

Chooseurnames 90 day trip

Posted by Chooseurname - 11 Oct 2023 20:09

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Hello,

I was not going to try for 90 days now. Over yamim noraim I was mekabel just an hour a day to be careful - a machsom l'aynayim. I thought that was where I was holding and it was something I could build real growth on. However, when I heard over yom tov what happened in E"Y I decided I could do more klal yisroel. So here I go for 90 days whatever it takes.

I'm going to try hard to check in daily as I think it'll be really helpful.

It's a good time to start because with all the yom tov I kinda shook loose of some unhelpful habits. On the other hand, I'm glued to my computer following the news so not so great. I wish I could backdate this streak to before Rosh Hashana but alas it was interrupted...

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip

Posted by chosemyshem - 03 Apr 2025 21:38

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Checking in.

Turns out Tuesday was my three year anniversary on GYE! I don't really want to think about that though. Kinda depressing how little progress I've made in three years.

In other news. The things that were stressing me out the past few days have been resolved. In astonishingly good ways. One thing that was bothering me I thought was for sure absolutely terrible. Somehow today it turned out to be almost totally fine. Still some small amount of fallout, but I thought the situation was beyond all hope and somehow there was mamash a techiyas hameisim. I'm very grateful to Hashem.

Kinda makes me feel worse though. I mean, here I was lusting away in reaction to all these "terrible" things, when in truth there were totally awesome things cooking along just below the surface. That feels pretty silly.

Today was a clean day. Feels good to say that.

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip

Posted by iwillmanage - 03 Apr 2025 21:42

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My heart skipped a beat or two at the mention of that audio stuff. But no worries, I've got the tools to deal with it. May be sweet now (and trust me, I know what you mean when you say it is), but you'll come to resent it when you realize what a grip it has on you as you start breaking free in earnest. Which I'm sure you will one day, unless you plan on going to the grave still hooked to it all.

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip

Posted by chosemyshem - 06 Apr 2025 18:27

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Checking in.

Had a thought walking down the street this shabbos. I've never connected to the idea of "humanizing" as a way to control my lust in the streets. I just don't get it.

But this week I was thinking I don't have the strength to spend a summer fighting to keep my eyes down. My self-control tank is just not that full. So I was walking along, trying to keep myself distracted, and I realized a lady was walking parallel to me. I so I started philosphizin'.

I shouldn't look, but why is it such a struggle to not look?

Well, Shem it's a struggle since you've trained yourself that every women in the street is there solely for your sexual pleasure.

No, other Shem, I don't think that's true. If it was a animal, man, small child or other non-sexual creature I'd at least take a glance. I wouldn't fight to keep my head down. I only fight if it's a woman and that's why it feels like a "struggle" there.

So then I think something clicked with the "humanizing." It's not that I should stop finding women sexually attractive. It's that they should stop being important. What makes them important is that I hypersexualize them. If I stop hypersexualizing-> stop being important -> stop fighting to keep my head down. Az m'meilah if there's no struggle then I don't need so much self control.

I don't know if that makes sense, but that was my shabbos afternoon philosophy sesh. Take it or leave it.

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip  
Posted by chaimoigen - 07 Apr 2025 00:11

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I like it.

To me, this dovetails with the idea that I have written about about arriving at the personal realization that my own gratification isn't so important so missing out on being together (because my wife got tired, etc.) isn't really a big deal. This doesn't sound groundbreaking on paper, to anyone else, but when I FELT this, it was a game-changer.

I think that's what you're saying about looking. Yeah she's female and pretty. But it's not important. I won't "miss out" if I didn't see her and I wont be "full" and "satiated" if I do. It doesn't really make any difference.

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip  
Posted by chosemyshem - 08 Apr 2025 21:23

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Checking in. Been busy with Pesach prep and been pretty clean recently.

B"h have a new job lined up, so I think I'm able to keep things together till that starts. The new job should be busier, in a good way, but I'm terrified of screwing things up with porn there.

I did somehow find the guts to email the new boss in advance that I prefer to use only filtered internet. He never responded to that - hopefully he does not think I'm retarded now and rescind my offer since I already gave notice lol.

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip  
Posted by redfaced - 08 Apr 2025 21:26

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[chosemyschem wrote on 08 Apr 2025 21:23:](#)

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Going in with a clean slate, I highly recommend putting together a new program of accountability that can keep your slate clean

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip  
Posted by proudyungerman - 09 Apr 2025 13:39

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[redfaced wrote on 08 Apr 2025 21:26:](#)

[chosemyshe wrote on 08 Apr 2025 21:23:](#)

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip  
Posted by redfaced - 09 Apr 2025 15:05

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[proudyungerman wrote on 09 Apr 2025 13:39:](#)

[redfaced wrote on 08 Apr 2025 21:26:](#)

[chosemyshe wrote on 08 Apr 2025 21:23:](#)

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Once again a brilliant post by ProudYungerman.

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip  
Posted by proudyungerman - 09 Apr 2025 16:01

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[redfaced wrote on 09 Apr 2025 15:05:](#)

[proudyungerman wrote on 09 Apr 2025 13:39:](#)

[redfaced wrote on 08 Apr 2025 21:26:](#)

[chosemyshe wrote on 08 Apr 2025 21:23:](#)

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Once again a brilliant post by RED.

Appreciate the compliment, but it really was your incredible insightfulness that really got this thing going...

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip  
Posted by chosemyshe - 10 Apr 2025 21:05

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I could really use a good pesach.

It's funny. I wanted to do the 40 day prep Vehkam had posted about. I set off all determined but very quickly crashed. And hard. It's been a pretty rough 40 days. Even going in to pesach with the shavua shechal bo clean I didn't really manage.

**Warning: Spoiler!**

I don't feel like I'm doing great these days. Snapping at the kids, learning hasn't been going as well as I'd like (forget about davening) and of course the lust.

I'm not ready. I'm not ready to eat matzah, to tell over the faith of my fathers to my kids, to drink four cups of freedom. I'm not ready for spiritual heights.

But for pesach that doesn't matter. The Jews in mitzrayim weren't either ready.

I honestly don't know how I can go free. These habits, this *life*, is so ingrained in me I don't see away for me to leave it.

But Hashem can do it.

Here's to freedom.

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip

Posted by redfaced - 10 Apr 2025 21:35

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[chosemyshe wrote on 10 Apr 2025 21:05:](#)

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I don't have the right words, but my heart feels you. Its been feeling the same for an awful long time.

Zman Cheiruseinu is Lmayla Min Hateva, where Hashem shows that he loves his children whether they deserve it or not.

May this be the One where we finally getting taken out of this miserable Galus.

Bottoms up to freedom.

Ill have another shot .

To true Freedom!!!!

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip

Posted by chaimoigen - 11 Apr 2025 17:18

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I'll join in raising my glass to freedom. For us all. For every brick wall that needs a doorway...

Here's a Vort from the Yismach Yisroel:

The Rasha says" Mah Haavoda Hazos **LACHEM**" He jeers, "I **know you**, Dad, better than you think. I know what you do, and what you don't do. So don't sit here tonight, all holier than thou at the head of the table, in your white Kittle, preaching holiness. I knew some holy people, and you ain't them. What does this exalted Avoda have to do WITH YOU, huh?"

The answer, says the Yismach Yisroel, is that you tell him: "????? ?? ??? ?' ?? ?????  
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"It's true, son. I'm not so *Heilig*, unfortunately. But hear this: I AM NOT WORSE THAN WE WERE WHEN WE WERE TAKEN OUT OF MITZRAYIM. THEY WERE WORSE THAN I AM TODAY. And Hashem still took them out. And catapulted us to the highest heights. And He can do it today, too. For me and for you. But you gotta believe... ".

That's a big Chizzuk,

Let it be so.

Love,

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip

Posted by chosemyshem - 15 Apr 2025 18:31

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[chaimoigen wrote on 26 Apr 2024 05:17:](#)

Beautiful!!

The Yismach Yisroel says that the Rasha in the Haggada points out that his father is deficient in his own Avodas Hashem. (?? ?????? ????? ??? - ????? ????? ????? ?????? ).

And he explains that the response to this accusation is that it may be true, but we were in a worse state in Mitzrayim and we were nevertheless taken out in an **even more woefully deficient state** - because we **craved and wanted** to rise up and out of Mitzrayim and achieve Geula and true heights....

Ahem

[chaimoigen wrote on 11 Apr 2025 17:18:](#)

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That's a big Chizzuk,

Let it be so.

Love,

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What, you think we weren't payin' attention the first time?

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Re: Chooseurnames 90 day trip

Posted by chosemyshem - 15 Apr 2025 19:20

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[chosemyshem wrote on 10 Apr 2025 21:05:](#)

I honestly don't know how I can go free. These habits, this *life*, is so ingrained in me I don't see away for me to leave it.

But Hashem can do it.

Rav Pincus says that the avodah after pesach is to have emunah. Have emunah that you're a different person. Have emunah that you left mitzrayim. Have emunah that Hashem chose to personally take you as his nation.

Even if the seder wasn't a transcendent spiritual experience. Even if you feel like the same person. Even if you don't see your life is any different.

Have emunah that it happened.

Anyway. Had a hergesh during Hallel the second night. It's not super coherent, but I wanted to get it out.

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You lifted us up from the garbage (literally) to the highest heights. From mitzrayim to the pesach seder in one jump. Awe-inspiring!

This is a posuk that genuinely inspires me. But at the seder it hit me a little different.

I'm used to this experience. I live it daily.

I turn around, close the computer, wash my hands, and go. To the beis medrash, to davening, to my family, wherever. From the garbage to sitting with the nedivei am. But that's no cheirus. Aderaba, that's part of the problem.

That was the hergesh. Not such a helpful one.

The dissonance of living two lives that is part of the problem obviously doesn't exist by real cheirus, when Hashem genuinely removes you from the problem. But how to know if that happened or if it's just part of the upswing of the cycle?

Maybe that's where emunah comes in. But maybe also the rest of the kapital gives the answer.

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Maybe.

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