

By Steve Kowarsky

Social interaction has always been challenging for me. You might not notice it, but my cheshbon nefesh makes me aware of deep, irrational insecurities within. I've worked hard on this; I think I've made a lot of progress over the years. What concerns me this Elul is not so much what I'm learning, but social skills I'm not developing and practicing. Part of this means I'm learning the limitations of the digital communication technology that has been at the forefront of my entire professional career and in which three US Patents bear my name. A better understanding of those limitations may be my biggest unexpected learning of 2020. I'm also learning how easy it is for me to glide back into a more comfortable, more cocooned space, and I don't see that as a good thing. I'll be praying these two learnings will ultimately spur positive growth.



Steve and Jiya have become familiar faces around TBT in their 11 years of membership. They are deeply grateful for the communal worship, the Jewish learning, and the personal relationships TBT has made possible. Steve was TBT's Emunah speaker in 2015.