

Just joined

Posted by Face the challenge - 04 Apr 2022 07:17

I just joined. I'm a "top" bachur in a good yeshiva (at least that's what people think...) and really want to commit to change so I can live up to What i want to become. I struggle tremendously and hope that This will be my last stop in a long journey.

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Re: Just joined

Posted by cordnoy - 04 Apr 2022 22:32

Quote: That is, I not only know that Chazal tell me they are related....

Where, pray tell?

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Re: Just joined

Posted by 5Uu80*cdwB#^ - 05 Apr 2022 00:18

[cordnoy wrote on 04 Apr 2022 22:32:](#)

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In my opinion, it's pshat in the Rambam I put above.

If the discussion is now only about whether I have a makor for my theory, I'm happy. I just didn't want anyone to think that I think learning Torah brings on fantasies.

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Re: Just joined

Posted by cordnoy - 05 Apr 2022 00:54

[5Uu80*cdwB#^ wrote on 05 Apr 2022 00:18:](#)

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The Rambam says exactly the opposite or 90% opposite, but nowhere close to your thesis.

I usually don't nitpick, but perhaps it's the "top bochur" title that is eggin' me on. The Rambam says somethin' very simple: an empty mind leads to unwarranted and inappropriate thoughts. And if one occupies himself with learning Torah, he will be saved.

Please enlighten us: where do you see that an intelligent deep thinker in Torah tends to fantasize wildly?

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Re: Just joined

Posted by wilnevergiveup - 05 Apr 2022 06:03

If I may chime in here with my opinion (just that), I was told when I was already in Yeshiva

Gedolah that I was above average, (top is a big word) although I never believed it because of my low self esteem, today I am aware of my abilities in learning. When I was younger I would day dream all day never did well in school and I was told that I was a failure. My fantasy doesn't help me in learning, until today it can be a struggle to focus when I am struck with a fantasy.

About those sources, I understand them to be taken literal; your brain is filled with Torah, no space for anything else, or always learning, no time for anything else. To me, this only makes sense for guys who can occupy their entire brain space and time with Torah, for guys like me, who want to have both, these Chaza"l may not be relevant. I think it's foolish for me to think that I can view/fantasize and somehow my learning will magically take away the desires for lust. This can be compared to someone trying to lose weight who exercises but doesn't change his eating habits.

Next opinion, "top guy" or not "top guy", I see everyone struggling. If you want you may be able to say that guys who are deep emotionally often struggle with addictive behaviors.

@cordny was probably "Top Bachur" in his time, that's why he is taking this apart.

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Posted by wilnevergiveup - 05 Apr 2022 06:08

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Re: Just joined

Posted by 5Uu80*cdwB#^ - 05 Apr 2022 13:02

[cordnoy wrote on 05 Apr 2022 00:54:](#)

[5Uu80*cdwB#^ wrote on 05 Apr 2022 00:18:](#)

[cordnoy wrote on 04 Apr 2022 22:32:](#)

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Please enlighten us: where do you see that an intelligent deep thinker in Torah tends to fantasize wildly?

I **theorize** (yes, just a theory) that the greater one's *capacity* to learn, the greater his *capacity* to fantasize. I'm not saying this is the only factor in addition; of course not. I know there are dozens of factors that go into who is ???? and I also realize that nearly everyone is struggling.

As for the Rambam, you can disagree with my understanding of the Rambam. If my pshat is bad and you therefore don't want to call me a top bachur, beseder.

If I encounter another source, I will with G-d's help remember to return to this thread and post it.

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Re: Just joined

Posted by Whatamithinking - 05 Apr 2022 15:07

the term "top bochur" always sounded like BS to me. what makes someone top? Who decides? society? Please. god knows whos top.

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Re: Just joined

Posted by 5Uu80*cdwB#^ - 05 Apr 2022 15:12

[cordnoy wrote on 05 Apr 2022 00:54:](#)

[5Uu80*cdwB#^ wrote on 05 Apr 2022 00:18:](#)

[cordnoy wrote on 04 Apr 2022 22:32:](#)

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Hi cordnoy. Again, I think you are misquoting and misinterpreting me when you say that I have said "an intelligent deep thinker in Torah tends to fantasize wildly". **I do not believe that is true and I did not write those words. I only posit that a more gifted mind has more *potential* to fantasize, not that he actually has to.** I believe that intellectual capacity enables a person both to learn and to fantasize. The smarter you are, the more good you can do with your mind and the more bad you can do with your mind, G-d forbid. You choose how you use it. It can go either way. I read that Rambam in this context and I think it fits nicely. You don't have to agree with me

And I certainly agree with willnevergiveup that there are many aspects here and of course almost everyone struggles with this.

Shalom.

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Re: Just joined

Posted by iwillmanage - 05 Apr 2022 15:53

Sorry 5Uu80*cdwB#^, but besides for bringing more sources could you also explain how you see the two to be related? Personally I can't begin to see the connection. What does the capacity to think deeply, past the superficial, and fine-tuning one's understanding of often abstract truths that delving into a sugya involves, have to do with the capacity to fantasize superficial, shallow nonsense?

Is this not a simple pshat in the Rambam quoted, that if a person is '???? ??????' and grounded in the truths of chochmo, he won't be '???? ??????' and fly off to fantasy land?

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Re: Just joined

Posted by 5Uu80*cdwB#^ - 05 Apr 2022 15:59

I'll think about this iwillmanage.

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Re: Just joined

Posted by cordnoy - 05 Apr 2022 16:29

[5Uu80*cdwB#^ wrote on 05 Apr 2022 15:59:](#)

I'll think about this iwillmanage. My posts seem to be being deleted. I posted two things here this morning and now they are gone. Not sure why.

Please let us know your translation and explanation of the Rambam.

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Re: Just joined

Posted by Vehkam - 05 Apr 2022 17:14

The op joined yesterday. He took the hard step of posting about himself with a brief description. May I respectfully suggest that most of the discussion beyond the first few posts be taken to a separate thread. Let's keep it relevant for the op.

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Re: Just joined

Posted by 5Uu80*cdwB#^ - 05 Apr 2022 17:15

I can continue this conversation once someone explains why two posts of mine from this morning explaining myself were deleted from this thread. Until then, I'm not interested in participating further in this discussion.

Shalom.

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