

Briut

Posted by briut - 22 Jan 2010 16:30

I hear it's good for new members to post their stories. I'm okay with posting, but I'm not sure yet about being a new member. So I'm hoping folks might help me determine whether my story shows an addiction or perhaps a success story.

So, I'm stuck in a dilemma right now. How do I know when my yetzer hara dresses up in frum clothes and tries to take me to a place I'm not expected to handle? How do I know if H' is personally waking up my yetzer tov to jump to a new level of closeness? How does one know? Here's it's particularly difficult since it's hard to ask my friends, and a little outside my Rav's comfort zone and certainly his personal experience, and an area where a Yachid can easily trip himself up in justifications rather than logic.

So, folks, I leave it to you to provide some thoughtful guidance. Should I say, "go away, Sheyd, I'm doing everything H's expecting of me and more; leave me alone with my occasional "guilty little pleasure." Or, am I just a "dry drunk" living in "Da Nile" (not the river in Egypt) of "mitzvos she'ba b'aveirah" and need to say, "thanks, Hashem, for the vote of confidence and the certain victory banner in Shamayim for completing my tafkid; let's go!" ?

Remember, I'm not looking so much for YOUR personal opinions, or the systems YOU have taken on to reset your life. Don't send the autoreply of "internet sites will kill you; follow the handbook" because I'm not so sure I'm living in addiction. Instead, I'm looking for compelling, Torah-friendly data that would help me distinguish the response He wants from ME. Since you've "walked the walk" yourselves, your ideas may be incredibly useful.

Thanks. May Hashem bless you all.

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Re: Briut

Posted by silentbattle - 26 Jan 2010 17:39

"Yours" is *heavy*. So is mine. But they're different, and I'm not going to claim that I can understand your situation, when I can't. I can offer my thoughts, and things that I've learned, in the hopes that it can help you. The rest is up to you.

I'd point out that we have a yetzer hora. He'll always be there. But we can work on getting rid of the things that we're doing wrong. And accepting that there are things that are red-line, absolutely, wrong, that we can keep as part of our lives without bothering to struggle with...well, if we really cared about it, wouldn't we do more than that?

When we daven for help, but haven't done anything for ourselves, I'm pretty sure that hashem looks at me and says, "I'll be happy to step in, as soon as you do your part..."

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Re: Briut

Posted by mekubal - 26 Jan 2010 18:07

Briut,

Rabbi Abraham Twerski's (yes-the noted author on addictions and self esteem) is reported to have the worse self-esteem out of anyone his sister-in-law has ever met. And she claims to have met people with the "worst" self-esteem problems.

She asked him how is that a person with such terrible self-esteem wrote so many books on the topic?

He responded, "I didn't let it get to me."

For the most part, it seems your a godol at "I didn't let it get to me" already.

To accomplish what you have already with your level of self-esteem is impressive.

just a wee bit further to go and you win.

mekubal.

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Re: Briut

Posted by Me3 - 26 Jan 2010 18:21

Briut

What would you say about a person who watches a short 5 minute p**n clip 5 times a day interspersed throughout the day? Would you say he's an addict, or would you say he's 98% (Do the math) clean?

Now what would you say if instead of watching the clip on his computer screen, he watches it on that little hi-def monitor located between his ears?

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Re: Briut

Posted by Me3 - 26 Jan 2010 19:08

I didn't quite understand what you you just wrote.

But I took it for granted that gay feeling are lust feelings. I don't see the slightest difference.

Second, romantic love and that whole Hallmark / Hollywood creation is likewise bogus.

Third, your goal in life is not to seek this "Romantic love". Your goal in life is to be a good Jew and serve Hashem. Part of that goal involves being a good devoted husband, giving to your wife, being attentive to her and growing together spiritually. If you are partners in this and you give to each other this will lead to a real wholesome love.

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Re: Briut

Posted by imtrying25 - 29 Jan 2010 11:27

welcome R briut! Sorry i didnt welcome you earlier! But you know these days us oldies have a real hard time getting around. So hre i am. And cheerin you on!!

Have a great shabbos. And keep on rollin!

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Re: Briut

Posted by imtrying25 - 29 Jan 2010 13:01

Pischu li pesach k'chudo shel machat v'ani eftach loch pesach k'piscoho shel ulom!!!

Lets do ours. Hepromises hell do his to when we do our baby steps.

GS.

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Re: Briut

Posted by mekubal - 29 Jan 2010 15:34

[briut wrote on 29 Jan 2010 12:58:](#)

Who has been in such a position before in their past attempts to go/stay clean? Any insights?

I saw and heard a quotes related by the Steipler about this very thing 3 times this week (and not from gye), so it must be a sign. In one of the the places it was clear that he was to talking about uncontrollable desire for ervah.

Every moment that a person conquers his tayvohs he is a tzadik... Its not just the sum of cumulative moments... you are a tzadik for that very moment.

May you continue be zoche to be a tzadik!

mekubal.

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Re: Briut
Posted by Me3 - 29 Jan 2010 15:55

That's rich.

First you were struggling with the idea that maybe taking the next step would be too much for you to handle. Obviously you're having trouble justifying that by itself, so let's try something

else.....

I know (Lightbulb after frantic scrambling) "I'm not taking the next step unless You G-D performs a miracle for me. No need to split the red sea, just show me some minor miracle, then I'll know it's the right thing (Sitting back smugly, wiping brow with relief)

(PS anyone will tell you, I'm really not a nice guy)

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Re: Briut

Posted by silentbattle - 29 Jan 2010 16:06

Yeah - we don't run our lives like that. You've realized that already. That's your sign!

We've all been there - making it seem like it's hashem's fault for my falling is an easy way out. But it's not real, or true, and we know that.

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Re: Briut

Posted by the.guard - 30 Jan 2010 20:08

What do we seek in lust? It is our subconscious that is craving true love and true security. There's a deep need inside of us that we desperately attempt to fill with lust. But the lust never fills it, and can NEVER fill it. The most beautiful zonah in the world, or the most amazing SSA fantasy you (briut) could imagine, is with flesh. Rotting flesh. And it leaves us feeling empty and disillusioned.

Um...right, Me3

So are we destined to run after this deep subconscious need our whole lives and never find

what we are TRULY looking for? Isn't that cruel of G-d? After all, he created us with this deep inner longing to love and **be** loved deeply, to feel comfortable and secure, completely wrapped and connected to someone who we love deeply and who loves us deeply in return... We crave this at the very core of our essence. **Why? Why must we suffer so?** So many people run their whole lives desperately trying to fill this need with things that "look like" they hold the answer to this need, at least somewhat... But they never find it... What is the meaning of it all? Why are the things that look so good to us really so bad for us? Why is the world so cruel?

The answer, my friend, is right in the room with you now. There is no need to run after anything, **anything** at all. He is right there and He loves you infinitely. And He is just waiting for you to turn to Him and give yourself completely over to Him.

Davka by giving up the things that "look so good" but aren't, do we learn how to give up our self-will and connect to G-d in the deepest way.

Yes, we **CAN** love and **be** loved, deeper than we could have ever imagined. We truly **can** find pleasure, comfort and security that we only dreamed could exist in this dark world. The subconscious need that we had all our lives is really a "G-d hole" inside of us... And all that we seek can truly be found in **Him**.

When we give ourselves over to Him 100% (not 98%) we will finally start to feel it. Everything we ever thought we needed and craved, is there in Him.

May He help us lose ourselves in His loving embrace, for all eternity.

I rarely post on the forum anymore, and G-d put this in my head to write to you... May this be

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Re: Briut

Posted by imtrying25 - 30 Jan 2010 20:12

A gutte voch Briut. Much hatzlacha.

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Re: Briut

Posted by Me3 - 31 Jan 2010 01:19

I was asked to forward this to you.
Wow guard?? I thought you forgot how to write posts like that!!! This is special!!

[The Almighty wrote on 10 Jul 1973 00:11:](#)

Dear Briut

About that miracle you requested. I took a conservative Jew in a gay relationship and changed him into a shomer Torah U'Mitzvos Jew with a wonderful frum wife and family. What more do you want?

Yours truly,

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Re: Briut

Posted by silentbattle - 31 Jan 2010 07:54

Fantastic on your continued success.

As a basic prediction - you'll feel good, rejoicing along with your yetzer tov. And your yetzer hora will say, "whew, that was difficult! Glad that's over!"

The question is, whose party do you want to attend?

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