

My Story

Posted by Confucius - 08 May 2017 00:48

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Hello there.

I am 25, brought up yeshivish orthodox here in NY.

I recently finished grad school and am quite consumed with my professional life/work.

While I made a promise to myself that I would make this journey to living a "more wholesome" and disciplined life once I completed my schooling, as you might expect, I have been having real difficulty doing that.

So after delaying visiting this website for a while, I forced myself to sign up today.

I am not sure how many members on the site find themselves in a similar situation as me but I assume there are at least a few.

So here goes -

While I went to mainstream yeshivas throughout my childhood as well as in Israel too, I was always not that in touch with being Jewish. Now that I have just recently completed numerous years of undergrad and grad school at university combined with some family struggles and dealing with a successful yet very stressful work environment, I am for all intent and purposes, totally out of touch with belief in Judaism. I simply don't really care and I don't think that it makes much sense. While I am confident about my belief in a god being the creator of the world, I am a bit exhausted from trying to make orthodoxy or for that matter, general Judaism speak to me. Prior to university I made substantial efforts in terms of going to Aish etc. and at times I felt the connection and it made some sort of sense but now I don't have the time or patience. I guess it is in part because I am just so stressed out about making money and working extremely hard to be successful and reach professional milestones. From a religious perspective, all the talk about porn, out of marriage sex, etc being against god only speaks to be on a very small level.

So... why am I on here trying to embark on this journey?

I do believe in my heart that porn is sick on some level and would love to live a life of discipline where I am in control of what I do. Primarily, my primary motivation for signing up is b/c I am tired of not having control of my desires. I want to live a disciplined life and I am sick and tired of failing in this regard.

I am sorry that this intro is convoluted and and full of errors, I just want to get this journey started.

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Re: My Story

Posted by LifneiHashem - 09 May 2017 13:33

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[shmirashachaim wrote on 09 May 2017 03:21:](#)

[LifneiHashem wrote on 08 May 2017 01:53:](#)

Welcome! I also grew up religious but out of touch and uninterested in Judaism. As you correctly pointed out, the two issues (lust and lack of interest in religion) are not dependent on each other. I rediscovered meaningful religious life many years before addressing lust issues.

Sorry, but it would be great if you can explain a little bit in what you mean.

For a second I thought you meant by lust and lack of interest in religion not being dependent on each other sort of like Shlomo's comment that lust isn't simply a religious transgression. But it seemed that you explained that by saying that you rediscovered meaningful religious life many years before addressing lust issues. Does that mean your lusting didn't effect the meaning in your religious life? Are you saying lust has nothing to do with spirituality has no relation?

So, if possible, can you explain what you mean by

- 1) lust and lack of interest in religion not being dependent on each other, and
- 2) you rediscovered meaningful religious life many years before addressing lust issues.

I apologize if i'm not getting the obvious.. this is something that has been on my mind. You don't have to get too much into your personal life. Don't want to intrude.

Thanks for asking. Actually I was saying close to what Shlomo said. I, like many others used to view this as a religious struggle- I need to work on this because its an aveira. I also need to work on my lashon hara. That approach didn't get me too far. I went through periods of "teshuva" followed by sinning again, or at times giving up on this aveira and focusing on improving other aspects of my religious practice. Real change started Only when I finally woke up and realized that I need to address this not because it's a sin but rather because it is actually negatively affecting my life. I think Mr confusios has an advantage in this respect, because he

already came to this conclusion. I hope that clarifies somewhat.

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Re: My Story

Posted by Confucius - 09 May 2017 20:47

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[Gevura Shebyesod wrote on 08 May 2017 23:42:](#)

This is a Jewish site... we do have the occasional Xtian, and there even was a Moslem or 2. I don't know if we ever had any Chinese philosophers before. Just go easy on the deep stuff, or

you might confuse-us

Ha!

I actually know zero philosophy. For some reason Confucius popped into mu head as a username.

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Re: My Story

Posted by Confucius - 09 May 2017 20:51

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[LifneiHashem wrote on 09 May 2017 01:18:](#)

[Confucius wrote on 08 May 2017 23:33:](#)

I was asking that seriously.

Am I silly for not assuming that everyone on here follows Judaism?

Sorry, I assumed you were joking. Yes I found meaning in my Judaism.

No worries.

I wasn't sure how varying in terms of religious beliefs people on here were.

I did know this is a Jewish site.

Sounds like you have an interesting story.

Looking forward to reading more of your insight.

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Re: My Story

Posted by Confucius - 09 May 2017 20:54

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[LifneiHashem wrote on 09 May 2017 13:33:](#)

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[LifneiHashem wrote on 08 May 2017 01:53:](#)

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This makes a lot of sense.

?I definitely think this outlook is beneficial for people like me who are still going through "the religious journey."

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Re: My Story

Posted by MayanHamisgaber - 09 May 2017 21:00

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With an attitude like this you shall go far

KOMTNMW

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Re: My Story

Posted by Shivisi\_Hashem - 09 May 2017 21:11

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[MayanHamisgaber wrote on 09 May 2017 21:00:](#)

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KOMTNMW

if i may ask (not related to this thread) what is KOMTNMW stand for?

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Re: My Story

Posted by MayanHamisgaber - 09 May 2017 21:14

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KEEP ON MONSTA TRUCKING NO MATTER WHAT

AS PER THE REBBE REB BARDS SHLITA (hic)

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Re: My Story  
Posted by Shivisi\_Hashem - 09 May 2017 21:34

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thanks

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Re: My Story  
Posted by Trouble - 09 May 2017 21:40

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[Confucius wrote on 09 May 2017 20:47:](#)

[Gevura Shebyesod wrote on 08 May 2017 23:42:](#)

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Ha!

I actually know zero philosophy. For some reason Confucius popped into mu head as a username.

Definition of zero philosophy = Plato claimed that numbers exist in some mind-independent abstract heaven. Nominalists claim that there is no such heaven. Clearly, we can't see, hear, taste or feel numbers. But if there are no numbers what is mathematics all about?

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Re: My Story

Posted by shmiraShachaim - 09 May 2017 23:21

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That's what I assumed. I guess I was thrown off by how you "rediscovered meaningful religious life many years before addressing lust issues". I was curious what you meant by that. But I got your main point as you clarified quite well. Thank you.

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Re: My Story

Posted by Confucius - 11 May 2017 04:22

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[MayanHamisgaber wrote on 09 May 2017 21:00:](#)

With an attitude like this you shall go far

KOMTNMW

I hope so!

Thank you for the kind words.



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Re: My Story

Posted by Confucius - 11 May 2017 04:23

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[Trouble wrote on 09 May 2017 21:40:](#)

[Confucius wrote on 09 May 2017 20:47:](#)

[Gevura Shebyesod wrote on 08 May 2017 23:42:](#)

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My brain hurts just trying to understand what you are saying.

Def above my pay grade.

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Re: My Story

Posted by Hashem Help Me - 11 May 2017 05:01

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Welcome Confucious. With Hashem's help you will break free of the insanity of "needing" to act out. As this issue settles, your religious concerns will lessen and everything will fall into place. A diabetic who is out of whack, in and out of the hospital, etc has no time or emotional strength to come to terms with any confusion he has with religion. Once the sugar/insulin has been regulated and he feels like a human being again, he can dedicate thought and time to the philosophical issues..... Wishing you much success. And welcome to the family.

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Re: My Story

Posted by Confucius - 12 May 2017 02:30

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This is good...

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