

Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 21 Oct 2014 17:59

i came to israel for y"t and i am staying here,
im going to be going to yeshiva here also.

Why did i switch? well i came here and i was hooked up with a bunch of guys who also have ssa just like me. that is something that i never experienced in america, simply because of logistics and availability. i israel there is a whole support group of guys who are willing to reach out and connect with each other. its amazing.
hey whats up yall? im in israel now, permanently

additionally, because the gay rights group has a much smaller contingent here, many therapists openly say that they can change ssa. something that i would say is close to nonexistent in america, b/c u could lose your job from saying that, especially if the media finds out. i started going to a therapist who specializes in ssa and so far it has been awesome.

another reason is that in israel the general atmosphere is an atmosphere that is dedicated to torah and growth in yiddishkeit (at least in yerushalayim). i personally see that the level of tznius is much higher here. in america it has become normal for women to wear skirts above the knee, i am not sure who made up that garbage halacha. in israel the percentage of women who are untznus is soooooo much lower.

also, i have started going to sa in israel. what is unique is that i would say 97% of the members are frum, not just that, in fact most of them are in yeshiva/kollel and look like yeshivish guys.

basically, the feeling i am getting is an overwhelmingly positive one. with a lot of seyata deshmaya i have arrived here. i actually have to thank gye, because i would have never gone to sa if not for gye. also i made contact with someone who has ssa through gye and he was the one who gave me the original numbers of other guys that i could talk to.

KOT! YTC!

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by inastruggle - 28 Apr 2016 14:54

[Shlomo24 wrote on 27 Apr 2016 22:07:](#)

If you are able to email me please do so. I post it in my signature for a reason.

Hmmm

Warning: Spoiler!

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 30 Apr 2016 20:42

That reminds me, b'derech klal I am terrible at chapping when people are messing with me. Especially when it's not face to face. For example, I don't chap how ina was messing with me. Oh well, there are worse things... (Although because of this I only get half of mark's jokes).

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by markz - 02 May 2016 02:58

I heard you're gonna do the Sefira thing

Counting

Warning: Spoiler!

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 02 May 2016 16:03

1,000 post. I'm not sure if I'm supposed to be happy about that. I only posted this because I realized. Oh well. Cool!

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by stillgoing - 02 May 2016 16:25

[Shlomo24 wrote on 02 May 2016 16:03:](#)

1,000 post. I'm not sure if I'm supposed to be happy about that. I only posted this because I realized. Oh well. Cool!

WON!

Oh!

OH!

OH!

(there was a much better emoticon for this on the old editor, oh well)

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 02 May 2016 16:54

I have been having a lot of romantic fantasy with women. At the same time, I had a dream today about sex with a man that wasn't entirely lustful, which confuses me because in my brain homosexual thoughts are always lust. I apologize if this is triggering to people, but the last time I acted out with a guy I did feel a strong connection of sorts besides for the lust. Although in SA literature they might call "the connection that had the magic... it bypassed intimacy and true union". I am struggling with these romantic fantasies because I want to get married and I want to be ready when I am married. Although I am realizing now that God will have me married exactly when I am ready for it, no matter what I think. Which is comforting. I am realizing a lot of fear about marriage, that I am not good enough, that no girl will accept me. This has been posted about before, but it is recurring. I think that one of the reasons why I post this is because

I want the sympathy of guys, and that someone will tell me "You're a great guy Shlomo," or "Any girl would be lucky to have you," which my therapist has said. His take is that I'm lacking love and acceptance and that is why I seek it out, he also openly stated that that is the reason why he gives it. I'm feeling a lot of self-pity right now, like I want to give him a hug and have him hold me tight. My mind is rambling now, but I'm going to try to get it all out. Bear with me.

A lot of my fantasies involve non-sexual touches that are loving. Such as me running my hair through a woman's hair, (I used to brush my sister and her friend's hair, it's a long running thing I have). I also fantasize about holding a woman in my arms and hugging a woman. I fantasize about the yichud room, although I have no idea what goes on besides for the fact that they don't have sex. Yeah, if you haven't realized, I'm a sex addict. I really want to be intimate with a woman. I don't currently live outside myself, but I want to. I have no idea what love is, but I want it. Maybe I'm a love cripple, but I've never been in a relationship like that to prove it.

Because I'm such a charmer, I want to be "real" with women. And I feel that I have to be a jerk to women to uproot my charming status. However, I'm not a jerk. So sometimes I feel stuck; Am I being Prince Charming or am I being Shlomo?

I also want a wife who can hold her own, to stand up to me. But I'm not sure if that is really what I want. When I was describing what I am looking for to my SIL, (mature, not jaded, job at least in the beginning of marriage, confident in herself but spiritual), she was like, "So you want a mommy?" Which got me thinking that maybe I want that because it's the easy way out. If she can deal with my s@%t then I can go a little bonkers every now and then, I can have my highs and lows. I'm not exactly sure.

Cordnoy: This is very out of character for me, but I would like for you to add feedback, whether privately or publicly, if you have. I really respect you and look up to you, and that is not a

I am also realizing that both my father and mother are incredibly narcissistic, although they have a strange duality to them that they don't seem that way. I think it's why I desire attention so much. I always try to get my mother to appreciate me, but she's like a slot machine: She give me attention just enough that I will come back for more. Like when she commented on some photos I took, which objectively, are beautiful. I still remember from 2+ years ago when she complimented a tie/suit combination. She said, "Shlomo you are the best at picking out ties," or something quite similar. It's part of the reason I spend so much time doing that now, I want to get that compliment again. I haven't gotten it since.

. Which brings up a vulnerability about myself that I back myself up unnecessarily, I never want to come across as weak, unless of course the strong thing would be to be weak, like crying at a funeral. Mayseh shehoyah. Actually happened to me.

I didn't know that my post was going to be this long when I started it, but I'm entitled. I want to keep this post going because it feels good to let these thoughts out. They have been developing over time and I haven't gone to therapy in a little bit because of Pesach. So you

I am also really nervous about a deadline for a history paper I have, which is not going as well as planned. I am going to give that fear up to God. I got a perfect paper plus extra credit on the midterm, but I might only get a B+ on the paper, which is devastating for a chronic honor roller, (read: perfectionist), like me.

I also realized, and this is a big one, that what I have been labeling as "dishonest" might actually not be so. In terms of tefillah and tefillin that is what I have been doing, but over Israel I religiously davened a bit more than usual and it wasn't dishonest for the most part. This thought process began when I had a talk with the "Lifeline" from Mishpacha Magazine. I had a bit of my story in one last year called "Escape From Gehinnom." So I'm committing to shachris once I guys are getting the brunt of it. Head back to college/yeshivah. I am going to try to anchor it with a chavrusa beforehand and see how it goes. I'll see how hard it is and what my emotions are like. The chavrusa idea has worked before, sometimes for a long time but sometimes not. Regardless, I'll give it a try. I have to make sure to ask for God's help though, that I'm not being selfish. One thing that helped me in my tefillah was what a Avreich/Rebbi told me: I only have to be cognizant of Hashem while davening, I don't need the long, intense, tefillah that I used to daven. It helps me focus on the real things and not get too crazy into it. When I get into it like I used to I tend to burn out. Even though it was sincere before, but I am a different person now and I may never go back to those prayers. My devekus is not limited to shmona esrai anymore, thank God. In the back of my mind, I hope this tefillah experiment goes well, because then a woman will accept me, I won't have religious flaws anymore. This is just myself not accepting me, I am not the woman that I'm going to marry. I also want to take tefillah one day at a time, and not get too crazy about it. Ok that's it.

P.S: I'm so effing honest, right? Another character defect of mine. I try to predict complements. Although maybe it's just not appreciating good feelings about myself. Here we go again... Jk.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by stillgoing - 02 May 2016 17:23

Btw, i only click "thank you" to a post after i read the whole thing, and i did.

You know, we're cheaper then your theripist. Mayb you should switch.

All i'm gonna say now to that giant entry is ,Shlomo, you're a'ok.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by doingtshuva - 02 May 2016 19:08

[stillgoing wrote on 02 May 2016 17:23:](#)

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You know, we're cheaper then your theripist. Mayb you should switch.

All i'm gonna say now to that giant entry is ,Shlomo, you're a'ok.

A treatment center is where you go and pay \$15,000 to find out that S.A. meetings are free

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by markz - 03 May 2016 01:03

[stillgoing wrote on 02 May 2016 17:23:](#)

Btw, i only click "thank you" to a post after i read the whole thing, and i did.

You know, we're cheaper then your theripist. Mayb you should switch.

All i'm gonna say now to that giant entry is ,Shlomo, you're a'ok.

I DID NOT READ THE WHOLE LECTURE

It is tooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooean

long

The few pieces I got were good

The best was what you wrote about me

Finally someone understands me

Keep on T!

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by stillgoing - 03 May 2016 01:39

Shlomo, that post was like L.A., N.Y, Montana & Texas all together. I have so many responses flying around in my head, i'm going to post them one at a time just to be a little more manageable (kinda like opaat)I did'nt add anything to your quote, but as you can see, i did skip some parts to get to the parts that im responding to.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by stillgoing - 03 May 2016 01:51

[Shlomo24 wrote on 02 May 2016 16:54:](#)

I have been having a lot of romantic fantasy with women... ...I apologize if this is triggering to people....

...A lot of my fantasies involve non-sexual touches that are loving. Such as me running my hair through a woman's hair, (I used to brush my sister and her friend's hair, it's a long running thing I have). I also fantasize about holding a women in my arms and hugging a woman. I fantasize about the yichud room, although I have no idea what goes on besides for the fact that they don't have sex. Yeah, if you haven't realized, I'm a sex addict. I really want to be intimate with a woman....

...Because I'm such a charmer, I want to be "real" with women. And I feel that I have to be a jerk to women to uproot my charming status. However, I'm not a jerk. So sometimes I feel stuck.

?All this talk about women. Correct me if i'm wrong. I'm only one ssa guy here and i may be a minority, but it sounds to me like you have a healthy (at least) appetite for the oppisite sex

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Ecstatic - 03 May 2016 02:15

SSA is not necessarily exclusive

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by cordnoy - 03 May 2016 02:16

Thanks.

I missed that paragraph in the middle the first time around.

Then, I said, I should read that long one again.

My ego is high, I am working on it.

Nothing intelligent off the cuff. I am curious about your dual fantasies. I don't know enough about it to venture an opinion.

I do think you should calm yourself a bit regarding all your wants in marriage....not sure how it will be productive.

If something more pops in, I will drop a line.

Still sorry I missed you by kosel.

B'hatzlachah

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 03 May 2016 04:11

[stillgoing wrote on 03 May 2016 01:39:](#)

Shlomo, that post was like L.A., N.Y, Montana & Texas all together. I have so many responses flying around in my head, i'm going to post them one at a time just to be a little more manageable (kinda like opaat)I didn't add anything to your quote, but as you can see, i did skip some parts to get to the parts that im responding to.

Some interesting analysis:

L.A. - City

N.Y. - State

Montana - State

Texas - State

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