

Steve's Journal

Posted by Steve - 15 Dec 2009 18:46

So here I am, finally beginning my journey into my New Way of Living, thanx to Reb Guard, Duvid Chaim, the fearless crew on the Good Ship Lust-Will-Pop, and the GYE family.

I got here around 7/28/08 while searching for chizuk for shmiras eiynayim, signed up for the emails, then wasted over a year letting them collect in an inbox folder hoping to get to read them one day. The forum looked too intricate for me to navigate, so I didn't even try.

B"H for "falls" at the right time, cuz picking myself up from one led me to finally read one email. And THAT ONE, ladies and germs, is where I saw the advert for DC's new 12-Step Program Group Call, and thank G-D I followed the links to find out more. Again, Hashem was stretching out His hand to me, but THIS time, I TOOK IT!! I joined his group when it started in October.

I NEVER would have suspected I was a sexaholic, I just thought I was a guy with a very big yetzer hora for "girlwatching" that just got out of hand with the ease of internet access. But when I read the descriptions that an addict is ONE WHO KNOWS HE SHOULD STOP, BUT CAN NOT, or described as someone who loses time from work and family because of this uncontrollable drive, someone whose life is heading to ruination, it hit me. Those words described me to a tee. I was seeing myself and my uncontrollable life mirrored in the words of so many others, I couldn't believe it! I WAS NOT ALONE.

All the years of acting out; the guilt and the shame; the hours glued to bad sites while family time and parnose slipped away; the lying to my children who'd call me at work and ask "when are you coming home, Ta?" And I'd close my eyes to the screen to say "I have to work late", then open them up again after the call to keep watching for hours more... And the self hate, the loathing, the name calling and cursing of myself I did when I'd drive home at 3 am, the promises to Hashem, and then breaking them the very next morning. Days, months, YEARS lost, and I thought I could climb out of it on my own one day.

Duvid Chaim and the brave members of our crew have shown me the real way out of this decrepit existence, toward a life of freedom from this "lust addiction", and hopefully from my other shortcomings as well.

On the calls I found people whom I could talk to thru the blessed veil of anonymity, to discover who I really am and find how I could heal, and on the forum I found the rest of you, inspirational and needy both, and I've been blessed that I could help a little here and there. What I love best is that the time I would have spent on my computer pushing Hashem out of the world, I am now using to pull Him back in, into my life and the life of others.

Thanx to Duvid Chaim, I am on the road to recovery. It was hard to accept that "I'm a pickle, and will never be a cucumber again." He showed me logically the truth behind it. But I never really understood the depth of my emotional loss at that recognition until I read Letakein's amazing poem, Falling Leaves. She wrote that to help herself heal, but by sharing it, she MADE me heal. I wasn't afraid to take the next step, to Let Go and Let G-d, to trust His re-creating me into something new, even tho I do not know where it's heading.

So, my friends (and it means so much to me to be able to call y'all that), I will be using this journal to share with you my ups and downs (which I'm sure I'll have – we're only human), Please forgive me if it's not as dramatic, or filled with "near brink disasters" as so many of you brave people have to fight every day. I stand in awe of your strengths, your courage and your honesty. THIS is the place on earth for real Milchomas Hashem.

I will try my best to post everyday, and the next few days I'll add short installments of the BIG inspiration I had just before this Shabbos, on Erev Chanukah, that I'm still flying high from. The A & W's just kept rolling in, so stay tuned!!

Even tho I've been clean now since starting the calls 7 weeks ago, I'm gonna start my 90-day count as of Monday, the third day of Chanukah. Marked for my memory by my physical birthday, but in honor of my spiritual re-birth thru the 12-Steps and ALL of GYE.

Starting this Chanukah, may we all be blessed together to move far away from the Great Darkness that has owned us until now, and come into the GREAT LIGHT of Hashem's Love.

Kein Yehi Ratzon.

Steve.

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by Dov - 14 May 2010 17:58

Steve, really beautiful. Thanks. I would like to comment on it rather than reflecting.

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To the newbie "NeverAgain": Your *lending a hand to a friend* sign was shockingly poorly timed right after Steve's tremendous yesod (which I haven't even *begun* to reflect on!), which made it all the funnier.

Now I'll go reflect a bit. Steve really hit the nail on the head...ouch!

Bye!

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by Steve - 14 May 2010 19:01

Hmmm..... after reflecting a little on Never Again's poster post, I have only one comment. That type of teamwork is ...

Ready?...

IN POUR TASTE!!

Arrrrggggggghhhhhhhh!!! Yuk Yuk!!

Really, i loved Rabbi Meir Kahana, zeicher tzaddik l'bracha. Met him personally a few times, even had a shabbos seudah at his home in Mattesdorf. Whether anyone agrees with his opinion and solutions, I can tell you he was AN OHAIV YISROEL PAR EXELLANCE. The man's entire kavanah was to save Jewish lives. His heart literally bled every time a bus blew up and Jewish families were maimed. He did NOT care for self-aggrandisement, he lived a simple life without gashmiyus. His home proved that. before he was assassinated, I wanted to ask him to use his tremendous kochos and charisma to talk yidden into doing teshuvah, not just to move to eretz yisroel. Alas, one always thinks there will be another opportunity, and Hashem has other plans...

So, my anonymous friend Never Again, your choice of name comes with cost to me. Never will there be a courageous man who tells the world like it is, like it should be, to do the real hishtadlus needed to save jewish lives, and to make our homeland UNQUESTIONABLY OURS in the minds of the nations.

GS, GC, and GYT!!

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by Steve - 16 May 2010 14:11

Hey guys,

Just cuz i was once in a jail cell with Rabbi Kahana in lower manhattan doesn't mean I have the PLAGUE!!

Jeez Loiuse, where'd everybody go?

"Tip Toe, Through the Tulips....."

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by silentbattle - 16 May 2010 16:05

Just read your yesod - powerfull, and very true, I think.

Keep on rocking!

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by bardichev - 16 May 2010 16:30

daracheha darchay noam vichol nisovsayha shalom

emphsis on the vechol

yes one can be a ohaiv yisroel

but it takes

more than ahavas yisroel

to control ones mouth and fist

to remeber that we are sworn with 3 promises

to Hashem

one of them is not to be aggressive against the nations of the world

u wanna fight back against street bullies in brooklyn

yes.you may and you need to

but to terrorize terrorists

not a good idea

its sad

sad

sad

hes dead and so is his family

so what did he gain from being so right

we need not be blinded by our emotion

NO MATTER HOW WELL INTENDED THEY ARE"

STEVE this is the basis of our mesorah

anyone that went down the path of being an emotional jew

yes take it from a chasid like me

an emotional jew only

emphasis on only

is going to self destruct

all people and and all groups that discarded mesorah and halacha

are gone

its sad sad sad

yes many people FELT something needed to be done

but we are a people of truth Torah and mesorah

not emotion gut feelings

my two cents

bardiche a lover of all jews

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by Steve - 16 May 2010 16:39

Thanx, Bards.

now back to the reason we're all here.

What was that again...?

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by Dov - 16 May 2010 17:10

Wasn't it *a*lways about keeping our promises, staying alive and ahavas yisroel?

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by bardichev - 16 May 2010 17:16

derech erets kadmah latorah!

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by Steve - 16 May 2010 17:23

Oh. I thought it was about keeping our promises to stay away from fat and cholesterol.

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by zalmandovid - 17 May 2010 15:23

Hello Steve,

Hope you are well. Wishing you a good day. If the source of this disease is selfishness than surely the real cure is selflessness, no?

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by Dov - 17 May 2010 16:23

Oooh....nice. Thanks.

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by NeverAgain - 17 May 2010 21:20

[Steve wrote on 15 Dec 2009 18:46:](#)

It was a snowy Friday night, 52 years ago, when the third Ner of Chanukah was lit. Later, a very happy man walked into the Oneg Shabbos at shul. After two daughters, the doctor (who was under the threat of being tarred and feathered otherwise) gave this man what he had been waiting for, and had just delivered this man's new infant son. "A big boy! A big boy! 7 pounds, 21 ounces!" was the family's refrain. It took a while until the college educated uncle realized there are only 16 ounces per pound. (The doctor had said he was born 7:21).

I have had trouble with both time and weight ever since...

... and then I found 5 dollars.

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by Steve - 17 May 2010 21:29

huh?

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Re: Steve's Journal

Posted by yechiel - 17 May 2010 21:49

Hello Steve,

Reishis Bikurei Admascha... My first comment on this forum deserves to go to you, my friend. As for the substance uh..... don't got nothing. So a plain hello it is.

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