

The first step

Posted by livingpalpitation - 06 Sep 2024 17:29

I hope this is the first step on a journey to rid myself of a profoundly insidious habit. As part of a couple who had difficulty conceiving, I am constantly fearful that my sins will be avenged on my children.

Is that Judaism? I don't know.

At the same time, I am keenly aware that a great deal of prohibitive writings on masturbation drew from incomplete and incorrect understanding of the human body.

Where does the truth lie?

I need to rid myself of these thoughts but I don't know where to begin.

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Re: The first step

Posted by cande - 09 Sep 2024 17:41

[livingpalpitation wrote on 09 Sep 2024 16:15:](#)

What about "God loves me and occasional masturbation will not cause my sperm to become demons that will haunt me?"

It's not all or nothing, right?

i would guess he doesnt mind negotiating,

see if you can cut a deal.

just my guess, i dont keenly aware of this as fact.

Warning: Spoiler!

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Re: The first step

Posted by livingpalpitation - 09 Sep 2024 17:42

I understand that what I'm saying is antagonistic to you, but if you can't respond in good faith, maybe it's better not to respond at all.

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Re: The first step

Posted by livingpalpitation - 09 Sep 2024 17:43

Comparing masturbation to cancer is part of the problem.

It's becoming increasingly clear to me that this is an environment that is extremist in its own way.

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Re: The first step

Posted by truthaintflashy - 09 Sep 2024 17:58

Oh cut him some slack for wanting to understand something he learned...Maybe drag this into the "beit midrash" section.

"please elaborate" -- who, me? (that one's 50/50)

On what? Do I need to explain how acting out perverts the mind?

Maybe it helps to know the goal in the Torah, that you have one wife, that she's the only one in the room and the only one in your thoughts, and that you're not in a fight/ceasefire because she doesn't feel like she's in a competition with anyone or anything else, and she has crazy woman's intuition and knows where you've been. Anything short of this has an effect on the children, who are the future and whose choices you have to live with in this and the next world.

(I'm still not married but this is based on The Garden of Peace)

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Re: The first step

Posted by redfaced - 09 Sep 2024 17:59

[livingpalpitation wrote on 09 Sep 2024 17:43:](#)

Comparing masturbation to cancer is part of the problem.

It's becoming increasingly clear to me that this is an environment that is extremist in its own way.

Do you think it's at all strange that you are showing up as a newcomer and just being antagonistic and name calling?

Warning: Spoiler!

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Re: The first step

Posted by thompson - 09 Sep 2024 18:00

[livingpalpitation wrote on 09 Sep 2024 17:43:](#)

Comparing masturbation to cancer is part of the problem.

It's becoming increasingly clear to me that this is an environment that is extremist in its own way.

With all due respect, you misunderstood my point.

If you must say I was making comparisons, then I was comparing masturbation to smoking and demons to cancer.

But I wasn't comparing anything to anything; I just pointed out, as Shem did, that the two parts of your sentence have no relation to each other. Our actions have consequences, no matter how much God loves us.

P.S. Show me an environment that isn't extremist. Especially in its own way. This form of extremism bothers you more than others.

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Re: The first step

Posted by livingpalpitation - 09 Sep 2024 18:02

I came here to have a discussion and attempt to answer questions that will guide me going

forward. What I'm finding is a great deal of anger towards what I consider very reasonable, thought-provoking questions. The foundations cannot be this shaky.

I don't believe that I called anyone names at any point in this conversation.

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Re: The first step

Posted by cande - 09 Sep 2024 18:07

its just not fair!

this is not a pick and choose game

God loves me

I am keenly aware that a great deal of prohibitive writings on masturbation drew from incomplete and incorrect understanding of the human body.

I believe in the Torah.

I am not sure it was given by God and survived unaltered.

I believe Judaism has sometimes been misused at the whims of fallible men.

I do not believe any man is above the divine or worthy of worship.

its hard to address you properly, when you keep adding more info were you stand in your keen belief

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Re: The first step

Posted by bright - 09 Sep 2024 18:10

To clarify what thompson said. I dont even know what extremism is at this point. It sounds like your barometer for that is western values. Anything in conflict with what western society or the scientific process defines as true is baseline reality and anything else extreme. People here see you as extreme going against rabbinic understanding, which is at the core of our faith. What we understand as baseline reality. If that is the case, I would suggest, like many others have, that you focus on the reasons you, not hashem, want to quit. You are apparently coming from a way different viewpoint than most here. And the viewpoint isnt even the point. Like I said, the conversation about your doubts can be had, but not here, and it has to be a conversation. Not throwing stuff around.

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Re: The first step

Posted by chosemyschem - 09 Sep 2024 18:11

[livingpalpitation wrote on 09 Sep 2024 17:43:](#)

Comparing masturbation to cancer is part of the problem.

It's becoming increasingly clear to me that this is an environment that is extremist in its own way.

Dude. This site is targeted to people with lust issues up to and including sex addiction. Addiction is comparable to cancer. It ravages lives.

Many people find themselves extremely resistant to changing their lives about this. They throw up all sorts of walls, defenses, and excuses ("It's not my fault I didn't stop, it's those rude people who didn't want to help me"). The excuses all sound good, but dig down and it's just a luster

protecting their little treasure of lust. Maybe that's you, maybe it's not.

If you want to get clean (for whatever reason) this is a good place for it. If you don't, then nobody else is going to convince you that you should.

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Re: The first step

Posted by livingpalpitation - 09 Sep 2024 18:20

None of those statements are contradictory. In any case, I'm not sure what you want, but I know helping me is not it.

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Re: The first step

Posted by cande - 09 Sep 2024 18:23

I hope this is the first step on a journey to rid myself of a profoundly insidious habit. As part of a couple who had difficulty conceiving, I am constantly fearful that my sins will be avenged on my children.

Is that Judaism? I don't know.

At the same time, I am keenly aware that a great deal of prohibitive writings on masturbation drew from incomplete and incorrect understanding of the human body

your keenly aware, so your stuck

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Re: The first step

Posted by livingpalpitation - 09 Sep 2024 18:24

You're right in that this is the wrong forum for this discussion.

You're wrong in saying I believe science is the only baseline reality. Don't paint me as worshipping at the altar of western values.

I refuse to deify human understanding, rabbinical or otherwise, which is apparently heretical to some here.

But all of that is irrelevant. If you look at the entirety of this post and replies, we've arrived at nothing. Most people (myself included) have only reaffirmed their viewpoints or suggested this is not the place for the conversation to be had.

We can end here.

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Re: The first step

Posted by livingpalpitation - 09 Sep 2024 18:25

Take a moment to rewrite that sentence because it doesn't make sense when I read it.

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