx.com - 07 Jun 2015 16:48

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[stillgoing wrote:](#)

[hwhap@gmx.com](mailto:hwhap@gmx.com)

Why are you angry? Are you thinking that something or someone should be different than what they are?

Isn't that why people get angry?

I think so. I was trying to understand specifically what it was.

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Re: Free Choice?!!

Posted by stillgoing - 08 Jun 2015 20:41

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So last week (like I posted on another thread) I found myself in front of an unfiltered computer. I posted calling for help b/c I "knew" that I would fall for this new trick. Lots of people gave good ideas but I was either too weak/lazy or deep deep down wanted the computer unfiltered, so I did nothing.

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Re: Free Choice?!!

Posted by stillgoing - 08 Jun 2015 20:42

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**Gibbor120**

the "main" bechira we have is to avoid triggering situations in the first place.

**serenity**

We have a choice not to walk down that road, that is why we are responsible even when we don't have bechirah. Choose the road of happy destiny chaver.

**thebigX90**

we have bechira before we started looking @ inappropriate material. However, once we've already started, the yetzer hara gets us to think that all is lost & we are hopeless

Today, I drove past the building when I had no need to. I pulled into the parking lot (while my mind was saying "KEEP DRIVING!!") The building was empty (sunday). Then I told my annoying conscience "do me a favor, go wait outside for me, ok?" It mostly listened. Getting the

computer set up was quick. I got a "PM from Hashem" when I found the computer to be password protected. I almost felt like logging on here to ask guys how to get around it.(HA) I managed to figure it out anyway. I've been clean for 40+ days B"H, Almost my longest streak since I was A little kid. My heard was beating faster. A few clicks later and..... Hashem said "Test Over". Like by akaidas Yitzchak,, at the last second, Hashem stopped Avrohom, He stopped me, and took away the nesoyon because the computer already had a filter installed!! (one of) The only difference is, that Avrohom passed the test, while I feel that I failed it! Like it's quoted above, if the real bechira is before it is staring us in the face, then my bechira was to never have come to this building to begin with. I feel that I failed when I had a choice, and Hashem, in His infinite love saved me when I no longer had a choice. Like a little kid who runs into the street, and his parent grabbes him out before a car comes, the kid should still be punished.

No?

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Re: Free Choice?!!  
Posted by yiraishamaim - 08 Jun 2015 21:06

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Tests have different levels. Success is not measured by all or nothing. Of course, had you not gone in the first place it would have been better but you had a choice to go somewhere else to find P\_\_\_\_\_ once the "building" idea did not pan out.

Let me ask you wasn't there a time you would have gone to another place?

YOU DID NOT.-should I say it again -YOU DID NOT

you're still a winner. You still have an impressive streak of over 40 days.

Keep smiling and keep truckin' - Keep adding another day to your streak - one day at a time

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Re: Free Choice?!!

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Posted by hwhap@gmx.com - 08 Jun 2015 21:37

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I look at it this way: a fence may be indispensable, but it cuts both ways in a sense. You designed your new life around filters. You depend on them now. So without a filter you should expect to choose porn. But the reason it's a sound fence is that filters are readily available. Maybe you can take some action so that this cannot easily happen again. You know what's feasible in your case.

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Re: Free Choice?!!

Posted by TheBigX90 - 08 Jun 2015 23:44

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I agree with what both hwhap & yiraishamayim said, that a)you did have a slight fall. b) try to find a way where the filters aren't the only level of protection. On the other hand, I don't think you should be too harsh on yourself (I'm talking to myself @ the same time since I find myself many times being too harsh on myself). In addition be thankful that Hashem's there with you & He didn't let you fall. In general the way I try to look at these situations(not just in lust addiction), is, no harm no foul.acknowledge that you came close to a fall(which is normal) see how you can fix it or try to avoid it by building bigger fences & move on. Finally, If I were you I'd almost be thrilled that Hashem didn't let me fall since it shows me that He's still there & He still cares about me.

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Re: Free Choice?!!

Posted by stillgoing - 15 Jun 2015 22:41

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**hwhap**

I look at it this way: a fence may be indispensable, but it cuts both ways in a sense. You designed your new life around filters. You depend on them now. So without a filter you should expect to choose porn. But the reason it's a sound fence is that filters are readily available. Maybe you can take some action so that this cannot easily happen again. You know what's feasible in your case.

With all do respect, I beg to differ. First of all what do you mean by "*designed your new life around filters*"? Filters are crucial, but they are not and should not be the only method of stopping. In fact they aren't even a method. They are only the Band-Aid™ on the wound to get it

to stop bleeding so that it can then begin to heal.

#2 is when a person sets up filters, and the filter fails (as the can) I do not believe that one should "*expect to choose porn*". Expect to have a tug-of-war yes, but hopefully win and not choose p\_\_\_\_.

Anyway It is very possible that I have misunderstood you, and you meant that all along.

stillgoing

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stillfriends?