

Make it to Yeshiva

Posted by YeshivaGuy - 04 Aug 2020 05:33

Hi everyone,

First I want to say that I am humbled and honored to be in the presence of such Giborei Koach, true warriors of Hakadosh Baruch Hu.

I bh am not addicted to pornography.

I haven't been on a porn website.

But I'm getting close, and I'm here to gain chizuk not to fall into it.

Once I return to Yeshiva I'm safe, but as long as I'm home I'm in danger, and bh I haven't fallen into pornography. However it's the next step, chalila.

I bh am running a camp, so I started keeping busy, so bh have only been nichshal once in the last 3 weeks.

i want to just express my gratitude to all of you, and my great admiration for each and every one of you.

My Yetzer tries telling me "comon, porn can't be that bad, it's just the word that sounds scary" or like "it can't be so different than YouTube videos"

So I'm here to gain that chizuk.

thank you!

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva

Posted by neshamaincharge - 05 Jan 2021 05:21

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[ur-a-jew wrote on 09 Sep 2014 20:22:](#)

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Wishing you much Hatzlacha on your journey!

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva

Posted by mggsbms - 05 Jan 2021 05:22

[YeshivaGuy wrote on 05 Jan 2021 05:16:](#)

[mggsbms wrote on 05 Jan 2021 05:04:](#)

Showing our kids what a person can become and develop and refine and utilize our given strengths is all extremely important. But that has nothing to do with gadlus and sheifos it is every person's journey whether it will seem mediocre to somebody else or not. If somebody has a big soul and brain they should develop it and that is their journey. It is the picture that we create and then the pressure to fill it is what is causing immense problems.

There's a difference between pressure and responsibility.

My Rosh HaYeshiva got up last week and spoke about how we are the future of Klall Yisrael and gotta fight the Yetzer etc

That was not pressure.

That was the Rosh HaYeshiva instilling within his Talmidim a sense of achrayus

That is a great value responsibility nothing wrong with that.

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You are the greatest role model for many of us

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva

Posted by YeshivaGuy - 05 Jan 2021 05:31

I am against negative pressure of any kind.

But I do very much believe in cultivating a culture which engenders and encourages guys to aspire to attain their personal potential.

Now, you can taana that it's dangerous cuz people aren't in touch with themselves enough to evaluate their potential.

And I hear the taana

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva

Posted by YeshivaGuy - 05 Jan 2021 05:35

Growing up, my parents were mechanech me to always do my very best.

When I got a bad grade on a test they asked me if I did my best and if I said no then they would be abit upset but if I said honestly that I worked hard and got a bad grade that was OK!

And even when I didn't try my best, my parents weren't upset about the bad grade. They didn't care about that.

They were only upset because I didn't try my hardest.

I was taught from a young age, (and I plan on bezras Hashem being mechanech my children/talmidim in the future) that the barometer of success is EFFORT! is whether I am DOING MY BEST.

This is, chevra, what I mean when I refer to having a "She'eefa l'Gadlus," it doesn't mean a "She'eefa" for SOMEONE ELSE's "Gadlus," but rather a "She'eefa" for MY OWN PERSONAL "Gadlus."

And it's important that we train our children to be introspective and how to gage that...

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And I hear the taana

You've got to do what works for you, and it seems to be working. Keep at it!

In my case, the constant perceived failure to reach my potential was crushing me.

Hatzlacha!

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva

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Just a reminder this all started for debate sake only... I will venture to say it's never about who we will "become", that's irrelevant, it's about who we are, and working our character, learning Torah, and being *duvik b'Hashem*.

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Yes, practically it's all about the present.

But I do beleive, and I beleive it's the goal of the first perek in Mesilas Yesharim, that one should always maintain their "tachlis" in their "minds eye," though yes, as far as day to day avoda, the ikur is the present.

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva
Posted by YeshivaGuy - 05 Jan 2021 05:53

[YeshivaGuy wrote on 05 Jan 2021 05:01:](#)

[starting wrote on 05 Jan 2021 04:56:](#)

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it's not about results.

Of course we should try and always do the right things but that does not mean to become roshei yeshiva. The end result of one persons best could be detrimental for another guy who tries to emulate.

Guys guys, all I said was that I expect myself to go to Shachris. Don't worry, I'm not chas vshalom (sarcasm) becoming a Rosh HaYeshiva anytime soon

And I think going to shachris, ??? where I'm holding, is a basic expectation.

And that's ok. I have an expectation and I sometimes fail and I'm not super depressed or anything.

Because I know that I'm human and that failure is ok.

But I still have She'eefos l'Gadlus!

Will I sometimes fall short?

Of course!

But I still strive for greatness

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva

Posted by YeshivaGuy - 05 Jan 2021 06:04

[Lou wrote on 05 Jan 2021 05:56:](#)

[YeshivaGuy wrote on 05 Jan 2021 05:53:](#)

[YeshivaGuy wrote on 05 Jan 2021 05:01:](#)

[starting wrote on 05 Jan 2021 04:56:](#)

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Sounds to me more like its about focusing on each individual ????,

it's not about results.

Of course we should try and always do the right things but that does not mean to become roshei yeshiva. The end result of one persons best could be detrimental for another guy who tries to emulate.

Guys guys, all I said was that I expect myself to go to Shachris. Don't worry, I'm not chas vshalom (sarcasm) becoming a Rosh HaYeshiva anytime soon

And I think going to shachris, ??? where I'm holding, is a basic expectation.

And that's ok. I have an expectation and I sometimes fail and I'm not super depressed or anything.

Because I know that I'm human and that failure is ok.

But I still have She'eefos l'Gadlus!

Will I sometimes fall short?

Of course!

But I still strive for greatness

Not sure what time zone you are in, but perhaps going to sleep now would help with that

particular sheifa.. Just sayin...

OMG! Sooo much pressure!! I can't handle it ahh...

U mean as a frum Jew God actually expects me to go to Shachris and not spend all night on GYE?!

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva

Posted by wilnevergiveup - 05 Jan 2021 07:12

Wanna hear my take?

My point was that having *sheifa legadlus* doesn't mean that you don't have low self esteem in fact it could (possibly) even be the cause of it.

Not to take away from having master plans for your future but I was trying to give *eitzos* for breaking out of a funk. We need to identify ourselves by our growth and take the lows as opportunities to grow. Someone like myself likes to identify himself by the lows in order to inspire himself to push harder. This is where I think many people go wrong. In the confusion of trying to become great people (which is a great thing by the way) some mistakenly try to inspire us by showing us our shortcomings and how far we are from our goals. For a healthy person it's debatable whether this is effective, but for most of us with weak self esteem, we begin identifying ourselves by our shortcomings. At first, it may seem inspiring and push us to push ourselves (and that's why our Rebeim do it, because they see instant results) but in the long run it causes us to break down. This can be compared to hitting a child out of anger, where you will see instant results but the actual chinuch value is a negative one.

Mesilas Yesharim in perek 1 describes where we are going. The reason why this is so important is because if we are not going anywhere we can never grow. This does not mean we will ever get there. Take a look at Da'as Tevunos perek 9 se'if 2 where he says clearly that we all have a specific task to complete in this world and no two people have the same task and that we cannot know what this task is. If this is so, how could he say in Mesilas Yesharim that everyone's goal is the same?

I think the answer is that since we don't know what our exact task is, what we do know is that if we use the characteristics that Hashem gave us and we follow the path that leads to a certain goal, we will accomplish our task. Because every person has different characteristics every persons journey will look different, and based on that we will IY"H fulfil our task in this world. So the concept of understanding *chovaso b'olamo* is not that we must achieve *shleimus* or we failed our task, rather that we need to use *shleimus* as our beacon, as our destination so that we can be certain that we are hitting all the right milestones along the way. Each and every person will be taking a different route to get there based on there specific nature and with Hashems help will reach what they were put on this world to accomplish.

So, practically, I think that it is important to have a big *sheifa*, but primarily as a destination and not as a goal. The only way to get anywhere is by making a plan and that means making real tangible goals and a way to reach them.

I didn't mean you have to make more realistic goals, I meant they have to be more tangible. Trust me, I have a lot of faith in you becoming a gadol hador, that is not the issue here. My point is that in order to get through the trials of day to day life you have to make goals that are real and tangible in your life right now. It's not enough to have *sheifos* (aka dreams) about the future, you have to backtrack and figure out, if that's what I need to be then, what does my day have to look like now. If my day needs to be a certain way today, what kind of goals do I need to make

for today and what do I need to do to accomplish them.

You spoke about struggling with shachris. Many people struggle with getting up, the mehalech is not beating yourself up, rather it's pushing through and realizing that even though something is hard it still can be done. It also helps to learn about the inyan that you are struggling with. Rav Shimshon Pincus has an excellent sefer called "Shearim B'tefillah" if you want to try this.

In my experience, being a few years older than you and having been through many of the struggles you describe, I found that having expectations of myself usually leads to failure. The mehalech that works for me is to backtrack and try to figure out what I need to do today in order to become great, not because I expect myself to become great, rather because that's the destination. Don't have expectations of yourself, rather a destination, and a route. The route is a plan that includes goals and how to reach them.

Feel free to disagree, if you do, I would love to know why.

Nothing like a good debate.

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Re: Make it to Yeshiva

Posted by Thistimeillwin - 05 Jan 2021 14:02

For what it's worth, I'll add my personal observations. What I'm writing is in terms of learning and avodas Hashem goals, but many here will agree that some or all of what I write can be learned from our struggles with z"l and p**n..

I believe we are meant to push ourselves to attain higher and higher goals, otherwise it is unlikely we will get too far. But beating oneself up for not getting further, or setting goals too high to realistically attain, are some of the ploys of the Yetzer Hora to dissuade us from continuing to push for greatness.

When a child is young, his parents (and teachers) reward him for good behavior and punish for

bad behavior. One without the other will not train a child properly, but it has to be done carefully. It is said that for every negative there should be ten positives, so you should be rewarding or praising ten times for every punishment or criticism. If the criticism level is too high, i.e. the kid falls into a rut of bad behavior, we are taught to lower the goals in order to reach the proper ratio. Educators will sometimes make a contest with a child where he is sure to win the prize, because he needs to taste the candy in order to be spurred to reach higher. Set him up for success, don't set him up for failure.

As a child grows, the reward changes from candy and toys, to words of praise, to self-feelings of success. When we adults (or so we look) set goals for ourselves, we need to know how bad a loss will affect us. At the beginning of our journey, we need to make small goals that we are all but guaranteed to accomplish. Once we do this a number of times, we can set a higher goal where the chance of failing is higher. If we fail once, we still know and remember the great feeling of success. We will not get dejected by one loss. Lose the battle but win the war. If you lose too many battles and the soldiers are threatening to surrender, retreat to higher ground where you can defend your positions and have some success before getting back to the actual battlefield.

Another important point is not to get caught up in the past or the future too much. Since most goals require long periods of time, the failures of the past and challenges of the future turn many away from accomplishing what they could. There's much to say about this, just read every third forum on GYE and it will come up.

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