**Service Material from the General Service Office**

**JEDI PACK**

 

**TREATMENT & CORRECTIONS**

Welcome to the **Treatment and Corrections** meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I’m an alcoholic. My sobriety date is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and my Home Group is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Please join me in a moment of silence followed by the **Serenity Prayer**.

The purpose of this meeting is to give an introduction of Alcoholics Anonymous, to explain what A.A. is and How It Works. Also, to tell you what A.A. *“Does Do”* and what A.A. *“Does Not Do”*

I have asked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to read the **A.A. Preamble**, which tells what A.A. is. I have asked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to read a portion of the 5th chapter from the book Alcoholics

Anonymous titled **“How It Works”**I have asked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to read what A.A. ***“Does Do”*** and what A.A. ***“Does Not Do”***

Alcoholics Anonymous is not affiliated with this facility in any way. They have given us permission and space to hold these meetings to tell you about the program of A.A.

Please remember that Anonymity is the Spiritual Foundation of all our traditions. Therefore, what you hear or say here stays here.

As members of A.A. we owe our lives to this program of action and I have asked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to share with you what the program means to them.

(At end of meeting)

If we work our program, there are rewards and these are the **12 9th Step Promises**, which I have asked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to read for us.

**Close with the Lord’s Prayer**

**A.A. PREAMBLE©**

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people 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.

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What A.A. “Does Do” and What A.A. “Does NOT Do”

What A.A. Does Do:

The Alcoholics Anonymous program, as set forth in the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, offers the alcoholic an opportunity to develop a satisfying way of life free from Alcohol.

At meetings A.A. members share their experience with anyone seeking help with a drinking problem.

A.A. members give one-on-one help or sponsorship to others, guiding them through the Twelve Steps to recovery as set forth in the book, Alcoholics Anonymous.

What A.A. Does NOT Do:

A.A. does not furnish initial motivation for alcoholics to recover

A.A. does not solicit members or keep attendance records or case histories. Nor does A.A. follow up or try to control its members

A.A. does not provide drying-out or nursing services, hospitalization, drugs, or any medical or psychiatric treatment. A.A. does not make medical or psychological diagnoses or prognoses.

A.A. does not offer religious services or engage in education about alcohol

A.A. does not provide housing, food, clothing, jobs, money, or any other welfare or social services

A.A. does not provide letters of reference to parole boards, lawyers, court officials, social agencies, employers, etc.

Our recovery is based on sharing our experience, strength and hope with each other, that we may solve our common problem; more importantly, our continued sobriety depends upon helping others to recover from alcoholism.

**HOW IT WORKS**

Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path. Those who do not recover are people who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this simple pro- gram, usually men and women who are constitutionally incapable of being honest with them- selves. There are such unfortunates. They are not at fault; they seem to have been born that way. They are naturally incapable of grasping and developing a manner of living which demands rigorous honesty. Their chances are less than average. There are those, too, who suf- fer from grave emotional and mental disorders, but many of them do recover if they have the capacity to be honest.

Our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now. If you have decided you want what we have and are willing to go to any length to get it—then you are ready to take certain steps.

At some of these we balked. We thought we could find an easier, softer way. But we could not. With all the earnestness at our command, we beg of you to be fearless and thor- ough from the very start. Some of us have tried to hold on to our old ideas and the result was nil until we let go absolutely.

Remember that we deal with alcohol—cunning, baffling, powerful! Without help it is too much for us. But there is One who has all power—that One is God. May you find Him now!

Half measures availed us nothing. We stood at the turning point. We asked His protec- tion and care with complete abandon.

Here are the steps we took, which are suggested as a program of recovery:

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.

1. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
2. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
3. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
4. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
5. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
6. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admit- ted it.
7. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him,* praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
8. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Many of us exclaimed, “What an order! I can’t go through with it.’’ Do not be discour- aged. No one among us has been able to maintain anything like perfect adherence to these principles. We are not saints. The point is that we are willing to grow along spiritual lines. The principles we have set down are guides to progress. We claim spiritual progress rather than spiritual perfection.

Our description of the alcoholic, the chapter to the agnostic, and our personal adventures before and after make clear three pertinent ideas:

(a) That we were alcoholic and could not manage our own lives. (b) That probably no human power could have relieved our alcoholism. (c) That God could and would if He were sought.

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