

A struggling bochur

Posted by Shnitzel and kugel - 26 Jun 2018 19:00

Hi, everyone I'm a 21 year old bochur, struggled with masturbation since 14! Went to Yeshivah and bh had no access to technology so it wasn't really a issue then when I got a smartphone 2 years ago the issue started again. Bh I discovered this website 3 weeks ago, then I installed webchaver and iml very careful now with Shmiras ainayim whilst walking in the street, and I've also joined the 90 day challenge and I'm currently 16 days clean! Iyh many more day by day with the eibishter's help!

Any other bochurim out there in my boat?

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Re: A struggling bochur

Posted by cordnoy - 24 Apr 2019 19:18

[Hakolhevel wrote on 24 Apr 2019 15:08:](#)

Cords, are your saying that our chaverim shnitz is an addict, or that even if he's not it would be helpful?

I definitely see symptoms of addictive behavior. I actually saw it when he first came on as well (and I probably/might have written it someplace too). But even if he's not, it's a good read.

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Re: A struggling bochur

Posted by Shnitzel and kugel - 24 Apr 2019 19:36

Thanks cords for the solid advice, I'll iyh but the white book after yt, when I get back to yeshivah, it'll be interesting to see my roommates reactions when they see me reading the book lol, They know I'm into psychology so I don't think they'll suspect me...

I also plan on going to another therapist which specializes in family/marital issues/pornography

so bezh he'll help me out too.

Btw have no issue in considering myself an addict but chords what do you mean you saw that I was one when I first joined?

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by Tzvi5 - 24 Apr 2019 22:34

To clarify the first method i presented learn the sefer ???? ?????? by ???? ?????? (can be found in sefaria) where the structure of the gemara is explained.

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by Hakolhevel - 24 Apr 2019 23:40

[Shnitzel and kugel wrote on 24 Apr 2019 19:36:](#)

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Btw have no issue in considering myself an addict but chords what do you mean you saw that I was one when I first joined?

You can also download onto your phone for free.

Shnitz as an aside. You mentioned you acted out bc you where in a bad situation that you could not control, just curious, was your phone part of your acting out? Because that is something you can control.

Also I have found that if we really want we could have more control then we would like to believe. Sometimes we like to believe we have no say that way we have a semi excuse to act out.

i don't kno if any of this applies to you, and it would be near impossible to know, which is again the downside of a annonymous forum, when people write what they did or what happened, it tends to be half the story. Not that people are trying to lie, it's just not possible for a person to truly give over his life situation over a forum.

On what cords said re: it being helpful for all. I have not read the white book, but I have listened to all of dovs talks, and to may from Sandy Beach of AA and I have found many of the ideas helpful even though I'm not in SA.

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by Shnitzel and kugel - 24 Apr 2019 23:55

No, it wasn't my phone as it was on YT..

I definitely believe it's possible to have more control, that's why I haven't given up... Question is how we bring out that control...

btw it's easier and healthier to read it from a book then on phone...

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by Shnitzel and kugel - 25 Apr 2019 20:52

If *anyone* reading this has ever been to a live PA meeting, please pm me. Thanks

Gut yom tov to all

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by Shnitzel and kugel - 26 Apr 2019 00:03

Special public thanks to that fellow which reached out to me.

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by Shnitzel and kugel - 30 Apr 2019 15:28

Lately bochurim are asking what to do bein hazmanim...

A bochur myself I personally have fallen this bein hazmanim, not necessarily because the time frame but due to place I was in.

Anyhow on gye people focus that we don't have free time so we don't act out, is that dealing

with the lust issue, or simply ignoring it?

You see I've been on gye for 11 months and my lust simply seems to get stronger (or stay the same) and a shvuah couldn't prevent my last fall.

Why aren't the tools on gye working? Why is it that I have to keep on making stricter rules for myself? Isn't it supposed to get easier?

Unless one is an addict, if one has been clean for a while, why does he have to be so careful as he was when he started off? Didn't he tackle the problem?

Any struggle is hard in the beginning after a while one gets the hang of it and not necessarily has to be so vigilant.

You might say I've trained myself not to act on each urge, which it true but not my goal, it's about not living stuck in this lusting life, not being tied up by some force controlling me.

Recently someone on gye left, not judging at all but how long can a person continue fighting day in and day out?

shnitzel doesn't want to give up on gye too... But who knows?

I know i'll have to battle lust for life but not this type of lust I have currently, right now it's just out of hand...

can't look at a woman without thinking about.. insane!

Which leads me to my current plan on starting to go to live PA meetings simply because I have not dealt with the essence of it all.

Acting out is a effect from a cause called lusting, and gye doesn't seem to teach one how to deal with that, just tools how to deal with the effect..

There are heroes here on gye who somehow got it under control with just this site, kol hakovad! I personally need more..

So back to those who find bein hazmanim tough, what about during the rest of the year, you don't find it hard? Maybe you never leave the 4 walls of Yeshivah?

Reb yid you have lusting issues, what about learning not to lust so much? What about changing the view you have towards women and sexuality?

Did I miss the point?

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by Hakolhevel - 01 May 2019 02:02

[Shnitzel and kugel wrote on 30 Apr 2019 15:28:](#)

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One of your greatest posts.

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Re: A struggling bochur

Posted by Shteigen613 - 01 May 2019 03:13

Wow, you seem very frustrated.

While this forum helps for some (myself included), it certainly doesn't help you in the way that you would like it to.

so I believe that it's time to take a step back.

perhaps, there are underlying issues which create pressure in your life, and you view lusting and acting out as a release.

Perhaps, the answer to your frustration is within you. And i challenge you to dig deeper.

what are your life goals? What are your short term goals?

you mentioned you are in yeshiva. What are your goals in learning, bi'iyun, bkius, and mussar? (And/Or chassidus)...

perhaps, if you set goals for yourself, and achieve them, you will be more satisfied with life.

perhaps, if your current life is not leading you to where you want to be, that's causing internal friction.

perhaps, you have a stressful family dynamic, social dynamic, or dating dynamic.

what is your exercise regimen? Do you walk daily? Do you smoke? Do you drink alcohol?

What I'm saying here is, look at what's going on right now. You describe that you are lusting all over the place, and it is taking over.

don't let it.

now, when you are in crisis mode, take stock of your life and relationships. Recalibrate. Smooth out all the wrinkles (which are possible). Instead of falling victim to your weakness, embrace it as motivation to promote positive change in your life.

I can only tell you from my own experience, that whenever I feel weak, i take out a note pad (Either physical or mental), write my to-do lists, try to reorganize my life, and recalibrate.

possibly, you will find hatzlacha.

anyone else agree?

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Re: A struggling bochur

Posted by Markz - 01 May 2019 04:07

The forum really does help Shnitzel. He's getting places.

And he helps others too :-)

That's my impression.

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Re: A struggling bochur

Posted by Shnitzel and kugel - 02 May 2019 05:21

[Shteigen613 wrote on 01 May 2019 03:13:](#)

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All I'm trying to say is, suggestions to bochurim such as "make sure you never have free time" or "it's normal to have such desires" is nice and dandy but that's a short term answer, in the long term one *needs* to take care of the lusting issue, whether it's by therapy, speaking to sober people and sometimes even live groups.

Hence bein hazmanim is such an issue because then lust has no distractions and is roaming freely, and being single isn't a *justification* to lust, sorry folks..

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by OTR - 02 May 2019 15:11

[lwtbf613 wrote on 22 Apr 2019 05:24:](#)

Hey, I also fell both erev yontiv and motzi yontiv, the erev yontiv was after roughly 140 days. My taphsic also did nothing for me. **Actually that's not so true, I believe my taphsic was the reason I ended up falling. Not too sure how you've treated the taphsic, but in my case, my sobriety became completely centered around and reliant upon the taphsic. The taphsic is a tool (hence the reason why it's part of the "tool" section) We have many "tools" in our "tool kit" e.g. GYE principles, forums, chats, articles, taphsic, filters, etc. The tools are only so useful as long as you know what it is you're trying to build. Our sobriety is more than the sum of our tools, but the "bigger picture" that we're working for.** I think we need to ask ourselves: how important is our sobriety to us?

If there was a prize for intelligent writing on GYE I would nominate this. Obsession with recovery is not much different than obsession with lust. I do believe it CAN be a basis for further growth which has to be dealing with the obsession itself, but if not it can just be a springboard for further obsession. Thanks for writing this dude.

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by OTR - 02 May 2019 15:22

[Shnitzel and kugel wrote on 23 Apr 2019 20:06:](#)

Sometimes ??????? ??? ?????? so 5 times in 11 months, not bad. right?

However I *still* haven't learnt how to stop lusting constantly.. since I've joined I might have learnt how not to *act out* on each urge, which is great but that's not what I'm trying to gain.

The tools helped me till now, but the lust simply caught up with these tools and since I've not *begun* to deal with the actual lusting, learning how *not to lust constantly* but rather just fighting it, eventually even a *shvuah* will be overpowered...

Therefore my question to you all is what do I next to end this *insane lusting life*?

Not tools how to deal *with it*, but ways to take care *of it*..

I'll appreciate solid answers. Thanks!

Shnitzel, your attitude is really good. I was nervous when I started reading your post that you were so strongly focused on 90 days and that there was a magical property to it. I was concerned that either A- You would not make it there and become depressed about recovery in general and just throw it away. or B: Make it there, not feel a magical elevation and also become discouraged.

Maybe that is because I spent much time being discouraged so I think it will happen to others. But seeing this it looks like you are taking a real step toward finding YOUR sobriety.

Some other points: *Is it Healthier to read SA off the phone or a book... it depepnds on the person.

* How much free time should a bachur have.. Answer, as much and as little as he needs to foster a better result in his actions. too much... can be bad. too little... can also be bad.

* Why do you need stricter and stricter rules.. I think because you are focusing on the results of sobriety and not the process of getting sober. Getting sober is pleasant and to a large degree (at least my sobriety) obviates the desire to act out. The desire becomes less sharp and compelling because you have tools to deal with it, NOT because you have stricter limitations. - I am a YUUUUUUGE fan of siyagim, limitations etc.. but they need to be limitations that make you feel COMFORTABLE not contrained. We all seek that balance in ourselves and your job is to continue finding your balance.

*shnitzel doesn't want to give up on gye too... But who knows?- If sobriety is a constant FIGHT.. you will eventually give up. No one can fight and feel like a failure forever. If what you find is something sweet, that you really enjoy, and fulfills you then you'll continue with it. Despite teh falls. Even if you fall,, you will look at yourself and say, meh.. that was not me. I lost mySELF for a second. But I am back to mySELF. But if your life is a set of strict regimens and rules and gedarim ONLY, then what you are really saying is that your real SELF wants to act out. You just have a hired officer to hold it back. That is unwinable in my opinion.

I wish you continued success. The days of staying away from lust are never days we regret no matter how few there are.

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Re: A struggling bochur
Posted by cordnoy - 02 May 2019 15:30

[OTR wrote on 02 May 2019 15:22:](#)

[Shnitzel and kugel wrote on 23 Apr 2019 20:06:](#)

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I wish you continued success. The days of staying away from lust are never days we regret no matter how few there are.

S&K (hmmm....), you asked me a question somewhere above. OTR answered it better than I would have.

Godspeed to you.

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