

Nourishment for the Neshama

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Disagreement between Dr.Sigmund Freud and Dr. Victor Frankl - a testament to free will and purposefulness of life

Rabbi Moshe Goldberger, in the shiur below, re-tells the disagreement between Dr. Sigmund Freud and Dr. Victor Frankl, and how Dr. Frankl's book Man's Search for Meaning came to be published.

The disagreement between them was that Dr. Frankl asserted that from his observations in the Holocaust, that a person is not a machine, as Dr. Freud's theories were based, but rather that there is a free will to a person and meaning in suffering, both of which go beyond the structure that Dr. Freud set forth in the ego, id, superego construction of the human mind.

Although Dr. Frankl was not an Observant Jew, his observations are consistent with the purpose of creation (chapter 2 of Derech Hashem by the Ramchal) and with emunah in general.

May Dr. Frankl's observations give us chizuk to bring our challenges into focus and realize we are here to repair our characteristics by expending energy at our free will point to bring out the aspect of the Divine Image within us.

Enjoy listening to this amazing story!

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