

Good Orderly Direction

MEETING AGENDA

- **9am Open the Meeting – Read the opening Statement below:**

Welcome to Good Orderly Direction. We meet every Sunday morning at 9am.

This meeting was started with the firm conviction that AA's 12 Steps of recovery are the predominant suggestions to achieve sobriety and by extension to attain a happy, joyous, and free life as we trudge the road to happy destiny. Faith without works is dead, so we believe in sharing our experience strength and hope about taking action on our spiritual journey.

- **Read the Preamble:**

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

- **Introductions – Ask if anyone is new or visiting from out of town**
- **Moment of Silence**
- **Read the 3rd Step Prayer:**

“God, I offer myself to thee, to build with me and do with me as thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do thy will. Take away my difficulties that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of thy power, thy love, and thy way of life. May I do thy will always.”

- **Reading Options for Topic:**
 - **3rd Step, 7th Step, or 11th Step (from the Big Book or other AA Approved Sources)**
 - **One of the prayers from the flip side of this page OR**
 - **24 hour-a-day book (little black book)**
- **Open the meeting for general discussion on the topic of that days' reading**
- **After everyone has shared, pass the 7th Tradition Basket & ask if there are any announcements for the good of AA? As if there are any burning Desires? “You might drink if you don't share”**
- **Close the meeting with Lord's prayer – “for all those who wish to join us in the Lord's Prayer”**

READINGS

3rd Step Prayer ~ Alcoholics Anonymous Page 63

God, I offer myself to thee, to build with me and do with me as thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do thy will. Take away my difficulties that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of thy power, thy love and thy way of life. May I do thy will always.

7th Step Prayer ~ Alcoholics Anonymous Page 76

My Creator I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character that stand in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding.

11th Step Prayer ~ Alcoholics Anonymous Page 86

MORNING PRAYER God, direct my thinking today so that it be empty of self-pity, dishonesty, self-will, self-seeking and fear. God, inspire my thinking, decisions and intuitions. Help me to relax and take it easy. Free me from doubt and indecision. Guide me through this day and show me my next step. God, show me what I need to do to take care of any problems. I ask all these things that I may be of maximum service to you and my fellow man. In the spirit of the Steps, I pray. AMEN

11th Step Prayer ~ Alcoholics Anonymous Page 86

NIGHTLY PRAYER God, forgive me where I have been resentful, selfish, dishonest or afraid today. Help me to not keep anything to myself but to discuss it all openly with another person - show me where I owe an apology and help me make it. Help me to be kind and loving to all people. Use me in the mainstream of life, God. Free me of worry, remorse or morbid (sick) reflections that I may be of usefulness to others. AMEN

11th Step Prayer ~ Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions Page 99

Lord, make me a channel of Thy peace; that where there is hatred, I may bring love; that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness; that where there is discord, I may bring harmony; that where there is error, I may bring truth; that where there is doubt, I may bring faith; that where there is despair, I may bring hope; that where there are shadows, I may bring light. That where there is sadness, I may bring joy. Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort, than to be comforted; to understand, than to be understood; to love, than to be loved. For it is by self-forgetting, that one finds. It is by forgiving, that one is forgiven. It is by dying, that one awakens to Eternal Life. Amen.

How It Works ~ Alcoholics Anonymous Page 68:

We reviewed our fears thoroughly. We put them on paper, even though we had no resentment in connection with them. We asked ourselves why we had them. Wasn't it because self-reliance failed us? Self-reliance was good as far as it went, but it didn't go far enough. Some of us once had great self-confidence, but it didn't fully solve the fear problem, or any other. When it made us cocky, it was worse.

Perhaps there is a better way - we think so. For we are now on a different basis; the basis of trusting and relying upon God. We trust infinite God rather than our finite selves. We are in the world to play the role He assigns. Just to the extent that we do as we think He would have us, and humbly rely on Him, does He enable us to match calamity with serenity.

We never apologize to anyone for depending upon our Creator. We can laugh at those who think spirituality the way of weakness. Paradoxically, it is the way of strength. The verdict of the ages is that faith means courage. All men of faith have courage. They trust their God. We never apologize for God. Instead, we let Him demonstrate, through us, what He can do. We ask Him to remove our fear and direct our attention to what He would have us be. At once, we commence to outgrow fear.

Fear Prayer – Paragraph Three of Page 68 - Personalized:

I never apologize to anyone for depending upon my Creator. I laugh at those who think spirituality the way of weakness. Paradoxically, it is the way of strength. The verdict of the ages is that faith means courage. All men of faith have courage. I trust my God. I never apologize for God. Instead, I let Him demonstrate, through me, what He can do. I ask Him to remove my fear and direct my attention to what He would have me be. At once, I commence to outgrow fear. Amen