



Christ-Centered
12 Step Recovery

LEADERSHIP GUIDE



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Recovery In Christ Ministries, Inc.

Silver Springs, Florida
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Recovery In Christ History

Recovery In Christ Ministries, Inc. (R.I.C.) began informally in 1985 when a handful of Christians who were attending traditional Twelve-Step groups met for coffee after a regular meeting. The Lord blessed that simple gathering with His presence in a special way. Genuine Christian fellowship and heartfelt prayer took place.



There was a shared desire to have a regular meeting where recovering people could freely talk about Jesus and discuss the Bible. Within a few weeks, the first meeting was scheduled. Only a couple of people attended — yet ministry and healing still took place. Since that humble beginning, hundreds of lives have been touched through these gatherings.

In June of 1990, Recovery In Christ Ministries, Inc. was formally incorporated as a non-profit organization in the state of Florida and approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt ministry.

Mission Statement

Recovery In Christ Ministries exists to communicate the hope of recovery found in Jesus Christ, helping individuals break free from chemical dependency, codependency, other addictions, and the wounds of dysfunctional family systems.

We are committed to:

- **Leading people into a personal and saving relationship with Jesus Christ** and encouraging them to grow within a Christian church of their choice.
- **Equipping churches to establish Christ-centered recovery support groups** and fostering cooperation among recovery ministries.
- **Publishing and distributing biblical recovery materials** to individuals, leaders, and groups.
- **Providing Christ-centered, biblically based counseling** to those who are hurting.
- **Training lay Christians and ministry leaders** to effectively help those who are suffering.

Our mission is to be an instrument of God’s healing, peace, and righteousness — offering hope, restoration, and freedom through the transforming power of Jesus Christ.

Please pray for this ministry — that the Lord directs all of its activities and uses it as an instrument of His healing, His peace, and His righteousness.

Core Values – These core values reflect the heart of our ministry and guide everything we do. They reflect our commitment to Christ, to truth, and to the healing of those who are hurting.

1. Christ at the Center – Jesus Christ is the foundation of all recovery. We believe true healing, freedom, and transformation come through a personal relationship with Him.

2. The Authority of Scripture – God’s Word is our guide for life, recovery, and spiritual growth. Every principle we teach is rooted in Scripture.

3. Honesty and Transparency – Healing begins with truth. We value authenticity, confession, and the courage to face our struggles with humility and grace.

4. Love Without Judgment – We welcome all who are hurting. We offer acceptance, compassion, and encouragement — never condemnation.

5. Confidentiality and Safety – A safe environment is essential for recovery. What is shared in the group stays in the group. Every person deserves protection and respect.

6. Community and Accountability – We grow best together. Recovery is strengthened through fellowship, shared experience, and mutual support within the Body of Christ.

7. The Power of the Holy Spirit – We rely on the Holy Spirit to lead, convict, comfort, and transform. He is the true Counselor and the Leader of every meeting.

8. Service and Outreach – We freely share the hope we have received. Our mission is to reach the hurting, disciple believers, and equip churches to minister effectively.

9. Humility and Teachability – We remain open to correction, growth, and the ongoing work of God in our lives. No one has all the answers — we walk this journey together.

10. Integrity and Stewardship – We honor God by handling all ministry responsibilities with excellence, honesty, and accountability.

Vision Statement – *To see individuals, families, and churches transformed by the healing power of Jesus Christ as they embrace Christ-centered recovery, walk in truth, and grow into healthy, Spirit-led communities of faith.*

We envision:

- People set free from addiction, trauma, and life-controlling issues through the power of Christ
- Churches equipped to minister effectively to the still suffering
- Recovery groups rooted in Scripture, love, and the Holy Spirit
- A global network of believers reaching out to a broken world with hope, compassion, and truth
- Communities where transparency, accountability, and grace flourish
- A movement of disciples who carry the message of recovery into every sphere of life

Our vision is simple: **Jesus restores lives — and we want the world to know it.**

Introduction to Recovery In Christ Ministries

Recovery In Christ Ministries began with something simple — a few believers gathering after a Twelve Step meeting to talk about Jesus, pray together, and share their struggles with honesty and hope. There were no plans, no programs, and no expectations. Yet the Lord met them there. In that small circle of hurting people, Christ's presence brought comfort, healing, and the beginnings of a ministry that would reach far beyond anything they imagined.

From that humble beginning in 1985, Recovery In Christ Ministries has grown into a Christ-centered outreach dedicated to helping individuals, families, and churches experience the transforming power of Jesus Christ. We believe that recovery is not merely about breaking destructive patterns — it is about discovering the love of God, walking in truth, and becoming the people He created us to be. Healing happens where Christ is welcomed, where grace is practiced, and where broken people gather with open hearts.

These resources were created to support that sacred work. Whether you are reading this as someone seeking personal healing, as a leader guiding others, or as a believer wanting to grow in Christ, we welcome you. Each book in this series serves a unique purpose, yet all three share the same foundation: Jesus Christ at the center, Scripture as our guide, and the Holy Spirit as our Counselor.

The RIC Workbook (Reaching Out to a Hurting World) helps individuals explore biblical principles of recovery, work through the Twelve Steps, and learn the Christ-Centered Traditions that help groups remain healthy and unified. **The Leadership Guide** equips leaders to shepherd Christ-centered recovery groups with wisdom, structure, and grace.

Together, these resources form a unified pathway — a way for individuals and communities to grow in honesty, humility, accountability, and love. They are not meant to instruct from above, but to walk beside you. We write as fellow travelers, fellow strugglers, and fellow recipients of God's mercy.

Our prayer is simple: that through these pages, Jesus will draw you closer to Himself, restore what has been broken, deepen your fellowship with others, and lead you into the freedom only He can give. May the Lord bless your journey, strengthen your faith, and use your life as a testimony of His healing power.

Sincerely,

Recovery In Christ Ministries

How to Use These Resources Together

Recovery is a journey best walked with Christ at the center and with others by our side. The resources in this ministry series were created to work together as a unified pathway — supporting individuals, leaders, and groups as they grow in healing, truth, and spiritual maturity.

Each section has a unique purpose, yet all share the same foundation: Jesus Christ as our Healer, Scripture as our guide, and the Holy Spirit as our Counselor. Used together, they provide a balanced and comprehensive approach to Christ-centered recovery.

The ‘Reaching Out to a Hurting World’ Workbook: This book is designed for personal growth, group discussion, and ongoing spiritual formation. It explores key topics related to addiction, trauma, codependency, emotional health, and discipleship. Individuals can use it privately when working the Twelve-Steps, and groups can use it as a weekly guide for reflection, sharing, and prayer.

Christ-Centered Traditions: The Reaching Out to a Hurting World Workbook includes both the Twelve Steps and Christ-Centered Traditions, providing a spiritual framework that helps groups remain healthy, unified, and focused on Jesus Christ.

The Leadership Guide: This guide equips leaders, facilitators, and pastors to shepherd Christ-centered recovery groups with clarity, structure, and grace. It offers practical tools for leading meetings, supporting participants, and cultivating a safe, Spirit-led environment where healing can take place.

Using Resources Together: You may use these books and other resources available on our website individually or as a set. Many groups read from the Workbook during meetings while using the Leadership Guide for structure, discussion prompts, leadership development, and ongoing support. Individuals may use the Workbook for personal growth while leaders use the other resources to guide and strengthen their ministry.

However you choose to use them, our prayer is that these tools will help you grow in Christ, deepen your relationships with others, and experience the freedom and restoration that only Jesus can bring.

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A Note to Leaders

It is our sincere prayer that this guide becomes a useful tool as you reach out to a world in deep need of Christ's healing. Recovery is a journey none of us walk alone, and having clear, Christ-centered direction can make all the difference. This Leadership Guide is designed to equip you with a full year of meaningful, Spirit-led weekly meetings—ready to use, yet flexible enough to adapt to the unique needs of your group.

Inside, you will find forty-eight weekly meeting templates built around the Twelve Steps, created to be used alongside the *Reaching Out to a Hurting World* (RIC Workbook) and, most importantly, your Bible. You will also discover additional templates for holidays, times of crisis, celebrations, newcomer support, and leadership encouragement—resources intended to strengthen both leaders and participants as they grow in Christ.

Since there are fifty-two weeks in a year, four months will naturally include a fifth meeting. We encourage you to treat these extra gatherings as special opportunities for fellowship and unity. Consider hosting an “eat & speak,” a testimony night, or another uplifting activity that deepens community and celebrates God's work among you.

Not every reading from the *Reaching Out to a Hurting World* Workbook is used in this Leadership Guide. Leaders are encouraged to explore the additional workbook topics, along with the many free resources available through Recovery In Christ Ministries, to create discussions that remain both Christ-centered and recovery-focused.

We also offer twenty-four teaching videos (two for each Step) featuring fellow Christians in recovery sharing their experience, strength, and hope as they apply biblical recovery principles to daily life. Each video is approximately twenty-eight minutes long and can be used for personal growth, leadership development, or group discussion.

Together, the Workbook, Leadership Guide, Christ-Centered Traditions, videos, and other ministry resources provide years of material to support individuals, leaders, and recovery groups as they grow in faith, healing, and freedom through Jesus Christ.

We invite you to keep returning, as we will continue adding new materials to support your ministry and expand the resources available on our website. Our desire is to walk alongside you as you build strong, healthy, Christ-centered recovery groups—and to support strong, healthy Christians.

May the Lord bless your willingness to serve, and may He use your faithfulness to bring in a great harvest in your community.

Sincerely, *Tommy Tieche*

Director, Recovery In Christ Ministries, Inc.

Meeting Formats

It is recommended that group leaders review the information on pages 40–42 of this Leadership Guide before facilitating a meeting. Not everyone feels comfortable maintaining order or ensuring that a group stays Christ-centered and recovery-focused. When possible, have a seasoned leader sit with a new chairperson during their first few meetings. Their presence can provide reassurance, answer questions, and offer gentle guidance when needed.

Once a group has been established and has a core of regular members, it is helpful to encourage service work. Individuals can assist with setup and cleanup, make coffee, or help with other practical needs. Allowing them to chair a meeting (using this format) can further engage them in the group and open new opportunities for the Holy Spirit to minister. It is always a joy to watch the spiritual growth that takes place when someone steps into service.

A consistent meeting format is essential for developing a Christ-centered recovery group. The leader (or chairperson) uses the format to keep the meeting focused, orderly, and on time. Consistency is especially important for those coming out of chaotic or broken situations; a predictable structure helps create a sense of safety for everyone who attends. While the basic structure should remain the same, your introduction and format may need to be customized depending on your setting — whether you are meeting in a church, a prison, a recovery house, an institution, or an AA clubhouse — and based on the time available. Several sample formats are available in the download section of our website, and in the *Reaching Out to a Hurting World* workbook under “Opening Group Remarks” and “Meeting Formats.”

The basics, however, should not change. We strongly recommend that the chairperson follow these simple guidelines when using this Leadership Guide.

The following works well for groups meeting for 1 hour (or more).

SUGGESTED FORMAT

1. Start and End on Time

2. Introduce Yourself

“I am recovering in Christ, and my name is _____.”

3. Open With Prayer

Use a prayer from the Workbook (e.g., the full version of the Serenity Prayer).

4. Read Your “Opening Group Remarks” (a few paragraphs that represent the Group)

5. Have Someone Read (from the Workbook or Handouts):

- Ground Rules for Support Groups
- The 12 Steps
- The 12 Traditions

6. Group Introductions

First name only. Welcome new members warmly.

7. Devotional Reading

Have someone read a short devotional (Life Recovery Bible or similar). Choose one that complements the topic for the night. You may ask if anyone has a comment about what was just read. Trust the Holy Spirit, sometimes this becomes the meeting.

BEGIN MEETING TEMPLATE

8. Introduce the Topic

Use the meeting template in this Leader’s Guide for the week, the Step, or the occasion.

The chairperson reads:

- The TAG Line (e.g., Week 15 – “Courage to Look Within”)
- The Scripture
- The Devotional Thought

Then invite the group to turn to the corresponding section and page in the Workbook (*Reaching Out to a Hurting World*).

9. Group Reading

Ask the group to read one paragraph each. Let them know they may say “pass.”

10. Open the Floor for Sharing

- a. After the one-page reading is complete, invite comments on the topic.
- b. If the group is large, consider using a timer so everyone has an opportunity. If you do, explain: “Part of sharing is sharing the time.”
- c. If the group is hesitant, use one or more of the Discussion Prompts in your guide.
- d. The chairperson’s role here is simply to keep the meeting recovery-focused and Christ-centered. You have spoken enough—only share if needed to gently redirect.
- e. Near the end, you may offer a brief summary of what was shared and affirm the good work God is doing in the group.

11. Ten Minutes Before Closing

Say: “The time for sharing has ended. If you didn’t get a chance to share, please grab someone after the meeting. Please join me as I pray our Closing Prayer.”

END TEMPLATE (*Meeting continues next page*)

12. Seventh (7th) Tradition

Pass the basket if appropriate. Every group should be self-supporting. Funds may cover rent, coffee, snacks, Bibles, or printing materials.

13. Recognize Recovery Anniversaries & Professions of Faith

This is optional, but celebrating milestones helps cultivate gratitude for what God has done. You can assign someone to do this:

NOTE: AA gives chips, NA gives key tags, CA gives coins, and Al-Anon/Nar-Anon give medallions. **At Recovery In Christ Meetings, we give out colored marbles** (because we lost a few on our way here — lol).

- **White** – Just for Today (surrender)
- **Green** – 30 days (growth)
- **Red** – 60 days (don't stop!)
- **Blue** – 90 days (blue skies ahead)
- **Yellow** – 6 months (let the SON in!)
- **Black** – 9 months (no more living in darkness)
- **Fidget Spinner** – 1 year and multi-year (keep going... never stop!) **

** If someone celebrates a year or more, ask them to briefly share **how and why** they did it.

14. Announcements

Invite any announcements relevant to the group (church events, recovery events, etc.).

15. Prayer Requests

Gather requests.

You can Say: “Let’s take a moment of silence to lift up these spoken and unspoken requests to the Lord. Let’s also lift up one another throughout the week, and those Christ is calling to join us.”

16. Closing Prayer

Have someone read a closing prayer from the RIC Workbook (e.g., Prayer of St. Francis). Or pray according to your custom.

~ END ~

17. Fellowship

You may wish to pass around a contact list and/or provide newcomers with a list of telephone numbers of people willing and able to reach out. Early recovery is a difficult time, and human contact and a listening ear is often the lifeline someone needs to make it to the next day.

Spiritual Principles

Step 1 – January (Honesty)

“We admitted we were powerless over our dependencies and that our lives had become unmanageable.”

1. **The Freedom of Admitting the Truth** — John 8:32
 2. **Letting Go of Denial** — Psalm 34:18
 3. **Facing the Mess Without Fear** — Isaiah 41:10
 4. **God’s Strength in Our Weakness** — 2 Corinthians 12:9
-

Step 2 – February (Hope)

“We came to believe that Jesus Christ could restore us to sanity.”

5. **God’s Power to Restore** — Jeremiah 29:11
 6. **Choosing Faith Over Fear** — Hebrews 11:1
 7. **Hope That Does Not Disappoint** — Romans 5:5
 8. **Faith for the Journey Ahead** — Philippians 1:6
-

Step 3 – March (Surrender)

“We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of the Lord.”

9. **Letting God Lead** — Proverbs 3:5–6
 10. **The Peace of Surrender** — Philippians 4:6–7
 11. **Trading Control for Trust** — Matthew 6:33–34
 12. **Saying “Yes” to God’s Plan** — Luke 22:42
-

Step 4 – April (Courage)

“We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”

13. **God’s Light in Our Inventory** — 2 Corinthians 13:5
 14. **Facing the Truth with Grace** — 1 John 1:9
 15. **Courage to Look Within** — Joshua 1:9
 16. **Healing Through Honesty** — Lamentations 3:40
-

Step 5 – May (Integrity)

“We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.”

17. **Confession Brings Freedom** — James 5:16
 18. **God’s Mercy in Our Confession** — Psalm 32:5
 19. **Walking in the Light** — 1 John 1:7
 20. **The Power of Accountability** — Ecclesiastes 4:9–10
-

Step 6 – June (Willingness)

“We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.”

21. **God’s Refining Work** — Philippians 1:6
 22. **Letting Go of Old Ways** — Ephesians 4:22–24
 23. **Willing to Be Changed** — Isaiah 64:8
 24. **Trusting God’s Process** — Romans 12:2
-

Step 7 – July (Humility)

“We humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.”

25. **The Strength in Humility** — 1 Peter 5:6–7
26. **Responding Rather Than Reacting** — James 1:19–20
27. **Holiness Through Surrender** — Matthew 5:3
28. **Humility as a Way of Life** — Micah 6:8

Step 8 – August (Forgiveness)

“We made a list of all people we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.”

29. **Letting God Be the Savior** — Isaiah 43:11
30. **Untangling Unhealthy Relationships** — Galatians 6:5
31. **Preparing the Heart for Amends** — Romans 8:1
32. **Making the List** — Matthew 5:23–24

Step 9 – September (Love)

“We made direct amends wherever possible, except when doing so would injure them or others.”

33. **An Attitude of Gratitude** — Philippians 2:5
34. **Making Amends with Wisdom** — Proverbs 3:5–6
35. **Cleaning Up My Side of the Street** — Romans 12:18
36. **Love That Heals** — 1 Corinthians 13:4–7

Step 10 – October (Perseverance)

“We continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.”

37. **Daily Heart Check** — Psalm 139:23–24
38. **Staying Spiritually Fit** — 1 Corinthians 10:12
39. **Keep Going** — Galatians 6:9
40. **Staying Honest with God** — Psalm 85:8

Step 11 – November (Spiritual Growth)

“We sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with the Lord, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.”

41. **Christ at the Center** — Galatians 2:20
42. **Walking in God's Will** — Psalm 32:8
43. **Following God's Lead** — Matthew 6:10
44. **The Power to Carry It Out** — Philippians 4:13

Step 12 – December (Service)

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

45. **Sharing the Hope We've Found** — 1 Peter 3:15
 46. **Serving with a Grateful Heart** — Mark 10:45
 47. **Carrying the Message Forward** — Colossians 3:17
 48. **A Life Worth Giving Away** — 2 Timothy 2:2
-

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 1 – January (*Honesty*)

“We admitted we were powerless over our dependencies and that our lives had become unmanageable.”

Week 1 — The Freedom of Admitting the Truth

Scripture: *John 8:32* — “Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Devotional Thought: Honesty is the doorway to freedom. When we stop pretending and admit the truth about our struggles, we open the door for God’s healing power to work in us. Denial keeps us in chains, but truth invites grace.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Honesty

Discussion Prompts:

1. What fear has made honesty difficult in your recovery?
2. What pattern did you finally see once you became honest with yourself?
3. Where is God asking you to walk more fully in the light today?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for loving us enough to tell us the truth. Give us courage to face reality, admit our need, and walk in the light. Help us remove the masks, tear down the walls, and trust You with the hidden places of our lives. Let Your truth bring freedom, healing, and deeper fellowship with You and others. Amen.”

Week 2 — Letting Go of Denial

Scripture: *Psalms 34:18* — “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

Devotional Thought: Denial feels safe, but it keeps us stuck. God meets us in our brokenness, not in our pretending. When we let go of denial, we make room for His comfort and restoration.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 – Denial, Enabling and Hitting Bottom

Discussion Prompts:

1. How did denial keep you from seeing the truth about your situation?
2. Have you ever enabled someone—or been enabled by someone else?
3. What finally convinced you that change was necessary?

Closing Prayer: “Father, help us recognize denial, stop making excuses, and embrace the truth. Thank You for meeting us in our brokenness and leading us toward healing. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 3 — Facing the Mess Without Fear

Scripture: *Isaiah 41:10* — “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Devotional Thought: Recovery means facing the mess we’ve made — but we don’t face it alone. God promises His presence, strength, and help. Fear loses its grip when we remember who walks beside us.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Forgiving Yourself

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is it often harder to forgive ourselves than to forgive others?
2. What guilt or regret do you still struggle to release to God?
3. How would your life change if you truly accepted His forgiveness?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for Your forgiveness and grace. Help us let go of guilt, receive Your mercy, and see ourselves as You see us—forgiven, loved, and redeemed. Amen.”

Week 4 — God’s Strength in Our Weakness

Scripture: *2 Corinthians 12:9* — “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

Devotional Thought: Step One begins when we stop trying to manage life on our own. Admitting powerlessness is not giving up—it is finally facing reality. When we come to the end of ourselves, we discover that God has been waiting to provide the help we could never find in our own strength.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step One

Discussion Prompts:

1. What helped you finally admit you needed help?
2. Where have you tried to manage life on your own?
3. What area needs to be surrendered to God today?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for meeting us at the end of ourselves. Help us admit our need, surrender our struggles, and trust You with what we can’t manage alone. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 2 – February (*Hope*)

“We came to believe that Jesus Christ could restore us to sanity.”

Week 5 — God’s Power to Restore

Scripture: *Jeremiah 29:11* — “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (NKJV)

Devotional Thought: Surrender can feel frightening because it requires us to release control. Yet hope begins when we trust that God's plan is better than our own. The Lord knows us, loves us, and is committed to our good—even when we cannot see the outcome.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 – Surrender

Discussion Prompts:

1. What makes surrender difficult for you?
2. How has self-will created problems in your life?
3. Where is God asking you to trust His plan today?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, help us release control and trust Your plan. Strengthen our faith to follow You, even when we cannot see the outcome. Amen.”

Week 6 — Choosing Faith Over Fear

Scripture: *Hebrews 11:1* — “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

Devotional Thought: Fear can keep us stuck, isolated, and unwilling to move forward. Faith grows as we draw closer to God and learn to trust His promises. The closer we walk with Him, the less power fear has over our lives.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Fear

Discussion Prompts:

1. What fear has had the greatest impact on your life?
2. What walls have you built because of fear?
3. How can drawing closer to God help overcome that fear?

Closing Prayer: “Father, help us bring our fears into Your light. Teach us to trust Your promises and draw closer to You each day. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 7 — Hope That Does Not Disappoint

Scripture: *Romans 5:5* — “And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.”

Devotional Thought: Hope is more than wishful thinking. It is the confident expectation that God will do what He has promised. When our hope is anchored in His love and faithfulness, we can keep moving forward even when circumstances seem uncertain.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Hope

Discussion Prompts:

1. What helped restore hope when you felt hopeless?
2. Which promise of God strengthens your hope today?
3. How has the recovery community encouraged your hope?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for being our source of hope. Help us trust Your promises, encourage one another, and keep our eyes fixed on You. Amen.”

Week 8 — Faith for the Journey Ahead

Scripture: *Philippians 1:6* — “Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

Devotional Thought: Step Two is about learning to believe. As we listen to the stories of others and see God at work in their lives, hope begins to grow. Faith develops when we trust that what God has done for others, He can do for us.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Two

Discussion Prompts:

1. What helped you begin to believe recovery was possible?
2. How has someone else's testimony encouraged your faith?
3. What area of your life needs God's restoring power today?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, strengthen our faith and help us believe Your promises. Thank You for the hope we find in You and in the stories of lives You have changed. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 3 – March (Surrender)

“We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of the Lord.”

Week 9 — Letting God Lead

Scripture: *Proverbs 3:5–6* — “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

Devotional Thought: Trust can be difficult when we have been hurt, disappointed, or betrayed. Yet surrender begins when we choose to believe that God is trustworthy, even when people have failed us. As we learn to trust Him, He begins healing the walls that keep us isolated.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Trust

Discussion Prompts:

1. What experiences have made trust difficult for you?
2. What walls have you built to protect yourself?
3. How is God helping you learn to trust again?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, heal the wounds that make trust difficult. Help us lower our walls, trust Your love, and follow where You lead. Amen.”

Week 10 — The Peace of Surrender

Scripture: *Philippians 4:6–7* — “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Devotional Thought: Peace grows when we stop trying to control everything and trust God with the outcome. As we surrender our lives to His care, we discover that His presence is greater than our fears and stronger than our circumstances.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Peace

Discussion Prompts:

1. What area of life are you struggling to control?
2. How has surrender helped you find greater peace?
3. What does it mean to you that Jesus is our peace?

Closing Prayer: “Father, help us release control and rest in Your care. Fill us with the peace that comes from trusting You and following Your plan. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 11 — Trading Control for Trust

Scripture: *Matthew 6:33–34* — “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.”

Devotional Thought: Step Three is more than a good intention—it is a decision. When we stop managing our own lives and place them in God's hands, we discover that His plans are better than our own. Surrender is not losing control; it is trusting the right Manager.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Three

Discussion Prompts:

1. What makes surrendering control difficult for you?
2. Where have your own plans led to disappointment?
3. What decision do you need to place in God's hands today?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, help us surrender our will and trust Your care. Teach us to follow Your plan and rely on Your wisdom instead of our own. Amen.”

Week 12 — Saying “Yes” to God’s Plan

Scripture: *Luke 22:42* — “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”

Devotional Thought: Surrender is more than a feeling—it is a decision. Jesus chose the Father's will above His own, even when the path was difficult. Every time we say “yes” to God's plan, we discover that His way is wiser, better, and more loving than our own.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 – “Surrender Contract” (*Handout*)

Leader's Note: *This meeting may be enhanced by distributing the optional “A Surrendered Life” handout (available from the website) and allowing participants time to complete and sign either surrender document.*

Discussion Prompts:

1. What area of your life is most difficult to surrender to God?
2. Which item on the surrender contract challenged you the most?
3. What would change if Jesus truly became the Director of your life?

Closing Prayer: “Father, we choose Your will over our own. Give us the courage to surrender every area of our lives to Your loving care. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 4 – April (Courage)

“We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”

Week 13 — God’s Light in Our Inventory

Scripture: *2 Corinthians 13:5* — “Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves.”

Devotional Thought: A searching and fearless inventory is not about condemning ourselves. It is about allowing God to reveal the wounds, patterns, and hurts that still affect our lives. The Lord shines His light on these areas not to shame us, but to bring healing, freedom, and restoration.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Damaged Emotions

Discussion Prompts:

1. How is your past still affecting your life today?
2. What emotional wound may need God's healing touch?
3. Why is honesty important in the inventory process?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, give us the courage to be honest about our hurts and struggles. Reveal what needs healing and guide us into the freedom You desire for us. Amen.”

Week 14 — Facing the Truth with Grace

Scripture: *1 John 1:9* — “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

Devotional Thought: Guilt can keep us trapped in shame, fear, and self-condemnation. God invites us to bring our failures into His light, where forgiveness and healing are found. His grace breaks the cycle of guilt and sets us free to move forward.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Guilt

Discussion Prompts:

1. What is the difference between conviction and condemnation?
2. Have you struggled more with real guilt or false guilt?
3. How does God’s forgiveness help break the guilt cycle?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for Your forgiveness and grace. Help us release guilt, receive Your mercy, and walk in the freedom You provide. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 15 — Courage to Look Within

Scripture: *Joshua 1:9* — “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Devotional Thought: Shame tells us lies about who we are, while God speaks truth about our identity. It takes courage to face the wounds and false beliefs we carry, but healing begins when we allow God's truth to replace the lies.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Shame

Discussion Prompts:

1. What negative message about yourself have you struggled to believe?
2. How has shame affected your choices or relationships?
3. What truth from God can replace that lie today?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, help us recognize the lies that shame has planted in our hearts. Replace them with Your truth and teach us to see ourselves through Your eyes. Amen.”

Week 16 — Healing Through Honesty

Scripture: *Lamentations 3:40* — “Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the Lord.”

Devotional Thought: Healing begins when we bring hidden things into the light. Step Four requires courage and honesty, but God uses the process to reveal truth, break unhealthy patterns, and bring freedom. What remains hidden often keeps us sick; what is brought into the light can be healed.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Four

Discussion Prompts:

1. What makes a fearless inventory difficult to begin?
2. How have secrets affected your recovery journey?
3. What truth is God encouraging you to bring into the light?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, give us the courage to face the truth and trust You with our past. Help us walk in honesty and receive the healing You desire for us. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 5 – May (*Integrity*)

“We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.”

Week 17 — Confession Brings Freedom

Scripture: *James 5:16* — “Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

Devotional Thought: Pride keeps us hiding behind masks and pretending we do not need help. Integrity begins when we stop relying on ourselves and become willing to be honest with God and others. Freedom comes when humility replaces pride and truth replaces self-deception.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Pride

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has pride made it difficult for you to ask for help?
2. What is the difference between confidence in God and confidence in self?
3. How can humility strengthen your recovery journey?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, protect us from pride and teach us to depend on You. Give us humble hearts that are willing to receive Your guidance and Your grace. Amen.”

Week 18 — God’s Mercy in Our Confession

Scripture: *Psalms 32:5* — “Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.’ And you forgave the guilt of my sin.”

Devotional Thought: God's mercy meets us when we come honestly before Him. Through confession we receive His forgiveness, and through forgiving others we begin to experience healing ourselves. Freedom grows when we release both our guilt and our resentments into His hands.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Forgiveness

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is it sometimes difficult to receive God's forgiveness?
2. How has unforgiveness affected your life or recovery?
3. What resentment may God be asking you to release today?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for Your mercy and forgiveness. Help us receive Your grace and extend that same forgiveness to others. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 19 — Walking in the Light

Scripture: *1 John 1:7* — “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”

Devotional Thought: Walking in the light means allowing Christ's love to shape our relationships. As we welcome, forgive, serve, and encourage one another, we reflect the heart of Jesus. Love creates the kind of fellowship where healing and growth can flourish.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Humble Love

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has Christ's love been demonstrated to you through others?
2. Which expression of humble love is most difficult for you—welcoming, forgiving, serving, or speaking truth?
3. How can you better reflect Christ's love this week?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, help us love others as You have loved us. Teach us to serve with humility, forgive with grace, and reflect Your heart in all we do. Amen.”

Week 20 — The Power of Accountability

Scripture: *Ecclesiastes 4:9–10* — “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.”

Devotional Thought: Step Five reminds us that healing happens in relationship. When we honestly share our struggles with a trusted person, we often discover acceptance where we expected rejection. God uses honest fellowship to bring freedom, healing, and hope.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Five

Discussion Prompts:

1. What fears can make Step Five difficult to take?
2. Why is it important to share with a trustworthy person?
3. How do secrets keep us from experiencing freedom?

Closing Prayer: “Father, give us courage to be honest and wisdom to seek the right support. Help us walk in freedom as we bring our lives into the light. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 6 – June (Willingness)

“We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.”

Week 21 — God’s Refining Work

Scripture: *Philippians 1:6* — “Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

Devotional Thought: God is not looking for perfection—He is looking for willingness. When we offer Him an open and teachable heart, He begins shaping us in ways we never could on our own. His refining work starts with a simple willingness to say “yes.”

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Willingness

Discussion Prompts:

1. What area of your life is God asking you to surrender?
2. Why is willingness often more important than feeling ready?
3. What small step of willingness can you take this week?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, make us willing to follow wherever You lead. Help us trust Your work in our lives and surrender the areas we still hold back. Amen.”

Week 22 — Letting Go of Old Ways

Scripture: *Ephesians 4:22–24* — “You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”

Devotional Thought: Many of us spent years trying to earn approval through performance and perfection. God invites us to let go of impossible expectations and rest in His grace. Willingness means trusting that His love is not based on how perfectly we perform.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Perfectionism

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has perfectionism affected your peace and relationships?
2. Do you tend to demand more from yourself than God does?
3. What would it look like to rest in God's grace this week?

Closing Prayer: “Father, free us from the burden of perfectionism. Help us rest in Your love, trust Your grace, and follow You without demanding more of ourselves than You do. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 23 — Willing to Be Changed

Scripture: *Isaiah 64:8* — “Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.”

Devotional Thought: God's goal is not simply to remove one unhealthy behavior and replace it with another. He wants to transform us from the inside out. Willingness means allowing Him to reveal every area that needs His touch and trusting Him with the changes He wants to make.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 – Switching Addictions

Discussion Prompts:

1. Have you ever replaced one unhealthy habit with another?
2. What area of life is most difficult for you to fully surrender to God?
3. How can you stay balanced while God continues His work in you?

Closing Prayer: “Father, reveal any areas we have not fully surrendered to You. Help us trust Your timing, embrace Your changes, and find our freedom in Christ alone. Amen.”

Week 24 — Trusting God’s Process

Scripture: *Romans 12:2* — “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Devotional Thought: Step Six prepares us for change by making us willing. God does not ask us to transform ourselves—He asks us to cooperate with His work. As we yield our defects to Him, He begins revealing the person He created us to be.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Six

Discussion Prompts:

1. Is there a character defect you are reluctant to surrender to God?
2. Why can letting go of old patterns feel like losing part of your identity?
3. How does knowing God does the transforming give you hope?

Closing Prayer: “Father, make us entirely ready to surrender every defect that stands between us and You. Help us cooperate with Your transforming work and trust the person You are creating us to be. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 7 – July (*Humility*)

“We humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.”

Week 25 — The Strength in Humility

Scripture: *1 Peter 5:6–7* — “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

Devotional Thought: Humility is not thinking less of ourselves; it is thinking less about ourselves. When we humble ourselves, we stop relying on our own strength and begin depending on God’s. True humility trusts His wisdom, His power, and His timing.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Humility

Discussion Prompts:

1. What is the difference between depending on yourself and depending on God?
2. How can pride keep us from receiving help or guidance?
3. What area of your life needs greater surrender to God’s control?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, teach us the strength of humility. Help us to trust Your care and Your timing in every area of our lives. Amen.”

Week 26 — Responding Rather Than Reacting

Scripture: *James 1:19–20* — “Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”

Devotional Thought: Anger is a normal emotion, but it can become destructive when it controls our actions. Recovery teaches us to slow down, seek God’s wisdom, and respond with grace rather than react impulsively.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Anger

Discussion Prompts:

1. What situations most often trigger anger in your life?
2. How has anger affected your relationships or recovery?
3. What helps you pause and seek God’s guidance before reacting?

Closing Prayer: “Father, help us to handle anger in a way that honors You. Give us wisdom, patience, and self-control when emotions run high. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 27 — Holiness Through Surrender

Scripture: *Matthew 5:3* — “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Devotional Thought: Holiness is not something we achieve through self-effort. It is the work of God in a life that is surrendered to Him. As we yield to His grace and cooperate with His work, He transforms us from the inside out.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Holiness

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is it difficult to accept that we cannot change ourselves?
2. What is the difference between self-effort and surrender?
3. How can you cooperate more fully with God's work in your life?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that holiness is Your work and not ours. Help us to yield to Your Spirit, trust Your grace, and cooperate with the changes You want to make in us. Amen.”

Week 28 — Humility as a Way of Life

Scripture: *Micah 6:8* — “He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

Devotional Thought: Humility is more than a moment of surrender—it is a daily way of life. It means recognizing our need for God, trusting His wisdom over our own, and allowing Him to do what we cannot do for ourselves.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Seven

Discussion Prompts:

1. What shortcomings are hardest to place in God's hands?
2. Why does humility require faith?
3. How have you seen God change areas you could not change yourself?

Closing Prayer: “Father, we humbly place our shortcomings before You. Help us trust Your power to change what we cannot and teach us to walk in daily dependence upon You. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 8 – August (*Forgiveness*)

“We made a list of all people we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.”

Week 29 — Letting God Be the Savior

Scripture: *Isaiah 43:11 — “I, even I, am the Lord, and besides Me there is no savior.” (NKJV)*

Devotional Thought: Sometimes we try to rescue people, fix their problems, or carry burdens God never intended us to bear. Recovery teaches us to trust God with the lives of others and focus on our own obedience. Freedom comes when we stop trying to be the savior and let Jesus be who only He can be.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 – Rescuing

Discussion Prompts:

1. When have you tried to rescue someone instead of trusting God?
2. How can rescuing others interfere with God's work in their lives?
3. What burden do you need to release into God's hands today?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, forgive us for trying to carry burdens that belong to You. Help us trust Your wisdom, timing, and power in the lives of those we love. Amen.”

Week 30 — Untangling Unhealthy Relationships

Scripture: *Galatians 6:5 — “For each one should carry their own load.”*

Devotional Thought: Recovery often reveals unhealthy patterns in our relationships. We may try to control others, rescue them, or find our identity in being needed. God calls us to healthy boundaries, healthy love, and a relationship with Him that is not dependent on the approval of others.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 – Codependency | Questionnaire (*Handout*)

Discussion Prompts:

1. Which codependency traits do you most identify with?
2. How can trying to control others damage relationships?
3. What would it look like to find your identity in Christ instead of other people?

Closing Prayer: “Father, help us recognize unhealthy patterns in our relationships. Teach us to find our identity, security, and worth in You alone. Give us wisdom to love others without controlling them and to trust You with the things we cannot change. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 31 — Preparing the Heart for Amends

Scripture: *Romans 8:1* — “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

Devotional Thought: Before we can make amends to others, we must accept God's forgiveness for ourselves. Shame and self-condemnation keep us stuck in the past, but God's grace prepares our hearts to move forward in honesty, healing, and reconciliation.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Forgiving Yourself

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is it often harder to forgive ourselves than to forgive others?
2. How can accepting God's forgiveness prepare us to make amends?
3. What guilt or shame do you need to place in God's hands today?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that there is no condemnation in Christ Jesus. Help us release guilt, receive Your mercy, and prepare our hearts to make things right where we have caused harm. Amen.”

Week 32 — Making the List

Scripture: *Matthew 5:23–24* — “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.”

Devotional Thought: Step Eight begins with honesty and willingness. Making a list of those we have harmed is not about shame or self-condemnation. It is about preparing our hearts for reconciliation and allowing God to restore what has been broken.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Eight

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is it difficult to acknowledge the people we have harmed?
2. How can willingness prepare us for making amends?
3. What fears might keep someone from completing an honest list?

Closing Prayer: “Father, give us honesty, courage, and willingness as we examine our past. Help us take responsibility for our actions and prepare our hearts for reconciliation. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 9 – September (Love)

“We made direct amends wherever possible, except when doing so would injure them or others.”

Week 33 — An Attitude of Gratitude

Scripture: *Philippians 2:5 — “In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.”*

Devotional Thought: Recovery begins to change when our attitude changes. A grateful heart sees God's hand at work even in difficult circumstances. As we trust Him, gratitude replaces self-pity and hope replaces despair.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Attitude

Discussion Prompts:

1. How does your attitude affect your recovery journey?
2. What are some blessings you tend to overlook when life becomes difficult?
3. How can gratitude help you face challenges differently this week?

Closing Prayer: *“Father, help us to see life through Your eyes. Replace complaint with gratitude. Give us the attitude of Christ in all we do. Amen.”*

Week 34 — Making Amends with Wisdom

Scripture: *Proverbs 3:5–6 — “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.”*

Devotional Thought: Making amends requires both courage and wisdom. God calls us to take responsibility for our actions while respecting the well-being of others. As we seek His guidance, He shows us how to pursue healing without causing further harm.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Boundaries

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why are healthy boundaries important when making amends?
2. How can you tell the difference between helping and harming in a difficult situation?
3. How can prayer help you approach amends with wisdom and sensitivity?

Closing Prayer: *“Father, give us wisdom as we seek to make amends. Help us to respect healthy boundaries, act with humility, and follow Your guidance in every situation. May our actions bring healing, restoration, and glory to You. Amen.”*

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 35 — Cleaning Up My Side of the Street

Scripture: *Romans 12:18* — “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”

Devotional Thought: Recovery calls us to focus on our own hearts rather than the faults of others. When we stop judging and allow God to deal with us first, we become free to walk in humility, grace, and personal responsibility in our amends.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Judging

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is it easier to see faults in others than in ourselves?
2. How can judging others interfere with your recovery?
3. What does “as far as it depends on you” mean in your relationships today?

Closing Prayer: “Father, help us to take responsibility for our own hearts and actions. Give us humility, grace, and a desire to live at peace with others. Amen.”

Week 36 — Love That Heals

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 13:4–7* — “Love is patient, love is kind... it keeps no record of wrongs.”

Devotional Thought: The love of Christ is the foundation for true amends. When we approach others with patience, kindness, and humility, we reflect His heart and create space for healing, reconciliation, and peace.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Nine

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is making amends often more difficult than admitting we were wrong?
2. How can wisdom and timing affect the amends process?
3. What does it mean to trust God with the outcome of your amends?

Closing Prayer: “Father, give us courage to make things right where we have caused harm. Lead us with wisdom, humility, and grace as we seek reconciliation. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 10 – October (*Perseverance*)

“We continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.”

Week 37 — Daily Heart Check

Scripture: *Psalm 139:23–24* — “Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

Devotional Thought: Step 10 is about staying spiritually healthy through daily self-examination. When we invite God to search our hearts regularly, we catch small issues before they grow into bigger problems.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Temptation

Discussion Prompts:

1. How can daily self-examination strengthen your recovery?
2. What’s one practical way you can invite God to search your heart each day?
3. How does promptly admitting wrongs keep small problems from becoming bigger ones?

Closing Prayer: Have someone **READ:** “Times of Temptation” prayer on next page.

Week 38 — Staying Spiritually Fit

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 10:12* — “So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall!”

Devotional Thought: Perseverance in recovery means staying alert. Complacency can lead to relapse, but humility and vigilance keep us spiritually strong. Step 10 is like daily exercise for the soul.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Spiritual Warfare

Discussion Prompts:

1. What are some warning signs that you might be slipping spiritually?
2. How can humility protect you from falling back into old patterns?
3. What’s one “spiritual exercise” you can commit to this week?

Closing Prayer: “Father, keep us humble and alert. Help us to stay spiritually fit and dependent on You every day. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 39 — Keep Going

Scripture: *Galatians 6:9* — “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

Devotional Thought: Recovery is not about perfection—it is about perseverance. As we continue to walk with God day by day, He strengthens us to keep growing, keep healing, and keep moving forward.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Perseverance

Discussion Prompts:

1. What helps you keep going when recovery feels difficult?
2. How has God sustained you through challenging seasons?
3. What area of your recovery requires perseverance right now?

Closing Prayer: “Father, strengthen us when we grow weary. Help us to persevere in faith, trusting that You are completing the work You began in us. Amen.”

Week 40 — Staying Honest with God

Scripture: *Psalms 85:8* — “I will listen to what God the Lord says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants...”

Devotional Thought: Recovery grows when we stay honest with God. Step Ten helps us keep short accounts by regularly examining our hearts, admitting our mistakes, and listening for His guidance. Daily honesty protects our peace and keeps us close to Him.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Ten

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is it important to take regular personal inventory?
2. How does honesty with God help maintain your recovery?
3. What practical habit helps you stay aware of God's guidance each day?

Closing Prayer: “Father, help us to stay honest before You. Show us anything that needs attention and teach us to walk closely with You each day. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 11 – November (Spiritual Growth)

“We sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with the Lord, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.”

Week 41 — Christ at the Center

Scripture: *Galatians 2:20* — “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me...”

Devotional Thought: Spiritual growth begins when Christ moves from being present in our lives to being at the center of them. Step 11 helps us deepen our conscious contact with God so that His life can be expressed through us each day.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Christ-Centered

Discussion Prompts:

1. What does it mean for Christ to be at the center of your life?
2. Where do you still find yourself taking control instead of yielding to Him?
3. How can prayer and meditation help you stay aware of His presence this week?

Closing Prayer: “Lord Jesus, be the center of our lives. Teach us to yield to Your will and to walk in conscious fellowship with You each day. Amen.”

Week 42 — Walking in God's Will

Scripture: *Psalm 32:8* — “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you”

Devotional Thought: God's will is not a mystery designed to frustrate us. As we walk closely with Him, He faithfully guides our steps through His Word, His Spirit, and the circumstances of our lives. The key is not just knowing His will but being willing to follow it.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Will Of God

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why do you think people often struggle to trust God's guidance?
2. How has God directed your life through His Word, His Spirit, or circumstances?
3. What area of your life requires greater willingness to follow His leading?

Closing Prayer: “Father, teach us to walk closely with You and trust Your guidance. Give us willing hearts and help us follow wherever You lead. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 43 — Following God's Lead

Scripture: *Matthew 6:10* — “Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

Devotional Thought: Spiritual maturity means shifting our prayers from “God, do what I want” to “God, let Your will be done.” As we learn to follow His lead, we discover that His plans are better than our own and His ways lead to life.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Obedience

Discussion Prompts:

1. Why is it hard to pray for God’s will instead of your own?
2. How has following His will brought unexpected blessings?
3. What’s one area where you need to surrender to His will today?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, align our hearts with Yours. Teach us to desire Your will above our own and trust Your perfect plan. Amen.”

Week 44 — The Power to Carry It Out

Scripture: *Philippians 4:13* — “I can do all this through him who gives me strength.”

Devotional Thought: Knowing God's will is only the beginning. Step 11 reminds us that God not only reveals His plan, but also provides the strength to live it out. As we stay connected to Him each day, He supplies the wisdom, power, and guidance we need for today's journey.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Eleven

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has God given you strength to do something you couldn’t do on your own?
2. Why is it important to rely on His power instead of your own?
3. What’s one step of obedience you can take this week with His strength?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for giving us the strength to live out Your will. Help us to rely on You daily for power and guidance. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Step 12 – December (Service)

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

Week 45 — Sharing the Hope We’ve Found

Scripture: *1 Peter 3:15* — “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

Devotional Thought: Recovery is not just about what God has done in us—it is also about sharing that hope with others. When we tell the story of His work in our lives, He often uses our testimony to help someone else begin their journey toward freedom.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Religion Doesn't Work

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has God changed your life through recovery?
2. What fears do you have about sharing your story?
3. How can you share your hope with gentleness and respect?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for the hope You’ve given us. Give us courage to share it with others in love and humility. Amen.”

Week 46 — Serving with a Grateful Heart

Scripture: *Mark 10:45* — “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Devotional Thought: Service is an expression of gratitude. When we serve others, we follow the example of Jesus, who came not to be served but to serve.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Purpose

Discussion Prompts:

1. How does serving others strengthen your recovery?
2. What are some ways you can serve in your church, community, or recovery group?
3. How can you keep your service rooted in gratitude rather than obligation?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for the privilege of serving others. Help us to serve with joy and gratitude, following the example of Jesus. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Week 47 — Carrying the Message Forward

Scripture: *Colossians 3:17* — “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Devotional Thought: Having experienced God's grace in our own lives, we are called to share it with others. Step 12 reminds us that recovery is not something we keep to ourselves. We carry the message by living these principles daily and allowing God to use our lives to encourage others.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 – Reaching Out To Others

Discussion Prompts:

1. What does it mean to “practice these principles in all our affairs”?
2. How can you live out recovery values at work, home, and in relationships?
3. What’s one principle you want to focus on living out this week?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, help us to live out Your truth in every part of our lives. Let our words and actions reflect Your love. Amen.”

Week 48 — A Life Worth Giving Away

Scripture: *2 Timothy 2:2* — “And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”

Devotional Thought: Recovery is multiplied when we invest in others. By mentoring, encouraging, and walking alongside someone else, we pass on the gift we’ve received.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 3 – Step Twelve

Discussion Prompts:

1. Who has invested in your recovery journey?
2. How can you intentionally invest in someone else’s growth?
3. What legacy do you want to leave in your recovery community?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for those who have poured into our lives. Help us to pass on the hope, truth, and love we’ve received to others. Amen.”

Holiday & Seasonal Recovery Meetings

New Year — “A Fresh Start in Christ”

Scripture: *Isaiah 43:18–19* — “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!”

Devotional Thought:

The new year is a reminder that God specializes in fresh starts. In recovery, we don’t have to be defined by our past — we can step into the new life He is creating for us.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Temptation / Prayer

Discussion Prompts:

1. What “former things” do you need to leave behind this year?
2. How can you partner with God in the “new thing” He’s doing in your life?
3. What’s one spiritual goal you have for this year?

Closing Prayer:

“Lord, thank You for new beginnings. Help us to leave the past behind and walk boldly into the future You have for us. Amen.”

Easter — “Resurrection Power in Recovery”

Scripture: *Romans 6:4* — “Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

Devotional Thought:

Easter reminds us that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in us. In recovery, that means no habit, hurt, or hang-up is too strong for His resurrection power.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Identity in Christ

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has God brought “new life” to you in recovery?
2. What area of your life needs His resurrection power right now?
3. How can you share this hope with others?

Closing Prayer:

“Father, thank You for the resurrection of Jesus and the new life we have in Him. Fill us with Your power to overcome and live in freedom. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Thanksgiving — “Gratitude as a Recovery Tool”

Scripture: *1 Thessalonians 5:18* — “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

Devotional Thought: Gratitude shifts our focus from what’s wrong to what God is doing right. In recovery, a thankful heart keeps us grounded in hope and less vulnerable to relapse.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Gratitude

Discussion Prompts:

1. What are three things you’re thankful for in your recovery journey?
2. How does gratitude help you stay spiritually strong?
3. How can you practice gratitude daily?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for every blessing, big and small. Teach us to live with grateful hearts in every season. Amen.”

Christmas — “The Gift of Emmanuel”

Scripture: *Matthew 1:23* — “‘The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel’ (which means ‘God with us’).”

Devotional Thought: Christmas is a reminder that God is with us — in our joy, in our pain, and in our recovery journey. His presence is the greatest gift we could ever receive.

RIC Reading: The Christmas Story (Scripture Reading)

(Available as a free download on the Recovery In Christ website.)

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has God’s presence been real to you in recovery?
2. What does “God with us” mean in your daily life?
3. How can you share His presence with others this Christmas?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for sending Jesus to be with us. Help us to rest in Your presence and share Your love with others this season. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Independence Day — “Freedom in Christ”

Scripture: *Galatians 5:1* — “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.”

Devotional Thought: True freedom isn’t just political or physical — it’s spiritual. In recovery, we celebrate that Christ has set us free from the chains of sin, shame, and addiction.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Gratitude (Expanded)

Discussion Prompts:

1. What does freedom in Christ mean to you personally?
2. How has recovery helped you walk in that freedom?
3. What’s one area where you still need to claim His freedom?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for the freedom we have in Christ. Help us to live in it fully and never return to the chains You’ve broken. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Crisis & Setback Recovery Meetings

For times of relapse, grief, major life stress, or spiritual discouragement

Meeting 1 — God is Near in the Storm

Scripture: *Psalm 34:18* — “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

Devotional Thought: In crisis, it’s easy to feel abandoned — but God promises He is closest when we are hurting most. Recovery is not about never falling; it’s about knowing where to turn when we do.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Grief & Loss

Discussion Prompts:

1. When have you felt God’s nearness in a hard time?
2. How can you remind yourself of His presence in the middle of a storm?
3. What’s one step you can take today to lean on Him instead of isolating?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for being near to us in our pain. Hold us close and remind us that we are never alone. Amen.”

Meeting 2 — Grace After a Fall

Scripture: *Micah 7:8* — “Though I have fallen, I will rise. Though I sit in darkness, the Lord will be my light.”

Devotional Thought: A setback is not the end of the story. God’s grace lifts us up, dusts us off, and sets us back on the path. In Christ, failure is never final.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 – Recovery

Discussion Prompts:

1. How do you usually respond to setbacks — with shame or with grace?
2. What does it mean to “rise” after a fall in recovery?
3. How can the group support each other in getting back up?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that Your grace is greater than our failures. Help us to rise again and walk in Your light. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Meeting 3 — Casting Your Cares

Scripture: *1 Peter 5:7* — “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

Devotional Thought: In crisis, our burdens can feel too heavy to carry. God invites us to hand them over to Him — not just the big ones, but every single worry.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Problems

Discussion Prompts:

1. What’s one burden you’ve been carrying alone?
2. How can you practically “cast” your cares on God this week?
3. How has God shown you that He cares for you personally?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, we give You our worries, fears, and pain. Thank You for caring for us so deeply. Amen.”

Meeting 4 — Holding On to Hope

Scripture: *Romans 15:13* — “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Devotional Thought: Hope is not wishful thinking — it’s confident trust in God’s promises. Even in crisis, we can hold on to hope because our future is secure in Him.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Hope

Discussion Prompts:

1. What promise of God gives you hope right now?
2. How can you keep hope alive when circumstances look bleak?
3. How can you help someone else hold on to hope this week?

Closing Prayer: “God of hope, fill us with joy and peace as we trust You. Let our hope overflow and encourage others. Amen.”

*These meetings are designed so you can **drop them into any week** when the group is hurting, facing relapse, or walking through a heavy season. It keeps the focus on **God’s presence, grace, care, and hope** — the anchors we need most in a storm.*

Suggested Meeting Template

Victory & Milestone Recovery Meetings

For anniversaries, prayers answered, breakthroughs, or spiritual growth moments

Meeting 1 — Remembering What God Has Done

Scripture: *Psalm 126:3* — “The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.”

Devotional Thought: Celebrating victories keeps us grateful and humble. Every milestone is a testimony of God’s faithfulness, not just our effort.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Fellowship / Community

Discussion Prompts:

1. What’s one victory God has given you in recovery?
2. How can remembering past victories help you face future challenges?
3. How can you share your testimony to encourage others?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for every victory You’ve given us. May our joy point others to You. Amen.”

Meeting 2 — Giving God the Glory

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 15:10* — “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect.”

Devotional Thought: Milestones are moments to give God the glory. Our progress is the fruit of His grace working in us day by day.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 2 — Surrender

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has God’s grace shaped your recovery journey?
2. Why is it important to give Him the credit for our progress?
3. How can you keep humility in seasons of success?

Closing Prayer: “Father, we give You all the glory for the progress we’ve made. Keep us humble and grateful. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Meeting 3 — Pressing On Toward the Goal

Scripture: *Philippians 3:13–14* — “Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

Devotional Thought: Victories are worth celebrating, but they’re also stepping stones toward the greater goal — becoming more like Christ.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 — Perseverance

Discussion Prompts:

1. What’s the next step God is calling you to take in recovery?
2. How can you avoid complacency after a big win?
3. How can you encourage others to keep pressing on?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for bringing us this far. Help us to keep pressing forward in faith. Amen.”

Meeting 4 — Overflowing with Thanksgiving

Scripture: *Colossians 2:6–7* — “So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him... overflowing with thankfulness.”

Devotional Thought: Gratitude is the heartbeat of lasting recovery. When we overflow with thankfulness, we stay grounded in God’s goodness and less likely to return to old ways.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 — Gratitude

Discussion Prompts:

1. What are you most thankful for in your recovery today?
2. How can you make gratitude a daily habit?
3. How does thankfulness protect your heart from relapse?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, let our lives overflow with thankfulness for all You’ve done. Keep our hearts anchored in gratitude. Amen.”

Welcome & First-Time Recovery Meetings

Meeting 1 — You Belong Here

Scripture: *Romans 15:7* — “Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.”

Devotional Thought: In recovery, belonging is the first step toward healing. Jesus accepts us as we are — and so does this group. You don’t have to have it all together to be here.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 1 – Sharing in Small Groups

Discussion Prompts:

1. What fears or hesitations did you have before coming tonight?
2. How does it feel to know you are accepted just as you are?
3. How can we as a group make newcomers feel more welcome?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for bringing each person here tonight. Help us to love and accept one another as You have loved and accepted us. Amen.”

Meeting 2 — You Are Not Alone

Scripture: *Deuteronomy 31:8* — “The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

Devotional Thought: Isolation is one of the enemy’s greatest tools. Recovery is a reminder that we are never alone — God is with us, and we have each other.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Trust

Discussion Prompts:

1. How has loneliness affected your life or recovery?
2. What does it mean to you that God will never leave you?
3. How can we walk alongside each other in this journey?

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for Your constant presence. Help us to be a reflection of Your love and companionship to one another. Amen.”

Suggested Meeting Template

Meeting 3 — There is Hope for You

Scripture: *Jeremiah 29:11* — “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’”

Devotional Thought: No matter how broken life feels, God has a plan for your good. Recovery is not about perfection — it’s about progress, and God walks with us every step.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Hope

Discussion Prompts:

1. What does “hope” mean to you right now?
2. How can you trust God’s plan even when you can’t see it?
3. What’s one small step you can take toward healing this week?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for the hope and future You promise us. Help us to trust You with our recovery journey. Amen.”

Meeting 4 — A Safe Place to Heal

Scripture: *Psalms 46:1* — “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.”

Devotional Thought: This group is a safe place — no judgment, no condemnation, just grace and truth. God is our refuge, and we can be that for each other.

Workbook Reading: Sec. 4 – Rejection

Discussion Prompts:

1. What makes a place feel “safe” for you?
2. How can we as a group protect that safe environment?
3. How can you personally contribute to making others feel safe here?

Closing Prayer: “Lord, thank You for being our refuge. Help us to be a safe place for one another, where healing can happen in Your presence. Amen.”

*Here’s a tip: You can rotate one of these “Welcome” meetings into your schedule **any time you expect new guests** — or even make it your **first meeting of every month** so there’s always an easy entry point.*

Leadership & Servant Team Training

For pastors, facilitators, and core volunteers in Recovery In Christ Ministries.

Please watch our videos: ‘Intro to Christ-centered Recovery’ and ‘How to Organize and Facilitate a Christ-centered Support Group’ available on our website and YouTube.

Session 1 — The Heart of a Servant Leader

Scripture: *Mark 10:43–45* — “Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Core Principle: Leadership in recovery ministry is not about position, authority, or control. It is about serving people the way Christ has served us. We lead best when we walk beside others as fellow travelers on the road of recovery.

Workbook Reading: **Sec. 1 – Sharing In Small Groups / Sec. 2 – Reaching Out to Others**

Key Practices:

- Pray for your group members daily.
- Be the first to arrive and the last to leave.
- Model vulnerability — share your own struggles and victories.

Discussion for Leaders:

- How can we serve without burning out?
 - What does “leading by example” look like in recovery ministry?
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Session 2 — Creating a Safe & Grace-Filled Space

Scripture: *Romans 8:1* — “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

Core Principle: Healing begins when people feel safe enough to tell the truth. Safety is not created by perfect meetings—it is created when people experience grace, confidentiality, acceptance, and the love of Christ.

Workbook Reading: **Sec. 1 – Ground Rules / Sec. 4 – Rejection**

Key Practices:

- Enforce confidentiality: *What’s said here stays here.*
- Stop gossip or judgment immediately.
- Keep the focus on Christ, not on comparing struggles.

Discussion for Leaders:

- How do we handle someone who breaks confidentiality?
- How can we make newcomers feel safe from the moment they walk in?

Session 3 — Guiding Without Controlling

Scripture: *Galatians 6:1-2* — “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”

Core Principle: We are guides, not fixers. Our role is to point people to Jesus, not to solve their problems for them. People rarely change because we have the perfect answer. They change when the Holy Spirit reveals truth and they become willing to act on it.

Workbook Reading: **Sec. 1 – Meeting Format / Sec. 2 – Caretaking & Rescuing / Sec. 1 – Visiting AA and Other Meetings**

Key Practices:

- Ask open-ended questions instead of giving quick advice.
- Encourage Scripture-based solutions.
- Allow silence — sometimes the Holy Spirit is working in the quiet.

Discussion for Leaders:

- How do we balance truth and grace in tough conversations?
- How can we redirect someone who dominates the discussion?

Leader Warning: *Avoid caretaking, rescuing, fixing, or controlling. Our role is to point people to Jesus Christ and allow the Holy Spirit to do the transforming work.*

Session 4 — Staying a Spiritually Healthy Leader

Scripture: *John 15:5* — “Apart from me you can do nothing.”

Core Principle: You can’t pour from an empty cup. Leaders must stay connected to Christ to lead effectively. Leaders are not called to save people. Jesus already has that job. Our responsibility is to remain close to Him and faithfully serve the people He places in our path.

Workbook Reading: **Sec. 4 – Christ-Centered / Sec. 2 – Addiction / Sec. 3 About The Steps**

Key Practices:

- Maintain your own devotional and prayer life.
- Have an accountability partner outside your leadership role.
- Take breaks and rotate responsibilities to avoid burnout.

Discussion for Leaders:

- What’s one spiritual habit that keeps you strong?
 - How can we support each other as a leadership team?
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Recovery In Christ Ministries, Inc.

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