

Zemmy's story

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 25 Oct 2010 17:37

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Would like to formally introduce myself here, even though it is a little late in the game.

I am married with a couple of kids b"h. ever since i started working on computers i would periodically seek out p\*\*\*. first with a dial-up connection, then later with hi-speed internet. for days i would zone out at work, doing the bare minimum, making sure no one saw my dark secret, and feeling all the time that i am probably the only one in my circle of people who has this terrible secret. i would feel bad and try to stop. especially on Yom Kippur i would decide to stop. usually it would last a few weeks but then i would fall back into it. years later i put in a filter and it helped a lot. but only my computer had a filter and even a filter is not fool-proof. i found things that got through the filter. i found opportunities to use other computers. i changed filters. i even shut off the filter at some points.

i found GYE in a round-about way, through a google search for a halacha. i slowly started reading more and more. then i put in k9 and gave the password to the filter gabai (what a zechus Guard and him have!). that helped a lot for the p\*\*\*. almost a year ago i registered for the forum and posted a little here and there. someone on the forum reached out to me and we became partners (thank you!). that gave me a lot of chizuk. i feel that someone understands my struggle and i spilled the beans about my dark secret. i feel that if i fall ch'v i can holler out to my partner to come dig me out. that is a great feeling. like wearing a life-jacket on a boat or a parachute on a plane.

since Pesach i am clean. thanks to Hashem and to GYE. i realize that since i did not do the steps or join any phone groups the level of change to my attitudes are not too drastic. i think it is the awareness and constant chizuk provided by the forum and chizuk emails that account for whatever time i was able to stay out of trouble. at least i know that the resources for further change are available if ch'v needed in the future.

i cannot thank Guard enough for putting up this Migdal Oz of kedusha and for showing me and others the way to living clean lives. Same goes to Dov, Bardichev, yechida, Kedusha, Kaneshner (remember him?), ImTrying25, Kollel Guy, RageATM, Briut, Silentbattle, Tried123 and many many others, more recently Ovadia, 1Daat, Frumfiend the Star, Yosef Hatzadik, ur-a-jew, jooboy, world, an honest mouse, HashemsSoldier, JIP and more. Special thanks to 1daat for pushing me (gently) to make my own thread. i read a lot more than i post and every time anyone posts about a victory, a fall, a thought, a struggle it is a chizuk just to see others who struggle and sometimes win and sometimes not and keep on going trucking. of course the lessons learned from the veterans here are precious beyond words.

I am by no means out of the woods. i constantly struggle to keep my eyes off things that they should not see both on and off the computer and i know that the dangers of p\*\*\* will never go away. but with Hashem's help and with GYE i hope to be clean and slowly change my attitudes for the better.

i chose the name zemiros shabbos because to me shabbos is the day we celebrate our relationship with Hashem and zemiros are one of the most beautiful ways of bring out the spirit of shabbos. it reminds me of what i have at stake in the struggle.

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 24 Jan 2011 22:24

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well, if you would have listened when i asked you keep your cat on a leash i wouldn't have had to resort to this type of public flogging...

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by ur-a-jew - 24 Jan 2011 23:14

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[ZemirosShabbos wrote on 24 Jan 2011 21:37:](#)

i am high and holy

Zems, we agree but please have rachmonus on us all. If you let the secret out. No one will come visit our threads, they'll all just be hanging out on your thread.

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by an honest mouse - 25 Jan 2011 13:46

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[bardichev wrote on 24 Jan 2011 19:58:](#)

Ok for all u american yankees that don't speak hungarian

There is no sucj thing as being a little bit pregnant

What it means is

That either you are or u are not

So mostly is mostly

my rebbe used to say 99% sure is 100% unsure!

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 25 Jan 2011 15:37

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[ur-a-jew wrote on 24 Jan 2011 23:14:](#)

[ZemirosShabbos wrote on 24 Jan 2011 21:37:](#)

i am high and holy

Zems, we agree but please have rachmonus on us all. If you let the secret out. No one will come visit our threads, they'll all just be hanging out on your thread.

if we know where everyone will be hanging out then maybe Guard can sell ads on that thread

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 25 Jan 2011 16:45

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Here are the ads. ;D

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 25 Jan 2011 16:50

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the guy on the bottom should definitely not be climbing telephone poles barefoot

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by Shteeble - 25 Jan 2011 18:10

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I think he heard you.

Looks like he's trying to put on his shoes.

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 25 Jan 2011 18:17

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some more ads?

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 25 Jan 2011 18:29

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all these ads are making me feel mostly kitchi allapotosh

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 25 Jan 2011 18:58

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have an idea i wonder if anyone can identify with.

i feel that i have come on a long journey (like everyone else). through life in its various forms and permutations, childhood, adolescence, getting married, having children, children growing and maturing into young adults. experience and living and learning are the greatest teacher.

many things are clear to me now that many years ago would not have had traction in my mind.

often i see my children or other people who did not have the same experience seemingly repeating similar misconceptions or mistakes that i once had. i feel like trying to convey to them how the issue should be approached differently but at the same time i feel that the only reason i have the correct approach for the issue at hand is because i tried and failed numerous times until i reached a working balance. if someone would've come along before it was clear to me and tried to 'convert' me to the cause before i was convinced i probably would not have been open to the idea.

do i allow the school of hard knocks to do the job or do i try to be the school of soft voices?

experience or doctrine?

or maybe the middle road, meaning i try to give some guidance but ultimately the clincher might only be trying and failing? is this the secret of a good educator?

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 25 Jan 2011 19:05

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"Why deprive your children of the valuable educational tool called Experience?" (Unknown)

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Re: Zemmy's story

Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 25 Jan 2011 19:09

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On the other hand;

"Everyone learns from experience. A wise man from others', a fool only from his own." (Also  
Unknown)

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Re: Zemmy's story  
Posted by bardichev - 25 Jan 2011 19:13

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zemms

u r reading too much mishpacha-bina

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Re: Zemmy's story  
Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 25 Jan 2011 19:17

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Rav Hutner once said that one of the tactics of Amalek is to sever the chain of tradition from one generation to the next by making the younger generation feel sufficiently independent to disregard the older generation.

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maybe the focus should be on showing the younger generation how to be open to learning and accepting wisdom. probably best taught by example.

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