

"All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"

Posted by YMG - 28 Jul 2011 17:12

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Philosopher: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"

Philosopher: "... and since kids are ticklish, kids like black jelly beans".

Philosopher: "You're a kid. You must like black jelly beans too!"

Child: (puzzled) But I don't like black jelly beans.

Philosopher: Could it be that *maybe* you're not a kid?

Child: (holding up 5 fingers) - "I'm this much!"

Philosopher: Then *maybe* it's because you're not ticklish?

Child: (poking at his ribs) But I am ticklish.

Philosopher: Then maybe you're not *that* ticklish. Not all kids are *that* ticklish!

Child: Um... I dun know.

Philosopher: (frustrated and upset) Why don't you listen to me when I tell you "how" kids are and "why" they are!

Philosopher: Look "Kid" – you've only been a kid for 5 years, and you don't know so much about being a kid. Me on the other hand, I've been around much longer than you and my child years span greater than your whole life!

Philosopher: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans...!"

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"  
Posted by ur-a-jew - 01 Aug 2011 19:23

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[YMG wrote on 01 Aug 2011 14:20:](#)

This, by far, is my absolute favorite though!

YMG, seeing that a) you don't like black jellybeans and b) you know how to pick a good calvin and hobbes (see here [www.guardyoureyes.org/forum/index.php?topic=3454.msg101301#msg101301](http://www.guardyoureyes.org/forum/index.php?topic=3454.msg101301#msg101301)), I can't not like you. I do, however, question your philosophy on addiction.

[YMG wrote on 01 Aug 2011 16:07:](#)

The practical difference, is that in my case, staying off the stuff doesn't include accountability partners, therapy, or to forever attend (live) meetings. If I don't "pass on the message" to others with others I don't worry that I'll slip because of a lacking in my recovery. I also retain my anonymity, and I've never stepped out into the open.

It is one thing to recognize that Hashem can heal me. It is another to say that because of that I

am not going to seek out help from others in staying sober. I would venture to say that you engaged in addictive conduct for way longer than you have been sober. And that in the past you had resolved to stop, maybe even stopped for a period of time and then restarted. Knowing that, what is the harm of having an accountability partner who can help you in the struggle and keep you in check when those inevitable "lust attacks and urges" approach. Calling on an accountability partner is not a contradiction to bitachon in Hashem. The only "downside" I can see with such an approach is that it forces us to admit publicly (or at least to another person) that maybe we just aren't as great as the world holds us out to be.

I likewise fail to understand what can be wrong with passing "on the message" to others. But, if you have a method that works for you I am happy for you and I wish you continued Hatzlacha.

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"  
Posted by Gevura Shebyesod - 01 Aug 2011 19:52

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Each of us is different, and has a different YH and a different level of addiction. Each of us needs different methods to overcome our problems. Nobody is saying "do what I did or you will not succeed". But by sharing what works for us, we can provide Chizuk for each other, and also practical ideas that others may adopt as part of their personal strategy. That's why we are all here.

Gevura!

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"  
Posted by YMG - 01 Aug 2011 20:01

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[ur-a-jew wrote on 01 Aug 2011 19:23:](#)

It is one thing to recognize that Hashem can heal me. It is another to say that because of that I am not going to seek out help from others in staying sober. I would venture to say that you engaged in addictive conduct for way longer than you have been sober. And that in the past you had resolved to stop, maybe even stopped for a period of time and then restarted. Knowing that, what is the harm of having an accountability partner who can help you in the struggle and keep you in check when those inevitable "lust attacks and urges" approach. Calling on an accountability partner is not a contradiction to bitachon in Hashem. The only "downside" I can see with such an approach is that it forces us to admit publicly (or at least to another person) that maybe we just aren't as great as the world holds us out to be.

I likewise fail to understand what can be wrong with passing "on the message" to others. But, if you have a method that works for you I am happy for you and I wish you continued Hatzlacha.

To clarify:

Firstly, there is a difference in involving others in your recovery, as in listening to their attitudes and what's worked for them, then relying on them. When it comes to relying on them, we're told - *?? ????? ??????? ?? ?? ????? ?? ?????*. Relying on people sometimes means, that not only can't they help you, but they also can't help themselves! Listening to other people and hearing from them can be very helpful in knowing what to expect from yourself in your recovery. Involving others in your recovery, relying on them as "support", in *my case* (and I speak for myself here) that's only led to ultimate disaster. *My personal guidelines are*, "share attitude, but rely only on Hashem."

Secondly, I don't think accountability partners - in general - are such a simple subject. Here's a quote from the *Rambam's Hilchois Teshuva (2:5)*:

*?. ????? ????? ??? ??????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ??, ?????? ??????? ?????? ????? ?????? ??????, ?????? ??? ?????? ?????? ??????? ??????? ?? ?? ??, ??????? ?????? ?? ??????. ??? ??????? ?????? ??????, ??? ?????? ??????--??? ?????? ??????, ?????? "????? ??????, ?? ??????. ??? ?????? ??????, ??????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ??????--????? ?????? ?????? ?????, ?????? ?????? ??? ?? ?? ?????? ?? ?? ?????? ??? ?????? ??, ?????? ?????? ??????, ??????? ?????? ?????? ?????, ????. ?????? ??? ? ?????? ??????, ?????? "????, ?????? ???; ?????? ?????. ?"?*

It's plain tricky. That's just *my* opinion.

Thirdly, "passing on the message to others" is a wonderful thing, as well as a great chesed! I was talking about one's own recovery being *based* on it, where I said in *my situation*, that this is not the case.

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"

Posted by YMG - 01 Aug 2011 20:02

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[Gevura ShebYesod wrote on 01 Aug 2011 19:52:](#)

Each of us is different, and has a different YH and a different level of addiction. Each of us needs different methods to overcome our problems. Nobody is saying "do what I did or you will not succeed". But by sharing what works for us, we can provide Chizuk for each other, and also practical ideas that others may adopt as part of their personal strategy. That's why we are all here.

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 01 Aug 2011 20:05

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sounds like it will be a lively debate

here are some refreshments

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"

Posted by YMG - 01 Aug 2011 20:08

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Why a debate?

Everyone can eat their beans in peace. :D

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"

Posted by bardichev - 01 Aug 2011 20:10

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<http://www.guardyoureyes.org/forum/index.php?topic=1701.msg112690>

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"

Posted by ur-a-jew - 01 Aug 2011 21:56

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[YMG wrote on 01 Aug 2011 20:01:](#)

To clarify:

Secondly, I don't think accountability partners - in general - are such a simple subject. Here's a quote from the *Rambam's Hilchois Teshuva* (2:5):

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??? ?????? ??????, ?????? "????, ?????? ???; ?????? ?????. ?"?

It's plain tricky. That's just *my* opinion.

Yes, life is tricky, but the Rambam and an accountability partner are no ????? to each other.  
When I reach out to an accountability partner to help me overcome a lust attack that's not about  
teshuva it's about not sinning in the first place. It is way before teshuva.

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"  
Posted by YMG - 01 Aug 2011 22:38

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I can't discuss accountability and if that's a necessary part of your breaking free.

I don't know you/your recovery, and I don't know what accountability's about.

I never had an accountability partner, and I know nothing about how your partner's able to help  
you.

Hey ur-a-jew, "Keep coming back!" - AA : :D

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"  
Posted by MAALIN BAKODESH - 02 Aug 2011 12:21

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The rambam clearly states being misvadeh to a rabim. it doesn't say don't talk to a yochid. The mishna in avos says "asey l'cha rav, k'ney l'cha chaver" the purpose of this is for spiritual growth.reb elimelech of lizensk in tzetel koton clearly states to discuss your shortcomings with someone every day.

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"  
Posted by Eye.nonymous - 02 Aug 2011 12:49

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I don't want to burst anyone's bubble here.

YMG, I'm really happy for you to hear that you are cured.

To add a different perspective, however, I would like to add the following:

The Big Book, the main text of AA, describes various types of drinkers.

The social drinker, the periodic drinker, and even the heavy drinker. Even the heavy drinker is not necessarily an addict and, if he applies enough will power, he can stop his hazardous behavior all on his own, or with some outside help, but then it's history.

The addict is someone who is out of control. The addict is someone who's mind, body, and spirit are not quite like other people's and, for whatever reason, never will be again. Whenever the urge for drinking, or for lust, comes along, it is an insatiable urge. For such a condition,

there is recovery, there are steps to take to keep free of the shackles of the addiction, but it never quite goes away.

I say this because, whatever steps you took, and whatever tools worked for you, may also work for others. But, for someone who is not just a light luster, or even a heavy drinker while not an addict (which is possible, and may be your case), such steps may help a little bit in the short-term, but will not be sufficient for long-term recovery. It may not be the ultimate cure, as it was for you.

--Elyah

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"  
Posted by YMG - 02 Aug 2011 12:55

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[MAALIN BAKODESH wrote on 02 Aug 2011 12:21:](#)

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You didn't get my point. Perhaps, because I myself - trying to avoid this thread turning into a debate - didn't outrightly say anything other than that in my opinion, "it's tricky", and that I don't do it.

I therefore see no reason why anyone should feel the *need* to defend themselves and their opinions.

But if you *would* like to discuss this, you're welcome to take this over to private messages - where I'd gladly talk to you about what it says in the Rambam, the Minshna, and in Tzetel Koton.

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Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"  
Posted by YMG - 02 Aug 2011 13:25

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[Eye.nonymous wrote on 02 Aug 2011 12:49:](#)

I don't bite.

I don't want to burst anyone's bubble here.

YMG, I'm really happy for you to hear that you are cured.

To add a different perspective, however, I would like to add the following:

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--Elyah

It's so interesting that you say this.

That's because when *I* read The Big Book, it told me that if I want recovery, I should seek out the *G-d of my understanding*.

And here's what I learned:

The G-d of the *yidden*, and the G-d of the *Torah* - is capable of *anything at all!*

*Nothing* happens till the He gets involved.

P.S: My G-d is for everyone.

P.P.P.S: Don't worry. Bubble's not burst.

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P.P.S: So is Torah.

Re: "All kids who get ticklish like black jelly beans!"

Posted by YMG - 02 Aug 2011 13:52

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Once on the "G-d of my understanding/Higher Power" topic though...

Remember that quote from Calvin and Hobbes, "You know, Hobbes, some days even my lucky rocketship underpants don't help."?

I once read a great article on the Big Book (based on the chapter called "We Agnostics") titled, "Can my Higher Power be a doorknob?" and figured, hey - Calvin has *his* special underpants that are keeping him clean, so *why not!*

... just playin wid ya, man...

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