

A BRIEF INTERVIEW

WITH RAV BETZALEL COHEN, CEO OF FISCHER'S VS AMALEK BEIN HAZMANIM 2020 GONNA WORK REALLY HARD DROP KICK THE Hights dim.

The tables begin to get cleared. Everyone knows breakfast is over, but nobody's leaving.

FI: Shalom Rav Betzalel, thanks for sitting down with us. How was Rebbe's zman 1 to 10 in Monday Mini Pizzas?

RB: 7 with the ones without the olives BH! FI: So relatable. Now what's this crazy challenge?

RB: Basically in a nutshell, it's a cold world out there, and to help fight amalek with fiery sefarim, yeshiva will pay for your mussar sefer if you learn a certain amount over Bein Hazmanim.

FI: Talk about liberating! Any good costume plans for Purim?

RB: Stop by Ramat Eshkol to find out! FI: I'll be there! Bye Bye now!

A MOMENT IN MEZBUZH

WITH DANIEL BLUMENSTRACH

Coming into Medzhybiz, the weather and the mood were parallel to the Ukrainian people- Bare and Quiet. However, when the busses rolled in the holiness compounded and it was as if we were entering a little hemispere of light in the middle of darkness. I had a feeling that this Shabbos was going to be different.

As snow began to fall, several groups of Bochurim started to roam in, trying to find their way to The Kumzits at The Baal Shem Tov's Shul. Before they manuevered their way to The Kumzits, they came across a pond of Vodka at the Wild Pink House. (For those who dont know Vodka is cheaper than water). Finally making their way to The Kumzits, the oilam was greeted with hot delicious cholent and kugel, soft drinks, beer, and the warmth of The Baal Shem Tov's Shul. Waking up in the morning, the bochurim increased the Medzhybizh Province economy by 180% (as proven by Yossi Jacob), either by going to The Baal Shem Tov's Mikva, the Ukrainian Shuk, or buying furs, coats, scarves, and vodka! The combination of vodka and the icy waters of The Baal Shem Tov's Mikva put the boys into a fiery mood before Shabbos. One can try to describe the feeling of Medzhybizh but it cannot be captured by someone who has not been to "א שבת אין מעזיבוז". If you havent been to Medzhybizh for Shabbos, please sign up and join us. Come and experience-א שבת אין מעזיבוז!!

Thank You R' Fischer for creating an amazing Yeshiva for guys to thrive in! Thank You to R' Fischer and everyone else involved for creating the trip of a Lifetime!
P.S. shoutout to רב נחמן מאומן the plug!!
P.S. YAAASSSS -Yossi

TRUST IN THE TZADDIK

BY MOSHE YEHUDA PERLSTEIN

If we take a look at this week's Haftorah Parshas Zachor, we find an interesting phenomenon. The Pasuk says, "HaShem said to Shaul: Go and kill amalek, destroy everything he has, have no pity, even on his little kids." How was Shaul Hamelech, who was a big tzaddik, negligent in listening to HaShem, and he left people alive?

The Chasam Sofer writes, the jews saw how much the Torah values human life, and Shaul didn't want to kill them to prevent a chillul HaShem. He goes on to say that if we would allow society to determine which rules of the Torah are moral or not we would mess up the whole Torah.

Practically to apply this lesson to our lives, we need to know what the Torah wants from us. Not to do what we think is right because we're trying to prevent chill HaShem. R' Yaakov Meir Shechter writes that the same way we need to have Emunah in tzaddikim that they bring down shefa to the world, so too we need to believe all bad comes from amalek. Therefore when the Torah says to wipe out amalek, it would've only been back then, but since Shaul didn't listen, each of us must kill the amalek that resides in us-even if he appears innocent and harmless.

May we be zocheh to Timche Es Zecher amalek. Ah Git Shabbos un Ah Freilechen Peerim!

CURIOUS SEFER...?

BY TZVI KOFNIG

Is he gonna stop for me? Oh dear... should i cross? Oh boy-hes comin in hot... phew-he stopped BH, that was a close one.

Crossing over the crosswalks in Kiryat Sefer are always a good reminder that these wonderful Yidden that live here have oh-so much bitachon in Hashem, and their breaks.

Ah it's a beautiful friday morning in Modi'in Illit... the birds are chirping, the busses are honking, the seven year olds are pushing their little baby brothers in the strollers, all while finishing up the family shopping list...gee whiz.

What a nice Erev Shabbos to be taking a late afternoon mikva run/Shabbos treats run/lunch run. Oy vey, its almost Shabbos and Yesh is most probably closed! What to do? Ah! Good thing theres a fantastic Erev-Shabbos-non-stop-shop not too far from the Sdei Chemed mikva where I can grab some grub! Sweet! It looks like they've got what it takes!

That was yummy. Ok lets see: Shabbos wine bought. Finished my herring and kugel lunch. and i'm purified from the heleige mikva! Looks like all we gotta do is get back to the moshav and slap on some teffilin.

As I'm walking towards Matityahu I was startled and started thinking that the land mines from the war were going off in the Lapid valley by a herd of cows, a second later I remembered its Adar and the kids were just having a field day with some Israeli-made purim snapper shticks. It's a good thing too, those poor cows. I finally made it back to the moshav.

Wow. What a journey, and really..what a blessing! ..Just a walk away from our beloved moshav is the only city in the world that has 90% out of the 70,000 populace sit and learn Hashem's Torah day and night-real talk! Wow!!!! It's a city full of Avodas Hashem, love and respect. Where theres a hidden tzaddik on every corner! It's the place where Rav Simcha Rabbah lives for heaven's sake!!! Thank you Hashem for the amazing Hashbuos and atmosphere that surrounds our yeshiva, it's that of growth and Avodas Hashem! Perfect for just about every Jew in the world.

I HOPE EVERYONE HAS A LIFECHANGING PURIM AND GUT SHABBOS!!!!

PUT IN THE WORK!

BY SHIMON GOLD

We should succeed in the following WITH HASHEMS HELP!

LISTEN UP, "Practice makes it easier": practice & putting in the work towards a particular skill is what allows you to slowly but surely gain a skill. Without time being put in, you will not gain anything except frustration. We are In a Dor (generation) where anything is accessible at our very finger tips. Everything needs to happen within moments. An understandable outcome of this lifestyle is, Some like to believe everything comes quick, even to become a FIERY Eved HaShem.

Thinking that in one year (or even 3-4 months) studying mussar with a bit of Gemara, and Chumash you can be a Tzaddik. Its great to have such a positive outlook and have high expectations of yourself but reality is -you've got to work crazy hard. Rebbe Akiva after becoming a ba'alei Tshuva (at 40) he became one of the biggest Tzaddikim of his dor. This was only after 24 years of intense Avodat HaShem in a flipping cave. Let me go ahead and push it a little but I myself see mini Rebbe Akiva's in Yeshiva all the time. Holy Yidden Keeping this world afloat with none aware of it. These fiery yidden don't even notice when the clock hits 1PM for lunch break, continuing with their Dvekus. Sometimes it'll be on the way back to the dorms where you will pass two shining from deep discussion on scrumptious Torah. When someone wants to get into shape he doesn't sign up to the gym and go five minutes a day to pump weights. Because doing that wont give any results. A person who wants to get into shape is wrecking their muscles for two hours until they are unable to lift a feather. Any successful business man who has good income flying into his bank account didn't get to his level of success through working 10-5 five times a week. The man who puts in 12-14 hours a day, every day (except Shabbot OF COURSE) is the one who reaches that success.

So when you go ahead and wonder why some "just happen" to be amazing at success in all aspects including avodat HaShem, and have it easier...IT AIN'T TRUE. When someone is killing themselves, sweating, and falling over from exhaustion they get results.

For an eved HaShem it's 10 times more + a lifetime... NOW GET TO WORK WARRIORS.

ONWARD TO KEVER RASHBI

BY SRULI SAMUELS

Yoooo so first off if you're reading this, you're probably in yeshiva for Shabbos. Can you believe it's the last Shabbos of this zman? Wow, time really flies by fast. I'm so thankful for this yeshiva. I really changed my life. I've grown in so many ways! Thank you all!! You guys are like family, can't wait to see you guys after Pesach!!! So now I start the article I was actually supposed to write this week: We went to Meron for Moshe Rabbeinu's yahrtzeit man I gotta tell you it was next level. We got on that bus and we had no idea what was in store. 3 hours later, we're walking up to the Tzion, surrounded by Jews all dancing and singing. It was soo beautiful to watch in the left you had Nanachs with side trance music making hot dogs and giving them out for freeeee, to the right you had the Tzion and hundreds of people just dancing and jumping and this guy in the middle on a ladder with a Torch and some funky glasses. Everybody was so vibin and so involved just jumping up and down singing, it just felt so amazing. I was so proud to be a Jew. It was really sad to leave but we had to continue the journey to a phatty restaurant. We were sitting down and they just keep bringing out more and more food, from fresh hot pitas, to dips, French fries, chicken liver, grilled chicken and even STEAKKK!! After we stuffed our faces, we headed to this cave- it was legit the coolest thing I've ever seen. It was pitch black and we stood in a circle with our arms around each other, and just sang our heart outs. it was sooo beautiful, words can't explain it. I felt the singing go straight to my neshama. We then headed back to the bus. We're loading up and the bus breaks down. We were there for an hour and half before we left. Even though it was later, everyone was still vibin and chilling and just living in the moment. it was a crazy kiddush HaShem. The driver said in all his years of driving, he has never seen a group stay so calm and relaxed with a delay- most people lose it after 5 minutes. Shoutout to everyone for being so chilled! you guys are amazing (side note I was under the bus in the luggage compartment on the highway for like 20 minutes then I said I want to get out and they tried but it wasn't opening for like 10 minutes-I will not be suing;) overall thank you Rabbi Fischer, Rabbi Goldberg, Rabbi Varon, and Rabbi Frydman for a beautiful amazing trip!



May we all be Zoicke ... D"no

PERFECTIONISM, REBBEIM, & MY ZMAN

BY BENTZI LANNING

Simply put, perfectionism means to need things to be perfect. I was a perfectionist; this doesn't mean I needed everything to be perfect; it means that that which I cared about has to be perfect, and if it isn't, I hadn't done it. As a perfectionist, I needed perfection, for my own self-worth. If I wasn't perfect, I was worthless; I was nothing. I needed perfection to cover up for my faults; I was not okay with my faults, but if I was perfect, then I could convince myself that I had no faults. Back in Gateshead, I would learn 10-11 hours a day. Amazing, right? To me, however, it meant nothing, because I wasn't really understanding it. I needed my learning to cover up for my belief that I was worthless, and since my learning wasn't perfect, I couldn't escape from that belief. You'd think that I would have seen the flaw in my thinking, that maybe the level of understanding I had was okay, or that it would come over time. But since I needed perfection for my own self-worth, waiting wasn't an option, and since I knew a higher level of understanding was possible, my current level was not enough. At the beginning of my third year, my mashgiach, may he be blessed, told me to take a break. he'd been going on at me about my perfectionism for a while, but I was incapable of understanding what he meant, as I had no previous experience of believing I was okay without perfection. Eventually he told me 'take a break, and I'll take the gehinnom on my shoulders'. Thus began a journey of five years of work that led me to Fischer's. This past year has been amazing, and this past zman has been the best in the past five years (until then, I could still believe the lie that my learning gave me self-worth). I've learnt, grown, and got to know a whole bunch of amazing guys, all without burning out, and without feelings of low self-worth and anxiety. The past couple of weeks, however, I started feeling tired, and I realised it was time to slow down; but for a perfectionist in recovery, it wasn't so easy. My initial reaction was to push through the last two weeks, finish the last few blatt in the mesechta, and I would be able to say I'd had a perfect zman. The Rosh told me to close the book on this zman, to look back on an amazing four months, and be happy with my achievements; maybe what Hashem wants from me is to go against my nature, and be accept myself and what I've done as less than perfect.So, folks, that's it. My story about perfectionism, some great rebbeim of mine, and my zman. Thank You Hashem for releasing me from perfectionism, giving me guides and teachers to light the way, and for an amazing zman!

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FISCHER'S





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