

Hello from Blind Beggar

Posted by Blind Beggar - 28 Aug 2010 21:19

Hello Tzaddikim! I just found this site last week. I think it is going to make my Rosh Hashono and Yom Kippur. I think the newness of the 90 day chart will get me 40 clean days to Shemini Atzeres but I am afraid of what will happen next. Does anyone have any suggestions?

I have read enough of the forum to see that you are all tzaddikim and all serving Hashem every day clean and again after every fall.

The holy Baal Shem Tov taught that the yetzer horo is more interested in the post-sin depression than in the sin itself.

Blind Beggar who wants to have eyes only for Hashem.

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar

Posted by gibbor120 - 26 Oct 2011 15:57

[Blind Beggar wrote on 15 Oct 2011 21:08:](#)

I just realized that I objectify **all** women. The pretty ones are no *chiddush*, but when I see a fat or old woman and write her off as worthless I am also objectifying her. Fat women and old women are also people, I know some personally and they are real. Lots to learn.

Excellent point! Thanks!

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar

Posted by Blind Beggar - 30 Oct 2011 06:15

It's time to explain my updated signature.

It used to say:

- 1) If I see a woman I am powerless over lust, but I don't have to look.
- 2) I *can* guard my eyes.
- 3) I *want to* guard my eyes.
- 4) I *do* guard my eyes.

And here is the explanation:[Which is still over here.](#)

1) Is the first step of SA. I am powerless over lust, once I start, I cannot stop.

2) My reaction is not to look, like an alcoholic who cannot have only one drink. He can have none or he can go on a drunken binge. Elya explained 1) and 2) in Chizuk Email 998.

I asked him:

Hello Reb Elya, I have a question with the First Step, which is where I am holding in SA: I feel well armed to fight the lust battle, with:

TaPhSiC method and

the Three Second Rule and

I can take off my glasses and

post on the Forum and

call chaverim 24/6 and

I read the chizuk emails and

I have the K9 filter and

WebChaver and more...

But then the First Step tells me I am powerless. I should lie down on the floor and cry in surrender, let go and let God, give up the fight, throw down my weapons and wave a white flag. How do these two ideas fit together?

And he answered me:

You are powerless THEREFORE you must use these methods, the 3 second rule, glasses, keep in touch with others who can guide you, filters to guard you, etc. Powerless means you cannot do this on your own, you (we) need help from others and a Higher Power. Since you've put all of these things in place it's as if you have waved a white flag and pronounced you are powerless and ask G-d to help. Once you're away from lustful thoughts and pictures and lust itself, it becomes easier. This is G-d helping you.

After talking with aa1977 we realized two more important points:

3) Rebbe Nachman z"l said we need to have a yearning to to Hashem's will and we need to verbalize it. "I want to guard my eyes".

4) Rebbe Nachman z"l said to search for the good points in all people, including ourselves. This is the "affirm" stage of the 3 second rule. "I do guard my eyes"

Now my signature is this:

- 1) If I see a woman as an object I am powerless over lust, but I don't have to look.
- 2) I *can* guard my eyes.
- 3) I *want to* guard my eyes.
- 4) I *do* guard my eyes.

The addition is based on this:

[Blind Beggar wrote on 26 Oct 2011 14:51:](#)

I find the same thing at work, there are loads of pretty young women over here, some frum, some not, but since they are all people and I know they are all more skilled than I am, I don't lust after them. It's true none of them can teach a tosfos like I can or learn kisvei Arizal, but here in the office it is office skills that count and I am fresh out of kollel. **Women's legs do not turn me on much, objects' legs are what make me lust.**

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by Eye.nonymous - 31 Oct 2011 19:36

Nice BB.

Was that me or a different Elyah? I don't remember that.

--Elyah

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by bardichev - 31 Oct 2011 19:37

keep on trucking

yes we can!!

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by Blind Beggar - 31 Oct 2011 21:27

Elya is not Elyah. Elya K. of the phone conferences wrote Chizuk email 998 and answered my question.

I don't know where I would be without you Elyah, but this nugget was from Elya.

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 31 Oct 2011 21:49

beautiful piece BB!

(it's also a davar be'ito for me cause i just started learning the torah called 'Is Lan Bira' in L'M which speaks about what you mentioned)

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by obormottel - 31 Oct 2011 21:50

one mistery down! I was sure that Elya K. is the eye.nonimous Elya from the forum whom I admire so much.

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by Blind Beggar - 31 Oct 2011 21:54

[ZemirosShabbos wrote on 31 Oct 2011 21:49:](#)

beautiful piece BB!

(it's also a davar be'ito for me cause i just started learning the torah called 'Is Lan Bira' in L'M which speaks about what you mentioned)

Keep 'em coming, maybe I'll learn something else (like from your signature
For those who don't know, Zemiros is refering to Likutei Moharan 30.

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 31 Oct 2011 21:57

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by Blind Beggar - 03 Nov 2011 10:35

Did you read about the 3 Second Rule in today's email? Were you too lazy-busy to follow it?
that's in L"M volume 1
Well, here it is:

Tip of the Day

The Three Second Rule

Posted by "Kedusha"

As you may know, addiction therapist Michelle Rappaport was a guest on Elya's conference call this past Thursday night. I would like to share one important point that was mentioned that really seems to help me:

The "Three-Second Rule:" If you see something inappropriate, implement the "three-second rule." Doing so involves three steps: alert, avert, and affirm. The first step is to realize that you're seeing something inappropriate. That's the "alert" stage, and it may take a second or two. The second step is to close your eyes or look away. That's the "avert" stage. These two steps should take place within [about] three seconds. The third step is to give yourself a mental "pat on the back" thinking something like, "I saw that by mistake, and I quickly looked away. I'm still clean and, b'Ezras Hashem, I'm going to build on that, one day at a time." That's the "affirm" stage.

Adhering to the three-second rule appears to be fully consistent with what the Halacha requires, and will also prevent any "slips" within rule #8 of the GYE Wall of Honor Rules. This is crucial, because as addicts, it's often the first slip that does us in ("just as an alcoholic needs to avoid that first sip, a lust addict needs to avoid that first slip").

This "rule" has got to make it into the next edition of the GYE Handbook. I've been on a high since I heard it.

Many times, people on the forum say things like, "I looked away, but maybe I waited a drop longer than I had to". Then the Yetzer Hara makes this poor soul feel guilty, when he's done nothing wrong at all, and that can lead to slips and falls, c"v. The "three-second rule" recognizes that it may take a second or two to realize that something is amiss, and only then are you expected to look away.

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by JackAbbey - 03 Nov 2011 12:41

1-2-3

brilliant

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by obormottel - 04 Nov 2011 07:10

The three-second rule is a precious, precious tool, I use it all the time.

I found it difficult to remember to "affirm", but when I do, I say: You did the right thing, you're a good man, I don't care what your wife thinks about you....(if not applicable, just skip "you're a good man")

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by Sturggle - 04 Nov 2011 07:27

BB! Shkoyach!!

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Re: Hello from Blind Beggar
Posted by Dov - 04 Nov 2011 17:08

The only rule of looking that I am willing to use is the one I heard from a guy (who I think has a lot more recovery and sobriety than I have been given) in a meeting once. He said "The first look is on G-d (that is, His tab). The second look is on me (I pay for it)."

I can live with this 'rule', because it is obvious that there is nothing wrong, unhealthy, evil, or sick with me noticing that the woman standing opposite me in the elevator has a beautiful body or face. Whether one is an addict or in the normal struggling majority, it's Hashem's Will, apparently, for us to **see**.

The shayloah is, do I **partake**? Taking in her image is an act of reducing a real person to a sex object. But they are not. Pretending they are - or could be - for me, is just *practicing* lying.

So when I take a second look, it is on me. I'm paying! I sometimes say out-loudish (only I can hear it): "I'm paying for that look! Hah!", or, "She's really not mine, at all!" These looks are very costly, as they drag me down and deeper into un-clarity and unhappiness, always. They cost more than money...suddenly I am so spendthrift? That's why I can really laugh about it. On a good day, nothing makes me smile as much as seeing my own nuttiness and being able to laugh about it!

Nu. The analysis of these stages of each of the seconds makes my head spin. And incidentally, the only other person I have heard teach it to 'the masses' was another therapist...*both* women.

Maybe they deeply understand what I (as a guy) only understand grossly and experientially.
Who knows?

Hey. The bottom line is not how it makes you feel or how smart it sounds, but how it *works* for you - or *doesn't* work for you.

Intentionally looking is always on me, even for one second, period. But I am pretty messed up.

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