

The Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol ... that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of GOD as we understood Him.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to GOD, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have GOD remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove all our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with GOD as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will, and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and practice these principles in all our affairs.

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Biblical References for the Twelve Steps

1. "I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out." (Romans 7:18)
2. "... my grace is sufficient for you, for my POWER is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9)
3. "... If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9:23**) (Luke 9:23**)
4. "Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the Lord." (Lamentations 3:40)
5. "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." (James 5:16)
6. "If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land." (Isaiah 1:19)
7. "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up." (James 4:10)
8. "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift." (Matthew 5:23, 24**)
9. Give and it shall be given you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." (Luke 6:38**)
10. "For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith GOD has given you." (Romans 12:3)
11. "May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer." (Psalm 19:14)
12. "Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:1-2)

**The words of Christ

An Introduction to:

ALCOHOLICS VICTORIOUS



Alcoholics Victorious
a program of
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What is Alcoholics Victorious?

Alcoholics Victorious (AV) is a network of Christian support groups for chemically dependent persons. We believe that alcoholism is an addiction, and that the alcoholic is an individual who cannot, as a matter of will power alone, control his or her own dependency.

Some groups also sponsor meetings for the spouses and concerned friends of addicts. The central theme of Alcoholics Victorious is found in 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." Realizing that faith in Jesus Christ is the true way to peace, these Christians in recovery have banded together in a mutual effort to transfer dependence on their addictions to dependence on Christ. Their common goal is to allow Jesus to become the guiding influence in their lives, and lead them to recovery.

What Alcoholics Victorious is Not

- ♦ A substitute for church attendance
- ♦ A Bible study
- ♦ A professional therapy group
- ♦ Geared to any one denomination
- ♦ Intended to replace secular Al-anon or AA meetings
- ♦ Intended to replace or undermine any other Christian groups

The Purpose of Alcoholics Victorious

By sharing our experience, strength, and hope, we encourage Christian growth as we slowly separate ourselves from the bitter and lonely trauma of alcoholism and its effects on the family. We are devoted to:

- ♦ Support and education about addictive problems,
- ♦ Reconciliation to GOD and family
- ♦ Encouragement and support of one another through fellowship in recovery.

We are here to grow.

Why a "Christian" AA?

Those who are familiar with Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) may well ask the question above. For believers in Christ, the answer is simple: we have identified Jesus as our "Higher Power" and we would welcome the opportunity to meet in His name to deal with the problems that surround addictions. The meetings allow us to speak freely of our relationship with Him, share our struggles with faith issues, and use intercessory prayer for our healing. Christians are NOT immune to addictive or compulsive disorders, and hiding our problems from our church adds to our "shame" burdens and hinders healing.

Non-believers in Christ have an opportunity to come to know the true "Higher Power" spoken of in AA, finding an atmosphere of accepting Christian love in which to form a personal relationship with the Lord.

For those unfamiliar with the AA approach to recovery, Alcoholics Victorious provides an opportunity to learn the reality that there is a "spiritual" element in addiction that must be addressed through the true GOD. And here in a Christian environment, forgiveness and release from shame can be found so that we may approach our GOD with freedom and boldness.

In Alcoholics Victorious, the 12-step approach to recovery, is combined with support from God's Word, confidential sharing among group members, and loving prayers.

Start an Alcoholics Victorious Group

To establish affiliation with Alcoholics Victorious, individual Alcoholics Victorious groups must obtain an application for an annually renewable charter. Download information on how to start a group: <http://alcoholicsvictorious.org/av-start.html>

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Who Should Attend

Alcoholics Victorious Meetings?

BELIEVERS struggling with an addiction to alcohol/drugs who, although committed Christians, may still be suffering in silence out of fear, shame, guilt, and lack of ability to trust -- all of which are characteristic responses to this family disease.

NON-BELIEVERS still addicted to alcohol/drugs who feel compelled to search out the true "higher power" - Jesus Christ - attempting to identify Him, to come to know Him, and then to trust Him for healing power.

The Alcoholics Victorious Creed

I realize that I cannot overcome my addiction by myself. I believe that the power of Jesus Christ is available to help me. I believe that through my acceptance of Him as my Savior, I am a new person. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Because the presence of GOD is manifested through continued prayer, I will set aside two periods every day, morning and evening, for communion with my Heavenly father. I realize my need for daily Bible reading and use it as a guide for my daily living. (Psalm 27:11-15)

I recognize my need of Christian fellowship and will, therefore, have fellowship with Christians through the church of my choice. I know that in order to be victorious, I must keep active in the service of Christ and His Church and I will help others to victory. (Hebrews 10:23-25)

I do not partake of any beverage containing alcohol I know it is the first drink that does the harm. Therefore, "I DO NOT DRINK."

I can be victorious because I know that GOD's strength is sufficient to supply all my needs. (Philippians 4:19)