reintroduction
Posted by Shlemiel - 04 Aug 2020 22:00

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Shalom.

I thought to "reintroduce myself," in order to provide a more accurate account of my past challenges up to today.

I am a ba'al teshuvah since 2005. It was about seven years ago, that I first learned of GYE through an add online at Arutz Sheva. At that time porn was not an issue; nor did I have Internet access at my place of residence - by choice. I did not even own any type of an electronic device with Internet capability. However, once, after inadvertently watching a sexually explicit music video online, I became inquisitive. I started viewing other videos online at You Tube, at the university, where I had access to a computer.

Sometime later, I joined GYE. I realized that even one photograph of a licentious nature would negatively impact my kedushah. ?I began to receive the chizuk emails from GYE. At my apartment, I was Internet free. Even so, MB had been a habit since my youth; so, I shamefully admit that this continued to be a problem. Despite all that I learned, I was still challenged; even after reading a lot of material on shmiras habris.

Eventually I got a small tablet; yet, I refrained from acquiring wifi at my apartment, even though the service was included with my rent. I knew from my reading at GYE, how serious porn addiction was; so, I made every effort to prevent the occurrence. However, I got wifi eventually, and was o.k for a while, until I found the flaws in my electronic device, as well as the back doors to the filter(s) that I had installed. I am still challenged today; and, I consider myself to be a low level addict.

Relatively speaking, I know that I am not at all immune, and do not want the situation to worsen; I would like to "stay out of the gutter" of shmutz one hundred percent.

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Re: reintroduction
Posted by YeshivaGuy - 20 Dec 2020 01:01

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Sooo? How u been?

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Re: reintroduction
Posted by Shlemiel - 22 Dec 2020 00:59

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Shalom. Thank you for asking.

I am focusing more on my Yiddishkeit;

and, feeling genuinely inspired.

Unfortunately, I have not been able to resolve my filter and accountability issues on my electronic devices. I reached out to Venishmartem, regarding my electronic devices; however, the only option that I was given was to have the WiFi chip removed. I have a filter, and optional accountability; however, I am mostly in control of the filter settings, inasmuch as I have access to the adjustments. As for accountability, I have not yet taken it upon myself to designate an "accountability partner" in my life. Yet, even with an accountability partner, unless I have a foolproof filter, I will become too tempted with the availability of open Internet, made accessible with only a few adjustments to bypass the filter.

[Correction: I no longer have accountability on my filter app, because it has been discontinued for the particular kind of electronic device that I use; although, I could switch to a different filter-accountability app].

So, every once in a while, I end up falling; in other words, every 2-3 weeks. I have the main browser blocked on two of my devices; that is unalterable, unless I change my filter account with Covenant Eyes. Yet, I have not blocked the browser on my third electronic device, because of the convenience for the sake of my personal online writing work, research, and access to links from emails. Perhaps, I need to seriously consider blocking that browser as well, regardless of the inconvenience that will ensue.

May H'Shem enlighten me as to the solution in due time.

Shalom.

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Re: reintroduction
Posted by lionking - 22 Dec 2020 02:16
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[Shlemiel wrote on 22 Dec 2020 00:59](#)**:**

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Shalom.

I can try to assist you with the filtering aspect if you would like. Please email or pm me with the details.

Hatzlacha

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Re: reintroduction
Posted by YeshivaGuy - 25 Jan 2021 14:55
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Did the filter prob get better?

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Re: reintroduction

Posted by Shlemiel - 25 Jan 2021 16:49

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I decided to take the plunge into the *mikveh* of *shmiras einayim*, by blocking the main browser on my third electronic device. Now, H'Shem willing, I am better prepared to guard myself against the *yetzer hara*.

"Everything is in the hands of Heaven, except for the fear of Heaven."

- Berachos 33b

Shalom.

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Re: reintroduction
Posted by ColinColin - 25 Jan 2021 23:08

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Well done. That takes courage.

I wish you al the best.

Be on extra guard these next few days.

You have made a move upwards, so for a few days the Yetzer HaRah will be working harder than ever to push you down again.

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