

What else should I try?

Posted by GYEmember - 06 Mar 2015 04:42

Please help me, kind chevra, I admire you all. I am jealous when I see people on the forum with their number of days adding up, while my count is reset constantly. This is sometimes 3 times a week.

I want help from you guys, I really want to be through with this. I keep starting new counts, and thinking, this time it REALLY seems like I have the correct outlook to never be nichshal today, and for every other individual day in the future (I do try to take it one day at a time). I want your good, solid, advice. You guys are really good. I love you all:) .

I need the correct advice, perhaps it will take a long time to gain the information I need to be clean. Some people might say that each day, I will need to be mechazek, and that us chevra here are always learning new things relating to our struggle. However, is there not one day that is the last fall? Is there not one time when everything necessary falls into place. I agree it is a process, but is there that final click, is what I wonder.

Please let me list all the things which I have tried that I can remember. Thank you all again for helping me, you should be zocheh to much bracha!

1. Covenant Eyes filter and reporting.
2. Speaking with rabeim and therapists about it. (The therapists were not trained specifically in addiction, I don't believe, in case that matters.)
3. GYE forum.
4. Knasos.
5. I am up to around page 40 in the handbook.

6. Gedarim of when and where I could use my laptop.

7. Learning Torah

I can't think of any more right now, although I think there were other things I tried.

What I know I have not tried:

1. Exercising on a constant basis.

2. SA meetings (don't know if that is too extreme for me.)

3. Many of the tools here, besides 90-day chart, chizuk emails, and forum.

4. There is a therapist who specializes in this struggle, who is frum, who I can speak to at least once about this.

5. I have a friend who struggles who knows Dov. He gave me Dov's # to call-I need to get through.

I guess the pattern is like this. I fall, I'm inspired, I take another step. A few days go by, I feel less inspired, my comfortable that, "this time I'm good to go, I know what I need to know and I'm taking the right steps to get there. Then, I fall again, etc...

I need hadracha please.

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by GYEmember - 09 Mar 2015 05:46

Thank you, you are so right. The problem is, that by now, I don't know which thread of mine to use.

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by GYEmember - 09 Mar 2015 05:46

And sorry for making it confusing.

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by fighter26 - 09 Mar 2015 08:23

gye just wanted to say your a great guy for coming here for help this really what chazal mean when it says habuh l'taher i wish you the best of luck. are you feeling that at all do you feel like your doing a good thing here? and if ya how much and how does that affect you and how you feel

about the productivity it seems that your upset about how your preforming day to day maybe try to ask yourself why that is and see if its you or lust which is affecting you badly thats just what i think i wish you the best of luck

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by cordnoy - 09 Mar 2015 14:41

[GYEmember wrote:](#)

Thank you, you are so right. The problem is, that by now, I don't know which thread of mine to use.

Pick the one that has the most information about yourself.

people can give advice or suggest better when they know and understand the issues better.

b'hatzlachah

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by gibbor120 - 09 Mar 2015 16:55

As far as therapists go, it's like a shidduch. If one is not working out, try another, especially, if the first does not have addiction expertise.

Being busy with positive things is extremely important. Boredom and empty time are favorites of the Y"H, especially in this nisayon. The less "free" time you have, the better. Exercise is also a great outlet, especially with a friend. Staying busy and out of isolation are 2 great ikkarim.

Keep posting here, and NEVER EVER GIVE UP. I failed for over 20 years, tried everything I could think of to stop, it didn't help. B"H I'm 5 1/2 years sober now. I still don't have a magic formula, but joining GYE, joining the 12 step phone calls (which you may want to try) helped a lot. Talking with the chevra here, especially dov has also made a big difference.

I wish you hatzlacha. I know what you are going through.

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by GYEmember - 09 Mar 2015 17:24

I am restarting the 90 day chart today. BI"n I will now post my progress day to day on this thread as much as I can.

I am appreciative of everyone's willingness to help each other on this forum.

Thank you everyone.

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by serenity - 09 Mar 2015 18:43

Someone in AA with 30 years sobriety, was speaking to a mostly young crowd and he said that although he has been sober for a long time compared to most people in the room, he did start at their age (he was 21) and he is no less an addict than he was on day one. He has to work a daily program of recovery. He said that it may take him more days to get to that drink than a newcomer, but he will get there, and if he does get there, he will not come back. He will have lost something that us newcomers have and especially the younger people, and that is hope. There is a lot of hope out there.

I appreciated a share that Cordnoy posted on another thread about his frailty and how sick we are. As for me, today after I was getting out of shul I allowed myself to lust after my particularly preferential objects of my desire. (Of-course providence would have that person there at 7:15 A.M. in a relatively rural area and shul got out earlier than usual to boot) This was a pretty bad slip for me, because I can't head in that direction. Later in the day I was having feelings of desire and lust and so I called my sponsor, my brother and someone else in the program. I also said the third step prayer, tefilas haderach without the shem Hashem in the bracha and a prayer asking Hashem to remove the desires UI was having because I had no need for them at that time. The desire was removed. I didn't believe the prayer would work, but the program says to do it , so I do it. Action is the main thing.

hatzlacha!

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by GYEmember - 09 Mar 2015 20:31

A big thing which is bothering me is accepting that I will have trouble my whole life. Does it ever get better? How much better is better? Can I ever be happy about the fact I am an addict?

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by yiraishamaim - 09 Mar 2015 21:35

Does it get better?

Let's see. If someone simply could not hold any amount of significant days of sobriety and then works a program and accumulates 100's of days what does that mean?

They did not put themselves in jail did they?

So just like gamblers or drug addicts after a certain time only go to a meeting once a week - that indicates that after a certain point less aggressive intervention is needed to continue to be sober.

That's exciting. Feel it - believe in it- that's a fact.

(Of course there are exceptions but why should you think that you are not part of the majority?)

That being said we never graduate from being considered "recovering" to being cured. We always have that hovering upon us.

Do you remember the famous question on why the *NACHASH* is considered cursed if in reality his nature is changed after the sin and *AFAR* is his food - now, he need not exert as much effort to get food, there is plenty all over the place. In fact, it sounds like a blessing. Our Chachomim say that the curse is the very fact he has it so easy. He no longer is forced to turn to Hashem to ask for sustenance.

The same question is on Eretz Yisroel -why is it considered such a blessed land if in fact ample

rainfall is never certain? Again, the fact we must be concerned, forces us to turn to the Almighty for assistance. This keeps our relationship current throughout our journey in this world.

My dear friends - as we are all so acutely aware - a fall is always only a step away (by the way - in Pirkei Avos in states a person should never be certain of themselves until the day of death - so this insecurity of perhaps falling applies to all Jews - not only addictive personalities) - but precisely because of the apprehension of a possible failure - our relationship with Hashem must always be current.

Are we not in fact blessed?

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by GYEmember - 09 Mar 2015 22:22

Wow! Simply amazing answer! Thank you!

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by GYEmember - 10 Mar 2015 14:46

I'm still clean b"H. I need to ask my filter guardian-today-that I need to strengthen the filter settings. If I don't, I know I can too easily fall.

I had a dream last night that I started looking at porn for a few seconds-a slip-but I then stopped before it was a fall.

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by moshe220 - 10 Mar 2015 15:32

GYE I applaud you for what you are doing. It takes courage and it's not easy.

I've been relatively clean over the last days, after having gone from trolling the internet for women to meet in person (some married) and doing other things for which I (was going to write "I am" but the truth is more like "I was") terribly ashamed. But for the last days I have not even looked online at all. No fake names. No meeting people.

For me, there have been a couple of strategies that work best. First, I surround myself with positivity as much as possible. The YH does not have as much strength when we are feeling good and happy. The YH is at its most powerful when we are depressed. IF you can listen to things that will make you feel good about yourself and the world, the YH gets much weaker. For me, it's actually a Christian Pastor named Joel Osteen. I can honestly say he has saved my life in all of this. But for you it can be something different. Just surround yourself with good vibes and positivity and it will go a long way.

Second, start to see yourself as someone who does not do this. Create a real vision of yourself as the person who is living the life you want to live. If you don't know what that looks like, then spend some time. Write it out. But really begin to see yourself living the life you know you should be living, the life you want to live. It's hard at first, but if you can close your eyes and really start to see and feel the version of who you want to be, that will go a long way.

Start with these 2 things and see where it takes you. There's more a long this road. If you can work with a coach like Duvid Chaim that will help you as well. If you can find someone who will really hold you accountable that will help as well. But be positive and see yourself as the strong capable man you are and you will start to move in the right direction. Good luck!

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by serenity - 11 Mar 2015 04:07

It does get better and many people are grateful that they are addicts, myself included.

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Re: What else should I try?

Posted by GYEmember - 11 Mar 2015 04:41

Moshe220, both of your lessons are among the most powerful I've heard!

Your strategy about viewing myself as someone who does not do this, is one which I have tried. It kept me sober for almost two weeks- the longest stretch in a long time.

Thank you and everybody for all your care, concern, and wise words.

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