

Ploni's Claim

Posted by ploni.almoni@gmx.com - 29 Oct 2013 06:55

Somebody pointed out that I was asked what method I am using to stay clean and recover and I wrote a response, but it was sort of vague. So he asked me how come I am keeping it secret. The answer is that since there is something that I cannot communicate in writing, I don't want to get frustrated. But perhaps one thing that would help is to state one claim that you can look at and decide whether to call me a liar.

The claim is that in a few weeks I can show you how to reduce your yetzer ha-ra to manageable levels. You read that right, I am claiming that your yetzer will go down. My impression is that it goes down by a factor of a hundred or so, but this is subjective. The reason it works is that you are generating a feeling of being overwhelmed because you erroneously believe that you are out of control. When you are clean normally you don't keep track of the time, so your clean time does nothing to reduce your desire. But there's a way of being clean that does refute it. This is the explanation, whether you like it or not, and I hereby claim that it works.

We need a big disclaimer here that sobriety is not recovery. Just shrinking your yetzer ha-ra is not a recovery method, because the strong yetzer ha-ra is not the underlying cause of the addiction. But I deliberately do not want to talk about that. I just wanted to state this claim so that people can call me a liar if they wish to do so, so I know where I stand.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by Machshovo Tova - 31 Oct 2013 19:39

ploni.almoni@gmx.com wrote:

...Good fences make good neighbors.

...and good fences also make good protection from the Y"H.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by ?????? ?? - 31 Oct 2013 21:42

It seems that the twelve steps are not a set thing like a staircase made out of cement. It seems that the twelve steps are more like ????? and have many ????? and everyone can learn and act differently on each one, like designing one's own staircase with twelve steps which will get him up the twelve steps best for him to the light.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by ploni.almoni@gmx.com - 31 Oct 2013 21:58

What you are saying is theoretically correct, but not very useful in practice. I assume the steps are in the order they are most easily worked. If when you read about them you don't see why the order makes sense, you have no business changing it. Well, you can do it, but you are going to be disappointed.

When you try a process (applies to any kind of process) it is wise to do it first according to the manual. After you use the official version and you have figured out *why it works and when it doesn't* then you can make modifications. For example Dov here is probably qualified to make modifications if he wished to do so.

I actually hold that this idea of me looking at something and making a call is the underlying problem of addiction, depression, and life in general, and is the very thing that the Torah is intended to correct, the etz ha-das. This is my personal opinion.

You see this problem in this very web site. If you want to do the 12-step program, well, it says to go to meetings in person. If you do it on an online forum all bets are off.

I don't mean to say that the 12-step program is G-d's official addiction recovery program, so to

speak (though others must think just that,) I am just explaining that a wise person doesn't mess with things he doesn't understand yet.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by Machshovo Tova - 31 Oct 2013 22:12

Interestingly, there is another 12-step recovery program, known as the Mesilas Yeshorim's program for recovery. The 12 steps are (as outlined in his preface):

1. Torah
2. Zehirus
3. Zrizus
4. Nekiyus
5. Prishus
6. Tahara
7. Chassidus
8. Anovoh
9. Yiras Cheit
10. Kedusha
11. Ruach Hakodesh
12. Techiyas Hameisim

I know, I know, 'they' say it wasn't meant for addicts. But then again, not everyone here is an addict, so it may work for some.

Hatzlacha in whatever you try.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by LeHavote Aish - 31 Oct 2013 22:35

Maybe you misunderstood me Ploni, I am not saying that one should switch the order or something like that, but the ways people interpret each step and its connection and place and meaning is not unified amongst everyone.

BTW, who is this Dov who I hear so much great things about?

And Machshovo Tova, here is for what you brought (very interesting!):

1. Torah- Realizing you can't do it, so what do you do? You learn Torah.
2. Zehirus- We are then coming to realize there is a power over us that can return our sanity, so we are careful of what we do for we realized it is out of our grasp.
3. Zrizus- We quickly give up our lives and will to God.
4. Nekiyus- We cleaned ourselves and found all the "Shmutz".
5. Prishus- We let go of our feelings out into the air to a friend, to ourselves and to God.
6. Tahara- We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character and Purify us.
7. Chassidus- We humbly ask God to remove our shortcomings, keeping us away from him.
8. Anovoh- We make a list of people we hurt and understand that we have to make amends to them all.
9. Yiras Cheit- We made amends to whoever we hurt with caution not to hurt someone in

the process.

10. Kedusha- We continue making a ?????? ??? and continue fixing ourselves every time we find a problem.

11. Ruach Hakodesh- We seek through prayer and periodical seclusion (?????????) to be more connected and closer to God.

12. Techiyas Hameisim- We are the ones bringing the dead to life.

If you realize, the Torah is the whole backbone of this whole twelve piece spinal cord.

(I know some of it was a little to overstretched possibly, but at least I tried)

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by Machshovo Tova - 31 Oct 2013 22:41

That was beautiful! Shkoyach!

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by ploni.almoni@gmx.com - 01 Nov 2013 01:34

It's cute, but I think we are going to disagree. Addiction recovery stops at nekius in my opinion.

And as far as I know everyone who is in the 12-step program understands the steps in the same way.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by skeptical - 01 Nov 2013 02:36

I don't work the 12-steps, but since joining this site, I have had exposure to them, both from here and from several books I have glanced at.

Most people would say that my exposure is less than scratching the surface, yet I have still been able to notice that as there are many different people with many different ways of thinking, there seems to be quite a lot of approaches and takes on interpretations of how to go about them. If there would only be one way, there would just be "The Big Book," and that would be it, but look up the 12-steps and you'll find many many more books on the subject.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by ploni.almoni@gmx.com - 01 Nov 2013 04:25

I guess we got different impressions about that.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by LeHavote Aish - 01 Nov 2013 09:45

If there was only one way of understanding the 12 steps then it would not work because every person is different, what there is, is a "visual Spectrum" in which the 12 steps are in and how one understands them can go between red and violet.

And about healing going up to Nekiut, I disagree, first of all who is we you are talking about? And second of all I said what I wrote was far stretched, but here is what I really think:

1. Torah- this is the core foundation of everything because if it wasn't assur i might as well probably be masturbating right now.

2. Zehirus- That is saying to yourself "no more 'I can control it' crap!"

3. Zrizus- This is the part where we keep ourselves from sinning after we understood that we can't fight it and only God can help us.

4. Nekiyus- That is the cleaning up process, step 4.

5. Prishus- Fences, fences, fences...

6. Tahara- Asking God to remove all of our shortcomings...step 7.

7. Chassidus- This is step 11, feeling close to God.

8. Anovoh- This is probably out of place in this context, but you need Anovoh the whole way through.

9. Yiras Cheit- This is the second half of step 11 and also the first 3 steps, you do not want to sin!

10. Kedusha- This is between steps 11 and twelve, you reached the point of full healthiness.

11. Ruach Hakodesh- This is using your inner voice to guide you on the right path, step 10 must be repeated all the time.

12. Techiyas Hameisim- This is step 12.

You misght disagree and others too (and you probably will) but this is my thought and what i see in the "visual spectrum" of it all.

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Re: Ploni's Claim

Posted by ploni.almoni@gmx.com - 01 Nov 2013 13:17

Okay, thanks. I'll let you have the last word on that one.

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