

CHRISTIAN TWELVE-STEPS MEETING FORMAT



see also:

www.altogetherlovely.org

www.altogetherlovely.org/healing

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DISCLAIMER

This book is not to replace counseling when needed. In fact, we encourage individuals to find trusting Christian counseling and discipleship. Not Christians who counsel but CHRISTIAN COUNSELING making JESUS CHRIST the Center of the process. This material is a “tool” to offer support. Individuals are responsible for their own healing and no one else. It is between you and God. Nobody knows you better than God. In no way does this book claim to replace professional counselors when needed. A professional Christian counselor is something that should be considered between God and the individual. Again, this book offers “laymen” resources for those wanting to grow and heal in Christ.

SALVATION Through JESUS CHRIST!!

IMPORTANT: The most important thing is to know you are SAVED. If you don't know you have forgiveness of sin and eternal life in Christ please go through THE "ROMANS" ROAD on the next slide. You must be born again of the Spirit of God through faith in Jesus Christ – faith in what Jesus did for you on the cross through the shedding of His blood – and faith that you have ETERNAL LIFE (Jesus is Eternal Life) and that you will spend eternity in heaven with Christ. His blood for your forgiveness, His death on the Cross for your death to your old man, and His Resurrection for your new life in Him: His RESURRECTION LIFE – THE LIFE OF JESUS!!

NEW BIRTH – NEW CREATION - NEW LIFE – NEW HOPE

**Christian Volunteers (not professionals) to Talk To – You Are Not Alone:
By phone/chat you can talk/pray with these Christians who love to encourage.**

<https://www.groundwire.net/chat>

<https://www.chataboutjesus.com/>

<http://www.needhim.org>

<https://needencouragement.com/talk-with-someone/>

or 1-800-633-3446

The "Romans" Road (The Gospel of Jesus Christ)

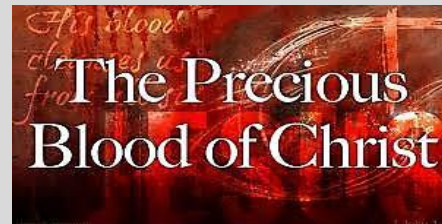
The Problem & Wages of Sin:

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23)

"For the wages of sin is death..." (*spiritual & physical death*) (Romans 6:23a)

The Love of God:

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)



The Free Gift of Salvation:

"But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23b)

Accepting the Free Gift:

"That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9)

"For whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

To have forgiveness of sin & eternal life in Christ Jesus, pray (out loud from the heart):

"Lord Jesus, I agree with Your Word and know I am a sinner and have displeased You in many ways. I believe You died for my sin, and only through faith in Your blood shed on the cross can I be forgiven. I also know that only through faith in Your resurrection can I have eternal life in You. I repent and turn from my sin and ask You to come into my heart and live as my Savior and Lord. From this day on, I will follow You by living a life that pleases You through the Power of Your Holy Spirit. Jesus fill me with Your Holy Spirit from the top of my head to the bottom of my feet. Fill me in my spirit, soul, body. Thank You Jesus, for saving me and filling me with Your Holy Spirit. You are so good!! In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen

TWELVE-STEP “OPEN” MEETING FORMAT



12-STEP “OPEN” MEETING FORMAT

OPEN MEETINGS are open to the public to get people involved in their growth, healing, and recovery. They are also a great way to bring others into the process.

CLOSED MEETINGS: Open meetings can lead to smaller group meetings which may or may not be CLOSED after they start (usually after the first 3 meetings). Many times people want to have meetings to begin deeper sharing, fellowship, and prayer. Here you can do meetings for sexual abuse, addictions, basic Christianity, Christian growth, etc. as qualified leaders become available. Some of these meetings will be called CLOSED MEETINGS because people will stay in the same group for 6-12 months and it is disruptive to have someone join mid-stream because they are behind in the study or deep bonds have been created and people aren't open to newcomers after that happens. After 6-12 months it is important to break up the group, discern leadership, & begin new groups in order to multiply yourselves.

For more meeting resources see: www.altogetherlovely.org/healing



TWELVE STEP "OPEN" MEETING (INTRODUCTION)

L: Welcome everyone. It is great to see everyone here!! This is going to be a non-threatening time for people to share, learn, and grow in Christ.

To begin with let's prepare our hearts with a few moments of "silent prayer" followed by the Serenity Prayer.

THE SERENITY PRAYER

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
& wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time;
enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is,
not as I would have it;
trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His Will;
that I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with Him forever in the next.
In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.



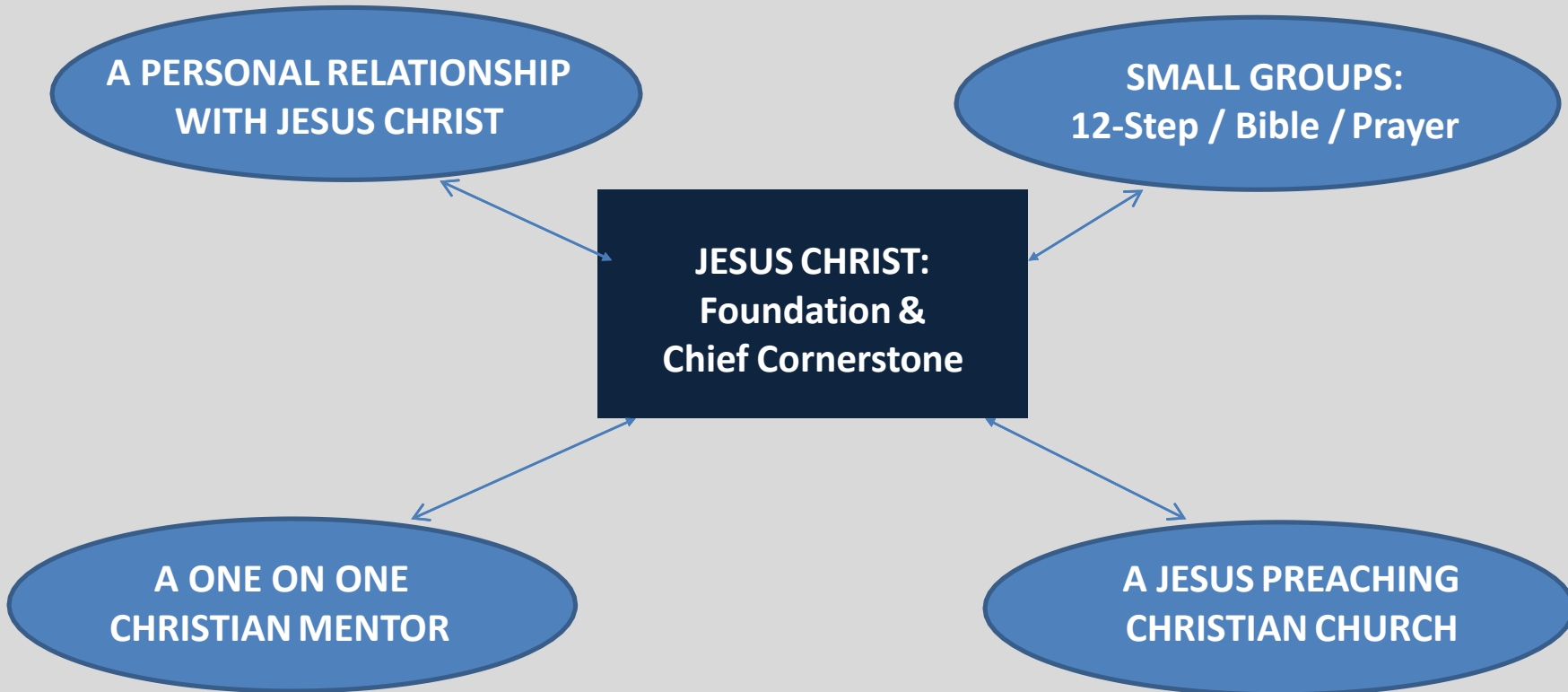
L: My name is _____ and I'm being set free from my past and growing in Christ through the Power of God's Holy Spirit. We welcome you to this fellowship. We would remind you that the goal of this meeting is to support each other in our walk with Jesus Christ. In order to do this we set up an environment that is free of judgments and condemnation. Nobody is "right" or "wrong" here. As people share, we should listen and pray for them. It is the Holy Spirit who changes us, heals us, guides us, and empowers us. Non-Judgmental Listening is the best thing we can do. We believe that we can't change people but God can. This should be a "safe" and "loving" environment, so we ask that what is said here stays here.

We would encourage each person who comes to these meetings to do four things. Those who have these four things in place usually change, grow, and heal.

- 1) Have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through faith with: prayer, Bible reading, & the filling of the Holy Spirit.
- 2) Find a mature Christian to mentor/disciple you. (man-man / woman-woman)
[provides sharing, growth, prayer, & accountability – helps get your 5th step in place]
- 3) Find support thru small groups: Bible Study, 12-Step, & Spirit-led prayer groups.
- 4) Find a Jesus-preaching Christian church supporting your growth in Christ & your spiritual gifts.

In these meetings we support and minister to each other through prayer, worship, scripture, personal testimonies, and sharing.

FOUNDATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS



Having these foundations in place SIGNIFICANTLY increases your likelihood of being set free from your past and growth in Christ Jesus!!

PART ONE:

L: We will now start the part 1 of this meeting by having people share about their week. This is an opportunity to share about your struggles, victories, what's happening, and how your week went in general. _____ would you like to start.

PART TWO:

L: Now we will spend some time on the 12-Steps and Scripture. Could I get _____ to read the Steps and _____ to read the adjacent scripture.

Then we will have a time to share on something God is showing you regarding the 12-Steps & Scripture. We encourage everyone here to thoroughly go through the 12-Steps step by step. Then make them the foundation for your walk with Jesus. Those who daily practice the Steps heal, grow, and help others.

AFTER THE STEPS/BIBLE VERSES ARE READ:

L: (First name), would you like to share about something God is showing you in the Steps/Scripture we just read. It may be a phrase or even a whole step/scripture. As well, you can share how the Steps helped you during the week or how you now see a situation where you could have used the Steps. Remember, we are not here to preach but to share our experience, strength, & hope. I would remind everyone that you are allowed to pass if you wish.

THE TWELVE STEPS with SCRIPTURES

1. We admitted we were powerless over our addictions, dysfunctions, and compulsive behaviors. That our lives had become unmanageable.

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. Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

(Philippians.2:13)

3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. (Rom.12:1)

4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD.

(Lamentations 3:40)

5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being, the exact nature of our wrongs.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. (James 5:16)

6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. (James 4:10)

7. Humbly asked Him to remove all our shortcomings.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.

Do to others as you would have them do to you. (Luke 6:31)

9. Made direct amends to such people whenever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

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)

10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! (1 Cor.10:12)

11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and power to carry that out.

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Colossians 3:16a)

12. Having had a spiritual experience as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and practice these principles in all our affairs.

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. (Galatians 6:1)

PART THREE:

(The leader should choose one of these three topics. It can differ each meeting)

1) **Devotional:** (see devotionals on slides 36-85 in this booklet)

2) **Something God** is showing you in your life: (bible verse &/or a life experience)

3) **Other:** have people share about something in this book: the Serenity Prayer (p.7), Foundations (p.9), 12-Step prayers (p.16), Healing Prayers (p.86), 53 Blessings (p.121).

L: For our final time of sharing we are going to share on (_____).

(First name), would you like to start this time of sharing. Remember, we are not here to preach but to share how this topic has spoken to us personally sharing our experience, strength, & hope.



CLOSING THE MEETING:

L: Thank you for coming. Let me remind you that what has been said here – stays here. In this way we can continue to create a safe environment for our recovery and growth. One of our goals is to move from being carnal Christians to being spiritual Christians. From being fed on “milk” to being fed “meat”. From being “childish” to becoming “childlike”. Remember, to pray for people God has led you to pray for. Also, work towards having a deeper relationship with Jesus, finding a Christian mentor, a small group, and a “Jesus-preaching” Christian church.

L: WORSHIP: We will now worship our Lord by singing (choose a worship song):

L: PRAYER: Now, let’s bow our heads and pray for someone or something in general as God prompts you. Let’s see how the Holy Spirit leads us. _____ would you like to begin and _____ would you like to close.

L: CARRY THE MESSAGE:

Please pray for someone you believe would benefit from this meeting.

I am also available to pray for people after this meeting.

Remember, Jesus loves you!!

THE TWELVE STEPS SIMPLIFIED

1. *I can't*
2. *God can*
3. *Let God*
4. *Look within*
5. *Admit wrongs*
6. *Ready self for change*
7. *Seek God's help*
8. *Become willing*
9. *Make amends*
10. *Daily inventory*
11. *Pray and meditate*
12. *Give it away*

PRAYER FOR **Serenity**

God, grant me serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can & wisdom to know the difference :: living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time :: accepting hardship as a pathway to peace :: taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it :: trusting that You will make all things right if I surrender to Your will :: so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. **AMEN**
REINHOLD NIEBUHR

**“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free;
Therefore, keep standing firm
and do not be subject again
to a yoke of slavery.”
(Galatians 5:1)**

**For Multiple Resources See:
www.altogetherlovely.org/healing
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