

The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

Florida - USA

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

1850 SW 8th St. # 303 - Miami, FL 33135 / 305.461.2425 (24 hrs) / 305.461.2426 (Fax) / aamiamidade.org

March 2022

MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP 67TH ANNUAL BANQUET

SATURDAY - APRIL 23RD, 2022

THE GIFT

"ABANDON YOURSELF TO GOD"

BIG BOOK PG. 164

6:00PM - RECEPTION
7:00PM - DINNER
8:30PM - SPEAKER
FOLLOWED BY DANCE @ 10:00PM

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

TICKETS: \$45.00
TABLES: \$270.00

DOUBLETREE HOTEL BY HILTON
711 NW 72ND AVE. MIAMI, FL 33126
(NEAR MIAMI INT'L AIRPORT) - SELF PARKING: \$7.00

We can accept contributions through PayPal or Zelle under our e-mail: aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

New Group!
"ANASTASIA GROUP"

New Meetings!

Tuesdays @ 5:30pm

(C, Big Book Study, D)

Saturdays @ 10:00am

(C, Spirituality, D)



Anastasia Group
 635 Anastasia – Coral Gables

BIG BOOK UNLEASHED



NEW GROUP!



NEW MEETING!

FRIDAYS @ 7:00pm

(Closed, Big Book Study)



WEST DIXIE CLUB
 1636 NE 148th Street – North Miami, FL 33181

**Step Three: God as He May Express Himself
 God of Our Own Understanding**

Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) came into existence in 1935 when much of our society was centered around the churches in the communities where we lived. As a child in my hometown, on Sunday morning I could look out the window and see a vast majority of my neighbors walking to church. That was the way it was in the early 1940's. The book, Alcoholics Anonymous was published in 1939, and it was highly influenced by many early members of the program at that time. A.A. could have, very easily become a religious program, but fortunately, the elders of that time realized, by the mistakes of the Oxford Group, and the Washingtonians, that they had to make it clear that, a desire to stop drinking was the only requirement for membership, and that the individual members could choose their own concept of a power greater than themselves, i.e. God as we understand him.

In Tradition Two it says, "As He may express Himself in our group conscience" When the word God is used in the remainder of the book, it is not always followed by the "as we understand him" qualifier, and I believe that many members get the idea that somehow, they are trying to push religion on them. That is understandable. When I was faced with that possibility, I personally found it easy enough to read the black part of the pages in the book and to not let myself become distracted by what I now recognized as a cultural norm at the time. I had no problem setting aside my religious bias and recognizing the parts of the Big Book and the 12&12 that clearly state all the options available when it comes to finding a "Power Greater Than Myself", and I can name 3 right off top.

1) Alcohol itself was my higher power for a long time and still would be if had not gotten into the program. 2) My EGO ran my life for quite a while until I got serious about Real life Issues. 3) The A.A. program itself. I found myself spiritually lost when I entered the program and when faced with the need to come to terms with the Higher Power issue, I now realize why it took so long to settle this subject. Years of drinking and an underdeveloped thinking process it was hard to get up to speed right away. As I got more familiar with the Big Book, and the 12&12, I started to uncover all the evidence that debunked the idea that I had to conform to any religious doctrine. In the 12&12 I read on page 26, "alcoholics anonymous does not demand that you to believe anything." On belief, "to acquire it, I had only to stop fighting and practice the rest of A.A.'s program as enthusiastically as I could." (Pg.27) Also on page 26 where it states, "Take it easy. The hoop you have to jump through is a lot wider than you think..."

A one-time vice-president of the American Atheist Society ... got through with room to spare" Then on page 33 of the 12&12 it says "Therefore, Step Two is the rallying point for all of us. Whether agnostic, atheist, or former believer, we can stand together on this step." Today I am comfortable with my own concept of a Higher Power, and I use the word God only to put a name on a concept that has no physical form, and I might say that it expresses itself in the collective conscience of the world we live in. I can assure you that if you read these qualifiers and practice the rest of the principals of the program, as enthusiastically as you can, you will come to terms with a personal concept of a higher power as well as any of us.

By Rick R.

When I Became Entirely Ready A Model That Worked for Me

What is the meaning of the word defect? What is the meaning of the word shortcoming? Those are two words that we hear often when we are discussing steps six and seven, and we sometimes get caught up in the semantics of the words and it distracts us from really getting to the heart of the matter. I can understand why a person could get a little confused since they both obviously imply that there is something wrong, but if they are intended to be synonymous why did they not include them both in step six or step seven? Early in my sobriety I heard one version that implied that they didn't want to be redundant when they wrote the big book and when I think back on it, I see that as a weak explanation. When I read the twelve and twelve, I see a much more active role expected of us than simply asking God to rid us of these faults. Understanding that the founders never wanted to edit the Big Book, I can see that these issues had to be addressed and by publishing the twelve and twelve they could provide amplifying information on these and many other ideas that were unclear to the rest of us. To find a simple framework that makes it easy to get the best results as I addressed these two steps, I had to come up with a way to conform to the spirit of the program and rid myself of my obvious character flaws. To put it in simple terms, I might use an example that we are all familiar with: If a person purchases a new car and several months later they discover a defect in the braking system causing the car to continue to roll forward when you apply the brakes, the car would be recalled, the defect would be corrected, and the brakes would perform properly each time you put your foot down on the pedal. The defect was the faulty brakes, and the shortcoming was the behavior of the car. It wouldn't stop properly. Once the defect was corrected, the shortcoming went away. While talking to a close friend of mine about gossiping about others his comment on the matter was that "All forms of criticism and character assignment stem from low self esteem." The low self esteem was the defect that caused the gossip (shortcoming). Since that conversation, whenever I caught myself wanting to criticize others I replaced the gossip with compassionate understanding and took the fall back position such as: There are two ways to have the tallest building in town. 1) Build the tallest building or 2) Tear all of the other buildings down around you. When I saw how pathetic that behavior was, I quickly started to remove it from my day to day interactions with others. (Stop the gossip) I try to use this type of model on all of the defects as I discover them and it seems to have taken all of the power out of them. This is a never ending process and nothing has served me better. Discover and correct the defects and the shortcomings disappear. My shortcomings were apparent to everyone but my defects of character were not. When I could identify them in myself, all I had to do was to use a little self restraint and the results were amazing. When I asked my higher power remove my shortcomings, I became entirely ready and this process became the answer I was searching for and as a result, most of the guilt and shame has dissolved into nothingness. I don't let the semantics of the two words, defect and shortcoming; stop me from applying a model that works for me. I am a firm believer in step study meetings and have been attending one weekly ever since I got sober in 1969. I liken it to a rock tumbler. Each time you go through a cycle, slowly but surely, all of the rough edges are worn down and soon you begin to evolve to the finished product that you envisioned. This is one that really worked for me.

By Rick R.

NEW GROUP!

Friday Night Lights



FRIDAYS @ 8:00pm

1st FRIDAY of the Month — Speaker
 2nd FRIDAY of the Month — Big Book
 3rd FRIDAY of the Month — Steps
 4th FRIDAY of the Month — Birthdays

Meeting ID: **925 7912 3921**
 Password: **FNL2022**



250 Catalonia Ave, Unit 507
Coral Gables

THE CORAL ROOM IS BACK!




In-person meetings for select meetings are returning!

NEW LOCATION:
1717 SW 37th Ave. - Suite 103
(Door entrance by parking lot under canopy)

Beginning Monday, February 14th
will begin as HYBRID meetings
at NOON, 5:30pm & 7pm (Spanish)

The success of re-establishing a full schedule room will depend on attendance and members stepping up for service to cover live meetings and virtual meetings.

The 7:30am, 8:30pm & 10:30pm
for the moment will remain virtual,
as well as Birthday Night &
Group Conscience Meetings.



Nuevas Reuniones

GRUPO ACEPTACION

De Lunes a Sabado de
12:30pm a 1:30pm

Nuevo Horario

GRUPO ALEGRIA DE VIVIR

De Lunes a Sabado de
7:30pm a 9:00pm
Domingos a las 10:00am

REUNIONES VIRTUALES
EN
ESPANOL

WWW.AAMIAMIDADE.ORG

GRUPOS:
**VIVIENDO SOBRIO
CORAL GABLES
LA GRAN MANZANA**

Si necesitan postear sus
reuniones virtuales en
el website de

Miami-Dade Intergroup
por favor
enviar e-mail a

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

o llamar al

305.461.2425
con su informacion.

**ANIVERSARIO
ARBOL DE VIDA**

**Semana de compartimiento
del Lunes 7 de Marzo al
Sabado 12 de Marzo
de 8:00pm a 9:30pm**

**Sesion Publica
Domingo 13 de Marzo
de 1:00pm a 8:00pm**

**1801 NW 65th Ave. Ste. 4
Margate, FL 33063**

**GRATITUD EN SOBRIEDAD
ANIVERSARIO**

**Semana de compartimiento
del Domingo 13 al
Sabado 19 de Marzo
de 8:00pm a 10:00pm
5110 SR7 - Davie, FL 33314**

**Sesion Publica
Domingo 20 de Marzo
de 11:00am a 6:00pm**

**6401 Washington St.
Hollywood, FL 33023**

FAITHFUL FIVER MEMBERS

Yes, I want to participate in the Faithful Fiver Club!



Contribution information: Date: _____

Amount: _____ Monthly: _____ Quarterly: _____ Annually: _____

(Note: No A.A. member can contribute more than \$3,000 per year)

I am a new Member: _____ Current Member: _____ Returning Member: _____

Check Enclosed: _____ Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Tel: (____) _____

_____ Yes, I would like my name to be added in "The Messenger." _____ No, I would like to remain anonymous
For Credit Card recurring contribution information please call the office at: 305.461.2425

"Each day that your Group participates in the work of our local A.A. services, whether through those who "Contribute their Time" or Group Contributions, or Sobriety Contributions, something wonderful happens in A.A. When a newcomer calls us and finds your meeting, it is indeed a miracle. Your contributions show that you care about the services we as a fellowship provide and continued hope for the newcomer that reaches out for help. Words cannot fully express the deep gratitude about the energy that your A.A. Group devotes into carrying the message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic."

FAITHFUL FIVER FRIENDS are fellow A.A. members who contribute \$5.00 a month to the Intergroup Office as an act of gratitude. Their generosity help us to carry the message of A.A. to the still sick and suffering alcoholics throughout the year! THANK YOU TO OUR FAITHFUL FIVER'S....Your contributions are very much appreciated.
5 Anonymous.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

**GS DISTRICT 10
 Monthly Business Meeting**
 1st Tuesday of the month
 at 7:30pm at the
 CG Congregational Ch.
 3010 De Soto Blvd., CG

**GS DISTRICT 10
 Corrections Committee**
 4th Thursday of the month
 @ 8:00pm at
 Sabal Palm Room
 10102 SW 107th Av., 331

Miami FC Host
 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month
 @ 10:00pm
 Little River Club
 51 NE 82nd Tr.
 Miami, FL 33137

Archives Committee
 4th Tuesday of the month
 @ 6:30pm - Sunset Room
 6999 N. Waterway Dr.

Remote Communities
 3rd Sunday of the month
 @ 10:00am at Little River Club
 51 NE 82nd Tr.

**GS DISTRICT 10
 Grapevine Committe**
 1st Wednesday of the month
 @ 7:15pm
 Upper Room
 822 NE 125th St. # 11
 North Miami, FL 331

**GS DISTRICT 10
 Literature Committee**
 1st Wednesday of the month
 @ 7:00pm
 Iglesia Metodista Unida
 6000 Calle de Leon Blvd.

**GS DISTRICT 10
 PI/CPC**
 4th Saturday of the month
 @ 10:00am
ID: 897 0307 8285
Password: 672322

Treatment Committe
 3rd Saturday of the Month
 @ 3:00pm

Accessibilities
 3rd Tuesday of the month
 @ 7:15pm Upper Room
**For more information go to
 www.district10miami.org**

STEP THREE DECISION

I think of the first three AA steps as: "I can't. (Step One). God can! (Step Two). I have decided to ask Him to help me. (Step Three).

I no longer consider the praying the Third Step Prayer as my decision to turn my will and my life over to the care of God. It is obvious that my decision had to come before doing so. According to the Big Book my decision to ask for God's help was made on the bottom paragraph of page 62: "Next, we decided that hereafter in this drama of life God was to be my director, etc. . . ." (p.62). The actual asking took place when I prayed the Third Step Prayer on page 63. My decision was well thought out before asking God for help via the page 63 prayer.

I believe this distinction is important because we are told: "We thought well before taking this step making sure we were ready; that we could at last abandon ourselves utterly to Him." Time to think well before the decision and the prayer is important. It would be tempting to haphazardly repeat this watershed Prayer verbatim, defusing the process of its needed substance and weight. Personally, having several months sobriety before this sequence, I had already made a sincere decision before praying this prayer with a sponsor.

We are told: "The wording was, of course, quite optional so long as we expressed the idea, voicing it without reservation." (p. 63) My sponsor had me read each sentence (separately) of the prayer and use my own words to explain what it meant to me. When finished, we both prayed the Third Step Prayer verbatim. I was immediately launched into the following steps and have not had to drink since.

By Bob S.



**INTERGROUP
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aamiamidade.org

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Maria S.

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The Messenger

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Maria S.

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Chair Raz S.

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Jorge L.

Spanish Intergroup Liaison**OPEN POSITION****Webmaster**

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"THE MESSENGER"

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NOTICES

Notices published in "The Messenger" are taken from information submitted to the Miami-Dade Intergroup Office. Information is based on what is current at the time of printing.

If your group discontinues a meeting or changes its schedule time, please notify Intergroup as soon as possible at (305) 461-2425

Articles and opinions expressed herein not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

Further endorsements, opposing views and rebuttals to articles published are also welcomed. Also, please tell us how we can improve.

Contributions to "THE MESSENGER" will be gratefully accepted. A sign up form is on the back cover.

E-mail the Editor at:
aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Please make checks payable to:
MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

"AS WE FELT NEW POWER FLOW IN, AS WE ENJOYED PEACE OF MIND, AS WE DISCOVERED WE COULD FACE LIFE SUCCESSFULLY, AS WE BECAME CONCIIOUS OF HIS PRESENCE, WE BEGAN TO LOSE OUR FEAR OF TODAY, TOMORROW OR THE HEREAFTER." (BIG BOOK PG. 63)

FEBRUARY

SOUTH DADE

- Steven 1
- Gary J. 2
- Robert 3
- Stacey 3
- Jay S. 8
- Haymon 11
- Laura K. 16
- Maria 32
- Mike B. 34

PALMETTO BAY

- Amy R. 1
- Edwin L. 1
- Sashi 2
- Shannon S. 6
- Neil T. 7
- Ann B. 21
- Lorraine D. 22
- Xavier P. 29

SOBER WAY OUT

- Ross 2
- Karl O. 5
- Tony B. 5
- Hopi M. 6
- Liliana V. 14
- Angel 14
- Marcy K. 17
- Nate C. 20
- Don P. 21
- Judy 26
- Andre S. 27
- Xavier P. 29
- James S. 31
- Ralph 32
- Sandra C. 32
- Melvin B. 33
- Ron H. 38

Our sincere heartfelt condolences to the friends and family of our friend

MALACHI H.

Who recently sadly passed away, he will be greatly missed by many.

Malachi was an amazing AA member who helped a lot of people, he will be in our hearts forever.




The Killian Pines Group IS BACK!!

Meets Friday nights at 8:00pm at the Kendall United Methodist Church; 7600 SW 104th St, Pinecrest, FL 33156

No smoking on premises

MEETINGS IN RUSSIAN

Do you know any Russian-speaking friend, who has drinking problems? Please invite them to our new 7pm Sunday Russian-speaking Alcoholics Anonymous meeting.



12 STEP HOUSE
205 SW 23rd St.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315

www.russianaa.com
russianaa.florida@gmail.com

- Group Conscience/Business/Service Meetings
- Brickell Group/3rd Thursday @ 1:05pm
 - Coral Gables Group/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm
 - Good Morning Group/3rd Friday @ 11:00am
 - Happy 1060 Group/3rd Sunday @ 11:45am
 - Happy Hour Group/ 3rd Thursday @ 6:35pm
 - Homestead Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm
 - Lincoln Road YP/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm
 - Little River Group/2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm
 - Miami Young People/3rd Saturday @ 7:00pm
 - Mix Nuts Group/1st Monday @ 9:30pm
 - Palmetto Bay/3rd Wednesday @ 6:35pm
 - Primary Purpose/Last Wednesday @ 6:45pm
 - Quinto Paso/1st Monday @ 7:00pm
 - Sabal Palm/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm
 - Sober Way Out/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm
 - Something Happens/1st Saturday @ 10:00am
 - South Dade Group/3rd Wednesday @ 7:00pm
 - South Dixie Group/2nd Sunday @ 12:15pm
 - Sunset Group/2nd Friday @ 7:00pm
 - West Miami Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm

- Group Anniversaries
- Almeria Group/Last Tuesday @ 7:30pm
 - Coral Gables Group/Last Monday @ 8:00pm
 - Grupo Central/Last Sunday @ 1:00pm
 - Good Morning Group/Last Friday @ 10:00am
 - Happy 1060 Group/Last Sunday @ 10:45am
 - Happy Hour Group/Last Friday @ 5:30pm
 - Homestead Group/Last Thursday @ 8:30pm
 - Key Biscayne Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm
 - Killian Pines Group/Last Friday @ 8:00pm
 - Lincoln Road YP/Last Sunday @ 7:00pm
 - Little River Group/Last Wednesday @ 8:30pm
 - Miami Springs/Last Monday @ 7:30pm
 - Miami Young People/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm
 - Mixed Nuts Group/Last Monday @ 8:30pm
 - Palmetto Bay Group/Last Saturday @ 5:30pm
 - Plymouth Group/Last Wednesday @ 7:00pm
 - Primary Purpose/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm
 - Sabal Palm Group/Last Sunday @ 7:00pm
 - Sober Way Out/Last Friday @ 8:30pm
 - Something Happens/Last Saturday @ 9:00am
 - South Dade Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm
 - South Dixie Group/Last Saturday @ 7:30pm
 - Sunset Group/Last Friday @ 7:30pm
 - West Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm





Scan. Pay. Go.




TAKE ME TO YOUR SPONSOR

Take Me To Your Sponsor

Sobriety can be tough sometimes, which is why recovering alcoholics can always use a good laugh. In AA, members learn to not take themselves too seriously, to be happy, joyous and free. Luckily, sobriety can be pretty darn amusing.

LOOKING FOR A.A. MEETINGS?

Learn more at: www.meetingguide.org



Here is the icon to look for.....

**Help Support "The Messenger"
This Publication Belongs To You!**

To make address changes you can notify the Intergroup Office or mail in the form below.
To subscribe to "The Messenger" please fill out the form below and mail with your \$12.00
for a yearly contribution.

Please make checks payable to:
MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP
c/o The Messenger

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please note: When you mail in this form, feel free to add something you would like to share with the fellowship
(a thought, a story, a joke or something you heard at a meeting.)

HELP US CARRY THE MESSAGE!!!

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