

Directions For Working With Others

Pages 89-103 Big Book

- 1. When you discover a prospect, find out all you can about him, get an idea of his behavior, background the seriousness of his condition and religious leanings, if possible have a talk with a member of his family. This information will help determine how to approach him. Pg. 90**
- 2. Wait for the prospect to come to the end of a spree or an interval, ask him if he wants to quit and is willing to go to any length to do so. Pg. 90**
- 3. Avoid meeting the man through his family, approach through a doctor or institution, let him know that there is a solution. Call on him while he is jittery, he may be more receptive when depressed. Pg. 91**
- 4. See your man alone if possible, engage in general conversation, turn the conversation to some phase of drinking, tell him about your symptoms and experiences, try to get him to talk about himself, this will give you a better idea of how to proceed. Pg. 91**
- 5. When he sees you know all about drinking, tell him you are an alcoholic, tell him the struggles you made to stop. Tell him about the insanity (obsession) that precedes the first drink.(See Chapter 3)Pg.92**
- 6. If you are satisfied that he is a real alcoholic dwell on the hopelessness of alcoholism, explain the obsession of the mind and the allergy of the body (step 1), but be careful not to brand him an alcoholic, let him draw his own conclusion. Pg. 92**
- 7. Tell him what happened to you. Stress the spiritual aspects, let him know that he doesn't have to agree with your concept, as long as he believes in a power greater than himself (step2) and lives by spiritual principles (3-12). Use every day language, don't bring up your own religious convictions. Pg. 93**
- 8. Outline the Program of action (4-9) Explain the steps. Help him understand that your attempt to pass the message on to him plays a vital role in your recovery. Pg. 94**
- 9. Your prospect may not want to follow all of the program of action. Do not argue, simply tell him that you doubt if you would have made much progress without action (4-9). On your first visit- Tell him about the fellowship, and introduce the book. Pg. 94**
- 10. If he is not interested in the solution you may have to drop him for awhile, if he sincerely wants help ask him to read the book in the interval, after that he must decide for himself. Offer him friendship and fellowship. Sometimes he may want to proceed with the program at once, it is better to have him read the recovery portion (first 164 pages) of the book and get a good understanding of the problem (step1), the solution (step2) and the program of action, first. Pg. 95**
- 11. On your Second visit- if he is prepared to go through the Twelve Steps let him know you are available if he wants to make a decision (step3) and tell his story (step 5). Having been through the Steps you can assist him. Offer him your knowledge, experience, and practical advice. Pg. 96**
- 12. You may help him find a job, give him a little financial assistance or take him into your home for a few days, but use discretion. Pg. 96**
- 13. Offer the family your way of life even if the alcoholic does not respond. Pg. 97**
- 14. Explain to the new man and his family how you worked out your domestic troubles, but do not take sides or get in the middle of their arguments. Pg. 100**
- 15. Never avoid helping others, or going anywhere to carry the message of recovery, your job is to be of maximum service to others. Keep on the firing line of life with these motives and God will keep you unharmed! Pg. 97& 100**