

Navigating the ocean of my life

Posted by amevakesh - 17 Apr 2024 10:21

For the past 267 days, there have been sunny skies, calm winds, the boat's been steady, with nary a thought to the pirates that lurk beyond the horizon.

However, clouds are gathering, waves are getting choppier, and worst of all, a cry from the barrelman in the crow nest, "Pirates ahead"!!! I've been warned.

As they get closer, thoughts are swirling through my mind. I hear their evil whisperings in my head. "You thought you were off our radar, not so fast." Will they succeed in overtaking the ship I've put so much effort in constructing?

They're faster, sneakier, and more cunning than I, and I know that once they come too close, I'm doomed. But, I have an itch that needs to be scratched, a void that has to be filled, and I'm having a difficult time doing so.

But one thing I've learned here at GYE. There's safety in numbers. So I'm sending out a call to my fellow mates, can anyone help me out in how to overcome these Bein Hazmanim pirates?

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life

Posted by Muttel - 23 Jul 2024 14:17

A masterpiece! Your blood, sweat, and tears apparent in every step and lesson!

Just a word on #11: I'm taking this opportunity as well to express my love and thanks to everyone on this Holy Site. The relationships I've been zoche to build here are what's keeping me going, nay, flying on this journey that would otherwise be dark and dreary.

Everyone here has a portion in someone's aliya.

May all the zechusim created here serve in all of our stead to keep climbing the mountain of Kedusha with all the ?????? ?????????? ??????.

have a super meaningful fast chevra,

Muttel

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by amevakesh - 26 Jul 2024 02:51

A thought on this weeks ?????.

In the end of the ????? when it discusses the ??????? of ?????? ?????, ??? notes the discrepancy of ?????? that there is between ?????? and ????. He brings the famous ??? with the ??? of a king that made a party for all of his subjects. At the end of the party, he called in his beloved friend and told him, make a small intimate feast for the two of us, so that I can enjoy your company before you leave. Based on this ??? explains that that's why the ????? of ??? is much smaller than the ????? of ??????. The ??? ??? represent the ?????? ?????? and the party that they attend is a big one with much fanfare. However on ???, Hashem tells ??? ??????, you are my beloved, I want a small intimate meal with you before you leave. What has to be understood, is why does the meal specifically need to be small one? If all of the other subjects attended a extravagant party, why should the one that the king loves deserve any less?

??? brings quotes a ????? ??? ???????, that brings a ??? about the ??? ???, that seems to indicate that they correspond to ??? ?????? and not the ?????? ??????. A ??? to a host that had a guest. The first day he serves him the finest delicacies - ??????, the second day he serves him fish, the third he downgrade his guest a bit more to ??? ????? (apparently that was considered inferior to fish), the next day it's lentils, and finally vegetables. He constantly decreases his fare like the ??? ???. The question is what is ??? trying to teach us, that when we welcome a guest into our homes we should "trick" him by feeding him well and then keep on lowering the menu, is that the right way to treat a guest?

The answer to both questions is, that "?" is teaching us a lesson about relationships. When one welcomes a guest to his home for the first time, there is no previous connection, it has to be established, so the best way to do it is by putting out a spread that's fit for a king. Once the relationship begins to take root, he can cut back somewhat on the externals because there is already the beginnings of a connection. When the relationship blooms even more, he cuts back further, until the bond stands on its own, without a constant need for external fuel. The purpose of the external trappings are there to facilitate a deep and meaningful internal connection. Once "?" arrives, "?" says "?? ?? ????? ?????, ??? ????? ???", at that point the relationship has progressed to the point, that all that is needed for the intimacy to occur is a "????? ?????". anything beyond that is unnecessary, and perhaps would even mar the beauty of the moment.

????? ??????, in my second lesson I tried detailing the difference between sexuality and true intimacy. I'd like to use this idea to make a point. We are not ??????. The fact is we have animalistic tendencies. Hashem wants us to build a meaningful relationship with our better halves, in order for him to be "???? ?????????". When there is perfect harmony between husband and wife "???" rest his "?????" on them. How are we, with all of our raging hormones, meant to go about the delicate task of building a deep and meaningful relationship with a complete stranger? So '?' did us a favor and created a very physical passion and drive for sex to help engender real meaningful feelings of love. Sexuality is a tool that meant to be used and enjoyed in order to facilitate a deep and intimate connection. Ultimately, the sex is the external expression of an eternal bond. When the bond is the way it should be, the sex is the most beautiful and holy thing. Lacking and "????" it is cheap, meaningless, and devoid of any content.

Interestingly, a woman is most attractive from a sexual perspective, when she's in the years that she is beginning her married life. This is not an accident. In order to maximize passion and excitement, '?' made the outer package, most desirable, when we need the most help to build the deep relationship that will hopefully last a lifetime. As time goes on and we've hopefully reached new levels of depth in our marriage, the "?????????" naturally decreases over time. But at this point the marriage is already strong and solidified. It doesn't need as much external to fuel the internal.

I am not saying in any way that the external is cheap in any way. When used to bring out feelings of love, it's beautiful holy and a "????". The point is that as the relationship progresses, less of it is needed to bring out that deep love.

There is a touching story that brings out this point. I think I read it years ago in Ruchama Shain's All for the Boss. I might be missing some details, but the gist of it was something like this. Ruchama, and her husband Moshe had to go to some type of bureaucratic office. They

went with her parents. At one point during the trip, all four of them were standing in a way that Moshe and Ruchama were standing next to each other, flanked by her parents who were standing on either side of them. Ruchama remarked to her father, "look Papa, Moshe and I are standing so close to each other, while you and Mama are standing far apart from each other".

To which ?' ????? responded, "Mama and I are close enough to be standing far apart. You and Moshe are still nurturing a new and delicate relationship, so you need to stand together." The story speaks for itself. Have a wonderful Shabbos!

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by redfaced - 26 Jul 2024 12:30

[amevakesh wrote on 26 Jul 2024 02:51:](#)

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standing so close to each other, while you and Mama are standing far apart from each other”.

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The story speaks for itself. Have a wonderful Shabbos!

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by yiftach - 26 Jul 2024 12:58

Shkoish Harav Amevakesh! Love it! What a story!

Good Shabbos!

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by Muttel - 26 Jul 2024 13:21

Yes, great work and read super well, thank you!

Muttel

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by Heeling - 26 Jul 2024 14:38

Stunning! thanks,

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????? continues. ?? ?????? ???, ?????? ??? ?????? ???????, ?????? ??????? ?????? ?????????? ??? ?????? ?????? ??????? ??????? ??????? ??????? ??????? ???????" ?????? ?? ?? ?????? ?????? ?????? ??, ??? ?????? ?????? ?? ?????? ???, ??? ??????? ?????? ??????" ?? ?????? ?????? ??????? ??????? ??????. - Why does it talk about the brooks of water? Answers the ??????, when the animals are thirsty, they gather around the deer and she digs in to the ground with her horns, and cries out to "????". ? answers her by tearing open the depths and the water springs forth to quench the thirst of all the animals. Apparently, the ?????? understands the ?????? to be talking about a female deer, but if so how is the question answered, why the ?????? ?????? The ??? ?????? from the ???" explains, that the female deer during labor, cries out ?????? - with strength like a ???, therefore it says ?????.

I saw a different ???, a beautiful insight from '?' ?????? ??????'? ??" which is relevant to what ???" is saying. ??????, there are 2 parts to the ??????, one on the discrepancy between the usage of ??? and ?????, and one on the words ?? ?????? ???. Says ???" that it's all one ?????, and the ?????? is teaching us a lesson in true selflessness. When the two scenarios come together, the labor pains and the animals thirsting for water, the deer forgets about its own personal pain and occupies itself with trying to relieve the pain of the other animals. It then beseeches '?' on their behalf, not for itself. That's the reason the ?????? refers to the ?????? as a ??????. One who's able to let go their own problems and instead adopt other people's problems as their own is indeed worthy of the title ?????. What the ?????? is answering is that the ?????? makes herself like a ???, that doesn't go through labor pains, in order to carry the burden of the other animals pain.

When I saw this Vort, I thought that through this website, I personally have been the beneficiary of a few special individuals, who although they are in pain from their own personal circumstances, they take the time to hear me out, give me Chizzuk, and feel my pain as best as they can. I think that this is the hallmark of a true leader. In order to properly lead, one must have a heart, so infused with ?????? ?????? that the pain experienced from other people's ?????? exceeds the pain of one's own personal ???, or at the very least, the ability to put aside one's own ???, even if for a few minutes to focus exclusively on other people's pain. Obviously this is a ??????? that very few are on, but to a certain extent, I have felt it, and seen it with my own eyes in this Oilam.

Then I was struck by the following thought. On a somewhat smaller scale, all those heroes that put their own discomfort and reputation on the line, by writing letters to their Rabbeim, hanging up signs (even after they were taken down), and speaking to Rabbonim in order to alleviate the pain of so many of our brothers that are still struggling, are also putting other peoples needs before their own. I was filled with a little bit of a sense of unease because, for a weeks now, I've had the ?????? of being in the presence of one of the very well known Roshei yeshiva/????? that has a lot of influence on many Bochurim, Yungerleit and Ballei Battim. For a while now, I observed how some of the Oilam here was actively doing their part in trying to spread awareness of GYE and the different initiatives that were brought up. I felt like I too should participate by speaking to this ??? ?????? and make him aware of the extent of what's going on here. But I couldn't bring myself to do it, I was too embarrassed. Then when I saw the

aforementioned Vort, I thought to myself, I have an opportunity to help out other Yidden, it's time to put my own ???? to the side, and follow the lead that so many here have already taken. Before I could change my mind, I went over to this ??? ????? and asked him if I could speak to him. he told me to come back after ????? which I did. We sat together in his office for 25 mins. I told him about all the wonderful things that happen on this website, about how people from all types and creeds have managed to break free completely after many years of struggling, about the friendships made, and about all the wonderful initiatives that are going on here. He is knowledgeable in GYE in general, but the scope and the extent of it, and that so many ??? ????? are using it and being helped, that was somewhat of a ????? to him. I told him about PY's letter to his Rabbeim, and about IWLR's signs and about how they were taken down. I told him about Eerie's phone line's and about what he is doing to try to get it going. I tried my best impressing on him the need to spread the fact that there is such a valuable resource that really works. I told him about the pain and the double lives that many good people lead and the agony that they're in. Interestingly, what impressed this ??? ????? was the fact that 40 people responded to IWLR's signs, that there were so many people that were able to overcome their own ????? and approach others for help. It's a ????? to be part of such a '????? ??? ????? who don't only take their own ????????? in to consideration, but they're not satisfied until they will have helped every last member in ??? ????? that needs it.

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by stopsurvivingstartliving - 29 Jul 2024 13:00

Wow I am mekane your zechusim!

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by amevakesh - 30 Jul 2024 15:19

Nestled in the the shadows of that great citadel of study, friends met, to learn, to share, and to gain from each other. They were soon joined by another, and then another. Hugs all around, ideas exchanged, topics discussed, experiences shared. Walked away fortified. T'was a huge Chizzuk for me!

Warning: Spoiler!

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by Heeling - 30 Jul 2024 15:23

A quick Google search tells me that the following are some foods Harry Potter prefers - eggs, bacon, rolls, sausage, black and white pudding, and kippers

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by amevakesh - 30 Jul 2024 15:25

Sounds good, as long as it has Badatz Hechsher and is Cholorv Yisroel!

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Re: Navigating the ocean of my life
Posted by redfaced - 30 Jul 2024 15:27

I'll try to get them on the menu for next time.

[Heeling wrote on 30 Jul 2024 15:23:](#)

A quick Google search tells me that the following are some foods Harry Potter prefers - eggs, bacon, rolls, sausage, black and white pudding, and kippers

No butterbeer???? A chocolate frog or two???

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