



Nov. 2018

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The Scoop

Faith

By John H., '80

Faith is defined as belief with strong convictions; firm belief in something for which there may be no tangible proof; complete trust, confidence, reliance, or devotion. Faith is the opposite of doubt.

I have often wondered about faith; how it fits into my program and daily life. I have a friend in the program who has said faith is being able to take the hand of a Higher Power and step off into the unknown with complete confidence. I am sorry, but my faith is somewhat shot of that. So, where does that leave me?

I guess it leaves me with a firm belief in the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* that with the suggestions found there I have a chance to stay sober one day at a time. That, with prayer and meditation, a sponsor and the steps I, too, can stay sober one day at a time. Is that faith? I guess so as some have tried and seemed to have failed; but I still have faith that today I am assured of sobriety if I follow this program.

I do have faith that there is a Higher Power. I don't believe that Dr. Bob and Bill W. just happened to decide by coincidence to start A.A. and gather 100 people together to write *Alcoholics Anonymous* and produce this magnificent program that has saved millions of lives. They must have had the

hand of a Higher Power guiding them. For that, I have faith. I have faith that that same Higher Power wants the best for me and yet allows me the free will to make mistakes and, yes at times, to doubt.

I have never doubted and am convinced to my innermost self that I am an alcoholic, and I believe this bedrock foundation of my program was a gift from my Higher Power.

Some years ago I went to an A.A. retreat and was handed a little booklet with prayers in it. One of those prayers is from the Big Book, "take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of thy power, thy love and thy way of life." Maybe with faith, I can find a way to help others as I crawl out from under my own difficulties. I have faith that this prayer was given to me to help me see my difficulties in a new light.

Does faith calm all my fears, doubts and indecisions? No, but faith in the program of A.A. does assure me that today I will stay sober.

Step Eleven

"Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understand Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out."

Step Eleven (continued)

Prayer and meditation are our principal means of conscious contact with God.

Tradition Eleven

“Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.”

Without its legions of well-wishers, A.A. could never have grown as it has. Throughout the world, immense and favorable publicity of every description has been the principal means of bringing alcoholics into our Fellowship. In A.A. offices, clubs, and homes, telephones ring constantly. One voice says, “I read a piece in the newspapers...”; another, “We heard a radio program...”; and still another, “We saw a moving picture...” or “We saw something about A.A. on television...” It is no exaggeration to say that half of A.A.’s membership has been led to us through channels like these.

Daily Reflections excerpt on the 11th Step

Let Go and Leg God

...praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out. 12 & 12, p. 96

When I “Let Go and Let God,” I think more clearly and wisely. Without having to think about it, I

quickly let go of things that cause me immediate pain and discomfort. Because I find it hard to let go of the kind of worrisome thoughts and attitudes that cause me immense anguish, all I need do during those times is allow God, as I understand Him, to release them for me, and then and there, I let go of the thought, memories and attitudes that are troubling me.

When I receive help from God, as I understand Him, I can live my life one day at a time and handle whatever challenges come my way. Only then can I live a life of victory over alcohol, in comfortable sobriety.

Winners of the Central Office Birthday Raffle

September winner: Greg B..

Drop into Central Office during your birthday month and get your ticket for your free Birthday Raffle.

Show your gratitude, contribute \$1 to Central Office on your sobriety birthday for each year sober.

Word Game

ACCEPTANCE, ACTION, A(L)COHOLISM, AMENDS, ANGER, ANONYMITY, APPROVAL, PROMOTION, AWARENESS, BLAME, CHANGE, CHOICE, COMPLACENCY, CONTROL, DECEPTION, FAITH, FEAR, GOSSIP

A	A	L	A	Y	A	N	G	E	R	M	I	O	A
E	W	O	N	C	E	C	G	C	O	T	D	O	P
L	A	S	O	N	C	O	O	T	D	C	E	A	R
O	R	S	N	E	I	N	S	I	I	F	C	C	O
A(L)	E	P	Y	C	O	T	S	C	L	C	E	H	M
C	N	A	M	A	H	R	I	A	E	N	P	A	O
O	E	C	I	L	C	O	P	P	M	A	T	N	T
H	S	T	T	P	A	L	T	O	M	L	I	G	I
O	S	I	Y	M	E	A	E	I	A	R	O	E	O
L	D	O	O	O	N	F	A	I	T	H	N	V	N
I	C	N	H	C	F	E	A	R	E	M	A	L	B
S	P	N	E	N	L	A	V	O	R	P	P	A	P
M	D	A	O	S	D	N	E	M	A	A	N	F	E
W	A	A	T	H	M	N	E	E	A	E	O	M	O

Quotable Quotes

Collected by Dano B.

You will be surprised how much energy and productivity you have when you're working on yourself. Joy

I don't want to forget how good I have it here in the fellowship of AA. David S.

The Devil comes disguised as everything I want. David S.

It's about the message, not the messenger.

These meetings aren't a fix to my life, they are a fix of how to deal with life.

Perfect is a very small square to dance in and I don't fit there.

I left AA because I had a full case of self-knowledge.

I owe everything to God who I don't understand.

I usually have a lawyer speak for me.

I always had just one; one here, one there, the next one, one for the road, and one for my hangover.

Unity revolves around purpose, not sameness; it's a movement involving persons.

Lies told over and over start sounding like truth.

Business Meetings

A.V. Intergroup: 1st Thursday of each month at 7pm at Central Office, 43619 17th Street West, Suite 106, Lancaster

District 7 (General Service): 2nd Saturday of each month at 9am at the Agua Duce Women's Club, 33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Road, Agua Dulce (link located on AV web site)

H&I: 2nd Sunday of each month at 10am at the Alano Club 104 E. Ave K-4, Suite J, Lancaster (Orientation at 9:30am for newcomers.) (link located on AV web site)

Coming Events

Local Events

11/22 (2pm-5pm); Turkey Day Feast; 41843 50th St West, Quartz Hill Grange Hall; No charge

Other So. Cal Events

11/9 – 11/11;
31st Inland Empire Convention
285 E. Hospitality Lane
(Doubletree) San Bernardino,
cost \$20

11/30 – 12/2
Oregon State Young People in
AA; 1000 NE Multnomah Street
Portland, OR 97232
Cost: \$20

For additional info, go to:
www.avcentraloffice.org

I Am Responsible

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

*Declaration of 30th Anniversary
International Convention 1965*

Our 7th Tradition: A Perspective

VW Beetle used to cost \$1,465;
Now a VW Beetle costs \$19,000.

Gasoline used to be \$.25/gal;
Now Gasoline is \$3.65/gal.

A Soda used to cost \$.15,
Now a soda costs \$1.75.

Jeans used to cost \$4.50,
Now jeans cost \$75.

7th Tradition basket used to get \$1.00;
Now the 7th Tradition basket gets \$1.00.

It doesn't add up!

We can do something about this.

Remember what a drink used to cost? A suggestion: put that amount into the 7th Tradition basket at least once a week.

November 2017 Office Manager Report

	Jan - Sep '18	Oct '18	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$38,450.10	\$3,867.62	\$42,317.72
Expenses	(\$32,987.19)	(\$5,414.79)	(\$38,401.98)
Cost of Goods	(\$27,453.86)	(\$4,271.18)	(\$31,725.04)
Contributions	\$18,070.66	\$2,058.40	\$20,129.06
Net Income	(\$3,920.29)	(\$3,759.95)	(\$7,680.24)



Contributions			
Group	Jan - Sep '18	Oct '18	2018 Total
A Gathering of Women	\$50.00		\$50.00
Alano Club	\$0.00		\$0.00
AM Mod	\$3,014.31	\$413.11	\$3,427.42
Anonymous	\$1,015.05	\$65.00	\$1,080.05
Any Lengths Group	\$0.00		\$0.00
Arbor Court	\$120.00		\$120.00
AV Hospital - Rm #CR101	\$100.00		\$100.00
AV Men's Stag	\$1,159.04	\$140.50	\$1,299.54
AV Round-Up	\$673.78		\$673.78
AVYPBYOC	\$62.50	\$35.00	\$97.50
Birthday	\$344.00		\$344.00
Cal City Clubhouse	\$0.00		\$0.00
Clubhouse Meeting	\$57.00	\$400.00	\$457.00
Crown Valley Grp	\$320.00		\$320.00
Gathering of Women	\$50.00		\$50.00
H & I	\$0.00		\$0.00
High Desert BB Grp	\$1,729.23		\$1,729.23
High Desert Hospital	\$0.00		\$0.00
Intergroup Fundraisers	\$1,031.00		\$1,031.00
Into Action	\$186.00	\$30.00	\$216.00
Lake Hughes Men's Stag	\$180.00		\$180.00
Lake Hughes Friday Night	\$0.00		\$0.00
Lake Hughes Monday Night	\$0.00	\$136.79	\$136.79
Little Red Book	\$0.00		\$0.00
Mid-Day Mod	\$1,648.60		\$1,648.60
New Beginnings	\$0.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Open Door	\$0.00		\$0.00
Palmdale Grp	\$1,020.56	\$550.00	\$1,570.56
Pearlblossom Grp	\$843.01		\$843.01
PM Mod	\$78.39		\$78.39
Quartz Hill Unity Grp	\$780.90	\$180.00	\$960.90
Rainbow Grp	\$8.49		\$8.49
Rosamond Sun Night	\$98.39		\$98.39
Rule 62 Grp	\$260.00		\$260.00
Sat AM Men's Stag	\$0.00		\$0.00
SCV Sun Night Spkr	\$0.00		\$0.00
Spiritual Sunday - Alano	\$30.00		\$30.00
Step Workshop Mtg	\$0.00		\$0.00
Sun Night BBS	\$15.00	\$100.00	\$115.00
Thurs Night BBS @ Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
We Care Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
Wed Night BBS @ Grange	\$271.56		\$271.56
Westside Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
Women in Progress	\$0.00		\$0.00
Women in Recovery	\$47.56		\$47.56
Women Seeking Serenity	\$386.90		\$386.90
TOTALS	\$15,581.27	\$2,058.40	\$17,639.67

Belinda T.	11/27/2015	3	Elizabeth M.	11/14/2003	15
Sarah F.	11/11/2014	4	Jim B.	11/7/2003	15
John R.	11/1/2012	6	John B.	11/25/2003	15
Kevin M.	11/13/2012	6	Michelle T.	11/15/2003	15
Shea G.	11/8/2012	6	Perry L.	11/6/2003	15
Stephen B.	11/21/2012	6	Sharon B.	11/11/2003	15
Christine F.	11/1/2011	7	Willy S.	11/27/2003	15
Britta S.	11/29/2010	8	Fidel V.	11/27/2002	16
Misty T.	11/20/2010	8	Joe B.	11/1/2002	16
Chris W.	11/17/2009	9	Julie B.	11/8/2002	16
Katherine R.	11/9/2009	9	Ralph S.	11/12/2002	16
Larry B.	11/7/2009	9	Sharon B.	11/17/2002	16
Lisa B.	11/24/2009	9	Art D.	11/30/2001	17
Louie U.	11/19/2009	9	Dana F.	11/5/2001	17
Max R.	11/7/2009	9	Darren F.	11/4/2001	17
Mike P.	11/18/2009	9	Jeff G.	11/14/2001	17
Shane K.	11/2/2009	9	Maggie V.	11/7/2001	17
Cholee M.	11/15/2008	10	David	11/22/2000	18
Connie P.	11/27/2008	10	John	11/27/1999	19
Cowboy Dave	11/30/2008	10	Colleen S.	11/22/1998	20
Frank P.	11/27/2008	10	Connie S.	11/1/1996	22
John W.	11/7/2008	10	Bob M.	11/12/1995	23
Richard M.	11/22/2008	10	Carmen S.	11/10/1995	23
Lauren S.	11/15/2007	11	Corey W.	11/22/1995	23
Lyly B.	11/21/2007	11	Mark H.	11/2/1995	23
Paul H.	11/22/2007	11	Edwin M.	11/24/1994	24
Dan Y.	11/28/2006	12	Frank D.	11/8/1992	26
Joe A.	11/1/2006	12	D. J.	11/6/1990	28
Julius G.	11/17/2006	12	Robert V.	11/1/1990	28
Ken M.	11/28/2006	12	Dan C.	11/7/1989	29
Laura M.	11/28/2006	12	Dave M.	11/28/1989	29
Melinda W.	11/19/2006	12	Joe K.	11/30/1989	29
Chris C.	11/4/2005	13	John M.	11/16/1988	30
David W.	11/14/2005	13	Dale W.	11/5/1987	31
Deanna R.	11/7/2005	13	Robert Holt	11/8/1987	31
Debbie W.	11/18/2005	13	Denise J.	11/25/1986	32
Donna M.	11/28/2005	13	Donna A.	11/7/1985	33
Gayland D.	11/15/2005	13	Dolores S.	11/27/1984	34
Hanny H.	11/28/2005	13	Ed B.	11/1/1983	35
Jackie B.	11/26/2005	13	Larry Mc.	11/25/1982	36
James S.	11/10/2005	13	Mike H.	11/13/1982	36
Mark L.	11/27/2005	13	Virginia G.	11/25/1982	36
Mark W.	11/3/2005	13	David F.	11/4/1981	37
Tammy R.	11/24/2005	13	John S.	11/21/1981	37
Terry T.	11/1/2005	13	Don P.	11/1/1978	40
Doug H.	11/8/2004	14	Brian	11/13/1977	41
Eloy C.	11/17/2004	14	Marce M.	11/7/1977	41
Jose A.	11/2/2004	14	Arne P.	11/10/1976	42
Kevin E.	11/13/2004	14	Al H.	11/6/1972	46
Kim S.	11/22/2004	14	John C.	11/17/1973	47
Mvrel	11/6/2004	14	Don R.	11/15/1967	51
Anna C.	11/10/2003	15			

Get your groups birthday list to Central Office . . . That's how they appear here!

Total Years = 1,909

Managers Corner

Congratulations to this month's winner of the Central Office Birthday Raffle ~ David P.!! Do you have an AA birthday this month? Come in to the office and receive a free raffle ticket . . . You could be our next winner!

This is Gratitude Month ~ if you are grateful to your sobriety and what AA has done for you, it is time to give back! Either participate at your group when they pass the second basket or come by Central Office and make your donation.

Thank You Saturday Volunteers!!

1st ~ Larry W. & Melissa V.
 2nd ~ Wendy W. & Michael G.
 3rd ~ Stephanie S. & Leila N.
 4th ~ Debbie L. & Maureen
 5th ~ Christine F. & Chris T.

Scoop 4

Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

