

## OUR CREED

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things become new.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Members of Alcoholics Victorious are Christians with a common handicap, that of being addicted to alcohol and/or substances, in their search for peace of mind.

Realizing that faith in Jesus Christ is the true way to peace, alcoholic Christians are banded together in mutual effort to transfer dependence on alcohol to dependence on Jesus. We believe that what we cannot do alone, we can accomplish through helping one another.

Our common goal is to allow Jesus to become the guiding influence in our lives, and lead us to recovery.



Learn more about Alcoholics Victorious  
<http://alcoholicsvictorious.org>



Alcoholics Victorious is a program of  
Christians in Recovery®

Learn more about Christians in Recovery®  
<http://christians-in-recovery.org>  
Your internet community for recovery.



## FIVE WAYS TO HELP AN ALCOHOLIC

by Jerry Dunn

### **1. Prayer**

Since the alcoholic cannot be helped until he wants help, it is necessary that we begin to pray for him, asking that God will bring him to that place that he will seek help. Now don't be discouraged. Things might get worse before they get better, but remember, God answers prayer.

### **2. Offer the Gospel**

In Romans 1:16 we read, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." So often times we tend to try everything but the power of God in helping the alcoholic. Now it is true that he may always need medical help, possibly psychiatric help, and the help of the sociologist may be profitable, but without the power of Christ working in the life of this individual, nothing will be of lasting value. Witness to him of your own faith in Christ and through your church, putting him in contact with others who have a vital testimony to the power of God to change lives. Good Christian literature will also be a help in getting this message across and we would be glad to make suggestions as to what books he might find profitable.

### **3. Fellowship**

One of the strongest points of AA is the fellowship that they have one with the other. It is necessary that when an alcoholic makes a step toward recovery that we be willing to offer him fellowship, to make him feel welcome, to make him feel needed and to encourage him to share with others. This could be done through AA, Alcoholics Victorious or through the fellowship of a church or a Christian businessmen's committee as a Gideon Camp.

### **4. Long Suffering**

Remember, I stated that things might get worse before they get better and we must remember that it might take some time for this individual to gain a complete recovery. Now this will depend on his or her willingness to accept the complete deliverance that is in Christ. So a lot of our help to the alcoholic will be a teaching ministry, of helping him to apply the Word to his life for abundant living. Whenever we start working with an alcoholic, we must always remember that it will take time, and we must believe that God will bring the deliverance for His glory. This, of course, will keep us from discouragement.

### **5. Be Firm**

Once an alcoholic has asked for help and we are willing to share with him, it is necessary that we lay down some very clear ground rules by which we will operate. For example, he must realize that if he should ever take another drink that he would lose our fellowship. Now remember, I don't say he should lose our long suffering, but must be made to realize that he can only experience fellowship with ourselves, and more important, fellowship with God, when he is sober. If he would live in our home and begin to drink, he must understand that he no longer has a home and must be put out. If we have been helping him financially, then when he begins to drink, all financial help ceases. I believe this will serve as an example of what we mean when we say "be firm."