



Rabbi Naphtali Hoff

It's What's in Between that Counts

"So, it's been kind of a long road, but it was a good journey altogether." Sidney Poitier

I have two clients that are a block away from each other in NYC. The walking time between them is measured in seconds and often I can schedule things to allow me to go from one to the other in short order.

But there are times when I have to schedule them on different days, which would be less of an issue if I didn't live an hour away from them.

A few weeks back, I took things to a new level. I visited one client on a Tuesday and the other on the following day. In between, I flew down to Florida for an early morning talk to over 300 leaders. Including local commutes to and from the airport, my journey from one client to the other, though themselves separated by only one block, exceeded 1900 miles.

Talk about a long walk down the block!

This trip reminded me of the

fact that sometimes our biggest, most difficult journeys are over small distances that seem to span miles. Maybe it's a strained relationship at home or at work where, despite physical closeness and easy access to conversation, we seem so far away from those around us. Perhaps the issue is with ourselves, where we cannot access a solution or find a pathway forward despite knowing ourselves better than anyone else.

But because we live our lives the same way, day after day, we fail to see that we can live that much more fully, with greater joy and conviction, than we presently are.

In the heat of the moment it can be hard to become reflective and consider different ways of thinking and acting. Sometimes, the best way to bridge the gap that divides us from our better selves and a more fulfilling life is to step away and take a 30,000-foot view of things.

Here are some questions to consider asking yourself from time

to time:

How are my relationships with those that I most care about? What would make them even better? What's holding me back from enjoying them more?

What self-doubts and inner gremlins are preventing me from maximizing my potential?

Is there enough balance between my work and life outside of work? How can I keep from burning the candle at both ends?

How does my vantage point of the world and the people around me affect my relationships and general sense of happiness?

It has been said that, "If you always do what you've always done, you will always get what you've always got." Sometimes, the best way to succeed in life is to take a step back (or a trip away) to reflect and ask the hard questions that can push us to achieve more and live more fully.

Rabbi Naphtali Hoff, PsyD, is an executive coach and President of Impactful Coaching & Consulting. For a free, no obligation consultation, please call 212.470.6139 or email nhoff@impactfulcoaching.com. Check out his new leadership book, "Becoming the New Boss", on Amazon and on the book site, BecomingtheNewBoss.com. Download his free eBook for understaffed leaders at ImpactfulCoaching.com/EPIC.

WE CAME, WE HEARD, WE WILL CONQUER!

*The Winning Edge
2018 was met with
waves of positive
feedback.*

On Monday, June 18th, executives, entrepreneurs, and key business celebrities flocked to Montclair State University to spend the day learning strategies and tactics toward business growth.

Celebrated business expert and sought-after keynote speaker, Jeffrey Hayzlett, ushered in the day with an electrifying lecture on the art of being relentless, radical transparency, and key methods for overcoming the fear that stands in the way of success. With fascinating anecdotes and deep insights from his years of experience as CMO of Kodak, Hayzlett

CONT.ON P35

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SPICE UP YOUR NEXT PARTY OR EVENT?

Our Brand New Social Media Photo Kiosk

- Instant photo strips
- Immediate posting to social media sites including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, email and more!
- Custom branding and backdrops

Call Us @ 516-688-7722 or online @ <http://jerrymeyerphotobooth.com>



WWW.JERRYMEYERPHOTOBOOTH.COM

WEDDINGS • BAR/BAT MITZVAH • DINNERS • CORPORATE EVENTS
COME IN FOR A FREE SELFIE!!! - 113 CEDARHURST AVENUE, CEDARHURST NY 11516

FLATOW
CONT. FROM P1

their society is not the same as the democratic political culture of the United States or Israel. Better-paying jobs are not their highest goal.

You can blame their attitude on the Palestinian Authority's educational system. You can blame it on decades of anti-Jewish propaganda on the P.A.'s television and radio programs, and in its newspapers and books. You can blame it on centuries of inculcation in the values of Islam and extreme Arab nationalism. But however you apportion the blame, it's a fact.

In the interview, Kushner pleaded with Palestinian readers: "Don't allow your grandfather's conflict to determine your children's future." That's how Americans think. But that's not how Palestinians think. Americans put their grandfathers' conflicts behind them. Palestinians consider their grandfathers' agenda to be their own agenda.

WINNING EDGE
CONT. FROM P34

addressed the necessity for business owners to define their core reason for existence and embrace customer behavior in order to drive change.

"Kodak's mistake is that they weren't in the business of film. They were in the business of memories," he shared.

The next portion of the day brought an engaging and interactive series of breakout sessions which addressed everything from financial, health, and legal matters, to leadership and marketing hacks. Presenters included Saul and Simeon Friedman of Saul N. Friedman and Co.; Michael Macintyre of HSBC; Bradley Nash and Solomon Klein of Schlam Stone & Dolan LLP; Dr. Firzouz Daneshgari, founder of BowTie Medical; Eli Rowe, CEO of World Medical Bank; Moishe Katz; founder of United Refuah HealthShare; Michael Langer, founder and CEO of Gulliver's Gate; Allen Fagin, Executive Vice President of the Orthodox Union; and Yitzchok Saftlas, founder and CEO of Bottom Line Marketing Group.

"At the end of the day, a leader must be the one to make a decision in every situation." Allen Fagin shared, reminding us of

"My dream," Kushner told Al Quds, "is for the Israeli and Palestinian people to be the closest of allies in combating terror, economic achievement, advancements in science and technology, and in sharing a lifestyle of brotherhood, peace and prosperity." Yes, that's Kushner's dream. Mine, too. But that's not the Palestinians' dream. They are not interested in joining Israel in "combating terror" because they are the ones who perpetrate, glorify and financially reward terror.

There's a certain contempt implicit in presuming to enlighten other people as to what they should care about and what is in their best interests. "These people know their lives will only be improved by working out the issues and moving on," said Kushner. Wrong again. He's the one who is interested in "moving on." Not the Palestinians.

"The Palestinian people are industrious, well-educated and adjacent to the Silicon Valley of the Middle East—Israel," Kushner

Harry S. Truman's famous mantra that "the buck stops here!"

A trailblazer in the field of healthcare management, Eli Rowe, shared that leaders must know their weaknesses, step back, and surround themselves with teams of talent. He reminded attendees that even innovators like Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, and Mark Zuckerberg never finished college and are still extremely successful executives.

The day culminated with a riveting Brass Tacks panel followed by an engaging closing keynote address from "Innovation Instigator" and business advisor, Stephen Shapiro. In his signature, captivating style, Shapiro provoked the audience out of their comfort zones and into new ways of thinking about change.

The overwhelming positive responses and still-palpable excitement following the conference are testimony to the great success of the Winning Edge 2018.

Attendee, Joel Whitehouse, President of Empire Benefits Solutions shared: "The diverse personalities, ideas, and opinions were so unique. I am excited to hit my desk this morning and start putting their advice into motion!"

Winning Edge 2019, here we come!

continued. "Israel's prosperity would spill over very quickly to the Palestinians if there is peace."

Does he think the Palestinians don't know that? Does he think that they are simpletons who have never noticed, throughout the past century, how Jewish development of the country has benefited them and could benefit them a lot more if they made peace?

Of course, they have noticed. But they have chosen to do otherwise. When Israel expelled all Jews from Gaza, they left behind fully intact greenhouses for the Palestinians to use and enjoy. And enjoy them they did. They enjoyed burning them down.

Wait, that doesn't make any sense! If the main concern of the Palestinians is economic prosperity, why would they burn down the hothouses that would give them economic prosperity? Because they care more about hating Jews than improving their own lives.

Which is why I don't know whether to laugh or cry when I read Kushner's statement that "the people of Gaza are hostages to bad leadership. ... It's time for the Palestinian Authority and Hamas to stop using the people of Gaza as

pawns."

They're not hostages, and they're not pawns. They freely elected Hamas in a democratic election. They have chosen to march—by the thousands and tens of thousands—to the Gaza fence to throw Molotov cocktails at Israelis and sail flaming kites to burn down their fields. Nobody forced them to go there. Nobody forced them to do that.

"So yes, there is a lot of hatred and a lot of scar tissue," Kushner concluded, "but I do not underestimate humankind's ability to love." He doesn't underestimate it. He overestimates it. Offering the Palestinian Arabs better-paying jobs will not transform them from warmongers to peacemakers. It would take a complete overhaul of the P.A.'s media and school system, followed by generations of enlightened leadership and education, to change their values and attitudes.

If Jared Kushner's dangerously naive belief about the Palestinians' "ability to love" is shaping the Trump Mideast peace plan, then friends of Israel have reason to be deeply concerned.

JNS.org

**Come to
Staten Island!
Congregation
Or HaChaim
located in Willowbrook,
is looking to rent its
facilities during the week
to a small beis medrash
for the coming z'man.
Call
718-496-3319
for more details**