

I'm Trying!

Posted by imtrying25 - 14 Oct 2009 22:44

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i cant believe that i stumbled on this site!! This may be the greatest thing ever to happen to me!! Im really new to this site and i am somewhat confused it seems there is so much going on here. Is there someone i can talk ( email,chat etc.) to that can give me a basic rundown about this site?? Im what you call a "kollel yungerman" and imm suffering from a porn addiction for so many years. To say ive given up is an understatement!! Every time ive tried something else coame along and...BOOM! im sure you all can understand me. Im hoping that after all these years this might just be my salvation. Ive already signed up to 90 day chart but it seems there is so much more this site has to offer.

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by TrYiNg - 10 Nov 2009 07:40

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Hi IMT25,

I'm so sorry to hear about your fall. I just want you to know that it's ok. Slipping and falling is part of the journey up. Sometimes it's what helps us refocus on our goal, and go on with renewed determination. Thinking of what brought me to fall, helps me understand why I slipped, and then I can try to avoid those situations . I love what some1 once told me after a fall. **"Sometimes hashem brings a person to fall, only to see what he will do THEN."**

Mom posted this a while back and I thought it was worth it to quote again;

We should all learn how to fall gracefully. Its the failures, not the wins, which show us what we are really made of.

Have you ever watched clowns? Falls are always an intrinsic part of their acts. Getting back up again is always an intricate, exaggerated barrel of laughs. They will clamber back to their feet, bow profusely, and dust themselves off as if all the shmutz of the circus ring was attached to their oversized shoes.

I once had a friend who was an aspiring junior Olympic ice skater (not Jewish BH) She told me that the very first thing her coach taught, was how to fall! One would think this logic to be backwards. If you want to encourage a protege to succeed, dont draw her mind to falls!

But it's not true. A skater needs to reach the point where she instinctively pulls her hands in towards her body before landing to avoid other skaters accidentally racing over her outstretched fingers. She needs to know how to protect her head from the rock-hard ice etc.

And once she mastered falls, only then, did her world class coach move forward with techniques for winning an international Olympic competition.

Because he knew that falls are inevitable. As much part of life and learning as success is.

Dov, I was reading this and couldn't get over it. It's like you were talking jst about me! Especially , the last part.

How do we really 'let gd' then? There will always be this part of me that doesn't want to give it up.

As long as they keep trying the same exact thing and expecting a completely different result (it'll work/I really mean it this time!), they are doomed to keep having ta'aynos (complaints) on Hashem, thinking "why is He not helping me?!". The things they are trying are: 1) acting out (Yup! In the heat of the moment, we all figured that if we just gave in, the annoying tayva would finally leave us alone for a while, right?), 2) davening for "help" (even though they are not letting go of the sheretz and doing nothing really different) - the SA white book calls this "begging G-d to take it away so that we do not have to give it up!"),

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by 7yipol - 10 Nov 2009 10:26

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tRyInG, where on earth did you dredge that up from?

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by imtrying25 - 10 Nov 2009 11:36

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Gosh, I really was smart in my younger days!

Thank you so much for the kind words. Although we think we know it all , but when we hear it from someone else , especially someone whos expeirencing the same thing it really hits home.

"Sometimes hashem brings a person to fall, only to see what he will do THEN."

I so belive every word in this quote its so true and ive been trying to ingrain this in my mind for years. But truth be told, (although its embarresing sometimes) i was somewhat proud of myself yesterday because of my reaction. I think it comes from realizing that im finally getting places in my fight against this addiction, or as Dov would say in my cure for this sickness. ( please check a couple of posts up , to what im refering to.)

There will always be this part of me that doesn't want to give it up.

I have these feelings too. Its always bothered me that deep down below there is this part of me that wants it and doesnt want to give it up. But i think there are two reasons for this. 1- its not really us that doesnt want to give it up. Its or addiction that is saying this. Interestingly enough just a few days ago i was talking to a friend of mine and this came to mind. You see my friend is obese very obese and its now years that im trying all types of thing eg. money , to try and get him to lose weight. Anyway to make a long story short, The ther day i was trying to convince him to join overeaters anonymous which is the same thing as aa for people who overeat. He was coming up with all different ideas why he doesnt need to join and why he can lose wait on other diets and why he doesnt feel desparate enough to take a step like this. I was trying and trying till a point when i said to myself,Hey im not dealing with my friend here im dealing with his addiction. This is his addiction talking. He cant get himself to stop eating cuz hes addicted and his addiction will convince him and try and convince me why its not neccassary to do anything

about it. So the same thing here , I dont think its the real us that has these feelings but rather its our addiction.

2- I think we dont realize how bad this thing really is. At least thats the way i fel. Yes we realize its not a good thing and its evn bad and its wrong but we dont realize its ***poison***. We are like the little kid who wants to eat all that powder stuff thats under the kitchen sink. We know mommy doesnt let but it looks good. Point being that we dont have a full understanding and appreciation for the severity of the matzav that we are in.

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Re: I'm Trying!  
Posted by Dov - 10 Nov 2009 23:22

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[TrYiNg wrote on 10 Nov 2009 07:40:](#)

How do we really 'let gd' then? There will always be this part of me that doesn't want to give it up.

As long as they keep trying the same exact thing and expecting a completely different result (it'll work/I really mean it this time!), they are doomed to keep having ta'aynos (complaints) on Hashem, thinking "why is He not helping me?!". The things they are trying are: 1) acting out (Yup! In the heat of the moment, we all figured that if we just gave in, the annoying tayva would finally leave us alone for a while, right?), 2) davening for "help" (even though they are not letting go of the sheretz and doing nothing really different) - the SA white book calls this "begging G-d to take it away so that we do not have to give it up!"),

Well, frankly I'm burned out today after pouring my heart out in some PM responses. But 'here goes', with Hashem's help: Yes, it is very hard to imaging what "letting go and letting G-d" would be actually *be* like. After all, aren't we all ma'aminim already? Of course we are. So, the better question may be: What are we **not** letting go of right now, that keeps us tied to our patterns, our sick boundaries, and our desires? Heroin addicts know more than anyone how desperately they need to drop their old shotting gallery friends, stop frequenting the places they bought drugs, etc. We all hold onto those kinds of familiar patterns for our much needed comfort. Familiarity is comforting, for sure. But we need to find and substitute it with *other*, real comfort, if we are to

'make it'. That comfort is perhaps the main power of GYE and (- in my opinion - much greater power) in the 12-step fellowships. It's a new chevra. Fitting in somewhere else. (BTW, I absolutely needed the face-to-face program meetings and real-person sponsorship for that...oh )

But there is another "familiar setting" beside the external one that we see with our eyes that we need to learn to let go of - or rather - substitute for, and for me it's the *main* work of the very program itself: The "familiar setting" of our inner attitudes and reactions to stuff that we feel with our hearts. That is the main work and fruit of the steps. "It's an inside job."

If we expect to get better; to *behave* differently - that we will *not* have to resort to acting out with lust when stress, pride, fear, and **life** hits us, ***while remaining the same people we were before***...forget it. As long as we remain the same people, we will just keep fighting ourselves. Knowledge, we have...we need an inner change. You seem to recognize that and I think that is what you are asking, really.

So: *Letting go* - **of what?**

When that question is answered, the *letting G-d* flows more naturally.

Does that help a bit?

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by the.guard - 10 Nov 2009 23:33

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Does that help a bit?

It's gevaldig!! Pure gold. It sums up the program so well.

Well, frankly I'm burned out today after pouring my heart out in some PM responses.

Dov, it's not fair to the rest of us here at GYE that you should spend your Kochos on PMs... I know that sometimes it is important that things are said in private, but in most cases I am sure they can be posted on the person's thread... If you can please try to direct your answers to the forum as often as possible, we would **all** appreciate it. I can't stand the thought that I may be missing out on some of "Dov's wisdom and insights" because they were sent as private PMs. It's not fair. Waaaah!

P.S. This is not to say I think you should be posting *more* here, or to sound ungrateful, at all, chas veshalom. You post **plenty** as is... But it's *still* chaval for me to miss even one post of ;D)

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Re: I'm Trying!  
Posted by Dov - 10 Nov 2009 23:37

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I'd say "*and a refuah sheleima to you too*", but I love and respect you **way** too much, to do that. Uh oh....I'm really tired! PeaceOut!

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yours! They are truly precious to many of us here. (I am saving them all for a book one day

Re: I'm Trying!  
Posted by 7yipol - 11 Nov 2009 12:24

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[dov wrote on 10 Nov 2009 23:37:](#)

I'd say "*and a refuah sheleima to you too*", but I love and respect you **way** too much, to do that. Uh oh....I'm really tired! PeaceOut!

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by the.guard - 11 Nov 2009 16:16

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frankly I'm burned out today after pouring my heart out in some PM responses.

I'm really tired! PeaceOut!

So: *Letting go* - **of what?**

When that question is answered, the *letting G-d* flows more naturally

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Dov, it seems you do real good when you're tired. That was one of the most **profound** posts EVER. (I know, I'll get over it).

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by imtrying25 - 11 Nov 2009 16:19

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Hey Dov ive gotta ask you for a personal favor. **OH NO!!** Can you please continue posting on :D

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by letakain - 11 Nov 2009 16:46

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hey, biker!

i had so much trouble with not wanting to let go. i'd think to myself, "letakain, let go and let G-d"!! and then i'd think "nah, i actually like this."

it wasn't until it hit me how pathetic i was. how something so tiny could trigger me

that i felt like it was unbearable.

I hope that day comes for you soon.

step 1.

keep pedalling,

letakain

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by imtrying25 - 11 Nov 2009 17:38

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I still have these feelings sometimes like Why do i wanna give this all up i like it. In those times the only thing that pulls me through is , that i say to myself although i dont realize it myself but some many people out there have gone through it and they all say its not worth it. But i feel that ever sinc i joined this forum ive gotten things in focus a little better and things seem to be easier. Of course it has to do with the fact that i have so many people pushing me on and cheering for me to succeed. I still feel that i get triggered by really silly things but i hope that will get easier with time. Especially with being sober for more time. Also i say to myself this is how hashem created me and ive just gotta be more careful then the next person by what i look at etc etc. Thanx for support.

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by Dov - 11 Nov 2009 17:53

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Deep, imtrying. Deep.

Consider this: The fact that we are "triggerred" by crazy stuff and/or have crazy ideas or desires, is no barometer of our progress. Yeah, yeah, I know: "My idea of success is *not* a long life full of



struggling/crazy tayvos/regular inner battles with deadly desires, etc..." We are *all* looking for rest and serenity (except for the few out there who romanticise heroic struggle for struggles' sake). And the G-d I believe in wants us to be generally happy and to serve Him with joy.

Still, the occasional "giving in" just perpetuates the sickness, and I believe that if we make sobriety our ultimate goal (regardless of the reason), we will eventually be forced to grow, just to stay sober. That (necessarily uncomfortable) growth will only happen through **step-work** (or something a lot like it).

Expecting to stay clean at any cost, while remaining the same person, is just plain stupid (and doesn't usually work, which is *really* stupid). And we ain't stupid.

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by imtrying25 - 11 Nov 2009 18:03

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Expecting to stay clean at any cost, while remaining the same person, is just plain stupid (and doesn't usually work, which is really stupid). And we ain't stupid.

Besides being stupid this is virtually impossible. How can we stay the same person and stay clean at the same time. The "same person" is not someone who stays clean. Basically what im trying to say is that we need to grow, however that is, and through the growing we will become cleaner and cleaner. We need a new outlook , we need to be someone different and then we can hope this differnet person will be sober. Get what i mean??

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Re: I'm Trying!

Posted by 7yipol - 11 Nov 2009 19:33

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Get it

Got it

and its

GOOD!

As you slowly shed the layers of shmutz,  
you automatically lighten up (that stuff is *heavy!*)

And a lighter, shmutzless you,  
is a happier you.

And a happier you looks forward to his day,  
To the getting which comes from giving,  
and even the giving which comes from getting sometimes.

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