

Raboisai - I'm Living Real!

Posted by iwannalivereal - 17 Oct 2023 01:44

So... after lurking around a while I decided to introduce myself so as to be able to celebrate 2 new milestones that I just reached.

I'm a 27 year old yungerman learning in bmg, and I've been struggling with porn and masturbation since I was 12 when I discovered pornography on my parents' (then) unfiltered computer. Since then I've been "doing the cycle", I fall, then I get up with a new stronger kabbalah, and then I fall once again. Throughout my years in yeshiva I had access only when at home during bein hazmanim, and so I would go months during the zman only to fall again, sometimes more, sometimes less soon after I got home. I remember coming home after learning in EY for an amazing year only to fall within a few days.

In the past year or so my struggle seemed to almost explode and pushed me to do more and more to get what I "needed". I went from filter to filter, plugging up loopholes only to find newer and better ways around them.

I have had an account on GYE for quite a while, but somehow never managed to figure out how to get the most out of it and to try to give stopping a real hard try. Around Rosh Hashana time I decided to try again with two new things I had never tried before.

The first thing I did was try to get to know some GYE guys by speaking to them on the phone, and wow what a tool. Somehow even with GYE having more than 15 thousand users, until you shmooz around with someone on the phone it's hard to believe that there are real live people struggling with the same things I'm struggling with. It's also incredibly satisfying to be able to just say your life story to someone on a phone, to be able to get it out of your system a bit which is way better than just typing the story into a computer. And as a cherry on top to this, I was zoche to meet Vehkam in person, which for anyone following his thread knows how much of a hero and role model he is in this struggle. Meeting someone like that, seeing his face, shaking his hand were so absolutely incredible - I'm still on a high from that 10 minute meeting.

The second thing I did was finally listen to all those people (especially vehkam) screaming about reading the battle of the generation book. Although I had looked at it in the past, after noticing the amount of pages (almost 400) I'd "have to go through " to get to the finish line, I never made it past page 1. This time I really delved into it and boy was I in for a surprise when time after time the author described just how I was feeling and how to deal with them. The hardest part of the struggle for me had always been motivation, as although I have a nice long list of reasons not to watch porn, I never was able to feel it inside of me, and never had a strong feeling to not act out. Any time that I managed to not watch porn did not feel especially good or exciting, rather it was a missed out opportunity to have an awesome time. Reading how the author describes just this point and has pages and pages dedicated to how to change a person's mindset to be

excited to fight and overcome desire has been a real game changer for me. I never would've thought that I'd actually want to win more than wanting to enjoy.

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by proudyungerman - 27 Sep 2024 03:39

[Hashem Help Me wrote on 27 Sep 2024 03:01:](#)

Mazel Tov hero! But listen buddy, no time for those tears.... Put up more signs and answer more calls. Recess is over - Back to work!!

All jokes aside. **Where's the l'chaim?** The pamalia shel ma'aleh will join us there - but they don't drink...

Enough is enough!

#BRINGBACKTHEWOODFORD!!

Tomorrow night, I will Bez"H have a special l'chaim of WOODFORD for the tremendous accomplishments of our own IWLR.

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by yiftach - 27 Sep 2024 13:20

"?? ?????? ??????? ??"!!!!

When I first began my journey, I lurked around for a while reading some other peoples stories. When I came across yours, was the first time I felt like I was writing my very own story! From the style yeshivos we learnt in, to everything else... it just sounded so familiar. I no longer felt alone in this struggle. And then... I picked up the phone, and felt comforted by every word coming from you. I finally had motivation, if you could do it, so could I (not a ?? ?????, just a ?? ?????).

Thanks for all the time and energy you gave/give me, you're a real part of so many others paths to victory!

Hashem should give you koach to continue your ????? ?????! with your ??? ??????!!!!

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by vekiveisilo - 27 Sep 2024 21:32

My dear Rebbi and friend IWLR!!

Mazel Tov on reaching this milestone! Reading your post was an emotional rollercoaster – the pain of so many years which is so familiar, the immense joy of breaking free, and how you've used your unique perspective to reach out and rescue me and so many others from the mud.

I'm reminded of the words of Knesses Yisrael in Shir HaShirim (1:5-6):

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We're Yidden. Our pnimiyus is good, even when it's so obscured we can't see it. And in you I see that brought out so exquisitely. The fire that never dies in the heart of a Yid, always pushing him forward and even in such a shvere matzav not letting him be make peace with his situation, feeling the pain of being so distant, and crying out with a desire to be better, never giving up until the eventual triumph. And that flame continued to grow through a year of kedushah v'taharah, over time turning into a raging blaze, of a passion to help others reach the same happiness and satisfaction you had come to know, not relenting till every suffering neshama can be restored to its original pristineness.

There are times when the yetzer hara gets the better of me, and I long to return to my old life of hefkeirus, to the days when I would indulge my every urge and enjoy all the pleasures that lust has to offer, and I think to myself, "How could I have left all that behind?"

But then I think of you. And I think of the simcha which you radiate, the quiet confidence of someone who knows what the yetzer hara has to offer and yet had the courage to leave it all behind, and now relishes the infinitely greater pleasure of a life without lust, of a life of kedusha and regained control, and the fulfillment of being misgabber. And then I know which life I want to live, and from there I derive the koach to continue.

May Hashem give you many more years of kedusha, and help you continue to bring back more of His children to be able to Live Real!

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Yekusiel

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by iwannalivereal - 29 Sep 2024 03:44

Although my main year celebration was Thursday, I had an unplanned addition to it over Shabbos.

As I was coasting my way through pesukei dezimra my mind was wandering to all sorts of random places. Somehow, a video I had seen a few months ago flickered through. The video was of R' Osher Eiseman saying Nishmas shortly after his years long legal battle came to an official end.

Thursdays celebration was mainly celebrating my personal freedom after having lived through 15 years of slavery and pain. However, my celebration did not include the eibeshter as much as it could've.

Today, I thought back over the tremendous yad hashem that I have seen over the past year. The amount of hatava and siyata dishmaya is incredible. The hashgacha pratis that has come into play to arrange for me to break out of this stuff is beyond belief. For years I lived in such darkness thinking that there's no light at the end. All of a sudden the light shone bright and clear! There's a way out of this mess! The difference from almost one moment to the next can only be orchestrated from above.

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And more tears...

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by minhamayim - 02 Oct 2024 14:33

Lichvod Reb IWLR,

A huge belated Mazel tov on this tremendous milestone!

Nothing I can possibly write here can do justice to the amount of hakaras hatov i have for what you've done for me.

A drop less than three months ago, I was drowning in an ocean of mud. The undercurrent was pulling me down deeper and deeper as I watched myself crossing lines I had always thought were simply uncrossable.

I had always knows that my lust struggle affected me (and my family) on every level but I simply had no idea how to properly address it. I tried to deal with it by making firm commitments and basically just desperately hoping that it would just go away so that I could finally start living a truly productive life. But the problem was only getting worse. And then it started to really spiral out of control.

I never thought for a second that my yeshua would come about the way that it did. Actually connecting to others about this was for me an unfathomable concept. I thought that even if I would be able to muster up the guts to share everything about my struggle with someone, no one would truly understand me. I figured that anyone else that was busy with the garbage that I was busy with must not really be interested in changing. And people who were struggling and wanted desperately to get help, just couldn't be as deep in as I was. As I'm writing this I'm realizing how conceited that sounds. But think it I did. Boy was I wrong.

When I came on gye around 3 months ago, until then I had never properly checked out the site. For some reason, because of the device I was using and its settings, I couldn't fully view the forums and therefore had no idea that there were actual real people like me active here. Bchasdei Hashem, I did find the partner program though and desperately, although a bit skeptically, submitted my request for a partner.

lwlr, you are constantly on the lookout for someone else that can be rescued from the depths of despair and loneliness. On the forums, the partner and mentor program, your BMG signs, and most recently your tremendous undertaking of raising awareness amongst the rabbanim.

Its not surprising that it was you who first found me and reached out. Not a few hours after submitting my partner request we began our conversation via email. Then, that first phone conversation when I almost immediately guessed who you were by your voice.

My dear longtime friend iwlr,

My eyes are tearing as I write this. Imagine we would have known all those years ago what Hashem really had in mind. That close childhood friendship was, like everything else, the yad Hashem orchestrating His master plan. I think about the beginning. The events that led to your parents move... Our fathers' friendship... Our shared hobbies and interests.... (Even the fact that I was and always will be better than you at kugelach)

I truly feel Hashem holding my hand. Its all so clear. After so many lonely years of crying painful tears, in one moment He allowed me a glimpse of His constant presence.

You were with me that night. We experienced it together and neither of us will ever forget it.

May the gilui hashkacha pratis we were both zoche to witness this year be with us throughout this Rosh Hashanah as we daven that the world's sheker, distractions, and confusion come to an end so that all will be able to proclaim with inner calm and joy

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From the bottom of my heart, I wish you, everyone here on gye, and the entire klal yisroel a ?????? ?????????? ?????? and a gut gebenched yur!!

Your close friend,

MinHamayim

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by iwannalivereal - 25 Dec 2024 15:42

It's been a really long time since I've last posted on my thread. What can I say, life's been busy b"h. Lot's of good stuff going on.

Today (erev chanuka) is my first 90 day anniversary. Not sure if that's an officially recognized GYE milestone, but either way it means a lot to me. When I hit 90 days last year, it was the first time in my 15 years of struggling that I had made it that far. Hitting that milestone showed me clearly what I can do, and who I can be. The majority of my 15 struggling years I truly believed that it was impossible to break free. Porn, masturbation and lusting were all a permanent part of my life, and I was sure I'd go to the grave (hopefully still as a secret) with this struggle. Erev Chanukah last year I was zoche to see the light at the end of the tunnel, and Chasdei Hashem the light has continued to shine brightly.

IWLR

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by livingagain - 25 Dec 2024 15:45

[iwannalivereal wrote on 25 Dec 2024 15:42:](#)

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IWLR

Could you share what worked for you most

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!

Posted by redfaced - 25 Dec 2024 16:37

[livingagain wrote on 25 Dec 2024 15:45:](#)

[iwannalivereal wrote on 25 Dec 2024 15:42:](#)

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IWLR

Could you share what worked for you most

Written about over [here](#) - Quite well .

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by amevakesh - 25 Dec 2024 20:05

Coming home from a trip out of town, I noticed that my mailbox seemed a bit more full than usual. In it was a bulky envelope which had a Kuntris in it. I wish I could say that went through it, and it was amazing, but the ???? in it was way above my level, on some of the hardest Sugyas in Shas, replete with ??????? that I could only possibly understand if I was deep in the Sugya. The way I see it, is that this was a trophy of sorts. I feel like the teammate of someone who's lifting the trophy in victory on behalf of all of his teammates. Your ???? is ours, and your victory is ours. Thank you for sharing your joy with me.

With endless love,

Your teammate Amevakesh

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by SisonYishecha - 25 Dec 2024 22:50

Is there a more difficult Sugya in Shas than the one that we deal with in Yeshivas GYE?

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by livingagain - 25 Dec 2024 23:02

[SisonYishecha wrote on 25 Dec 2024 22:50:](#)

Is there a more difficult Sugya in Shas than the one that we deal with in Yeshivas GYE?

This one has three dinim

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by iwannalivereal - 20 Jan 2025 15:06

In honor of my 500th day since diving into this journey... I noticed that my filter has completely stopped working. Posting here for accountability. Hope to have it fixed asap.

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by eerie - 20 Jan 2025 17:42

500 days!!!! WOW!!!!!! Unreal!!!!!!

My friend, time flies when you are having fun, and having you around is definitely fun!

IWLR, you are a legend! You have changed so many people with your fire! Your signs have written a whole new chapter, and soon a book, in the war against filth! Zechuscha harbei me'oid!

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Re: Raboisai - I'm Living Real!
Posted by chaimmod - 20 Jan 2025 17:55

[iwannalivereal wrote on 20 Jan 2025 15:06:](#)

In honor of my 500th day since diving into this journey... I noticed that my filter has completely stopped working. Posting here for accountability. Hope to have it fixed asap.

Amazing!

Can you please share your story

here <https://guardyoureyes.com/forum/5-Announcements/429603-Share-your-success-story-here-to-inspire-others%21#429603> ?

How did you get to 500 ?

Thanks!

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