

The Original Way Group

Meeting Format

Instructions for Chairperson: Week 1 and 2: Use the *Big Book Selected Readings* book. Week 4 select an excerpt. Week 5 use *Speaker Meeting Format*. Pass out Chips & 6 pieces of literature. **To lead the meeting simply read the text below “between” quotes.** Choose either Tag, Around the Room or Show of Hands.

“Hi my name is ... and I’m an alcoholic. Welcome to The Original Way Group. This is a closed Big Book Step Practice meeting. We highlight and study the 12 step instructions in the big book. We end at 7:05 pm.”

“Out of gratitude to Calvary Baptist Church please help us follow two simple requests they have made. 1.) Smoke on the driveway, not the front stairs. 2.) Please, don’t use the backstairs.”

“Could we now have the reading of the Prayer of St. Francis, Group Preamble and The Twelve Steps in that order?”

“Thank you. Please, don’t feel rushed, but we ask for a 3-5 minute limit on sharing on the topic. We focus on one step a month. Week 1 and 2 are *Big Book Instructions*, where we highlight some of the instructions for taking the step. Week 3 is *Snippets*, where we all bring in a snippet on the step that is meaningful to us. Week 4 is called *Practice These Principles*. Here we ask ‘How does this step currently apply in your life? The chairperson will draw from the last four chapters of the Big Book to kick off this discussion.”

“With this format, each week builds on the previous week, giving us a chance look progressively deeper into each step.”

(WEEK 1 and 2 :) “Tonight’s meeting is on Step ____ (*coincides the month*) ____.

“We have highlighted some **Big Book Instructions** for taking this step. These excerpts take us through a wide range of pages in the Big Book and help reveal the original context and intention with which each step was written. Printing the readings in advance at AA The Original Way.Com is an easy way to follow along. For those with a Big Book we will announce the theme, page and paragraph, pause briefly, and then read the **highlighted text.**”

(WEEK 3 :) “Tonight’s meeting is **Snippets**. We read from any literature that is meaningful to us as it pertains to the step. I will read my snippet and share on it. People may share on snippets of others or one of their own. My snippet is...”

(WEEK 4 :) “Tonight’s **Practice These Principles** meeting is on Step ____ (*coincides the month*) ____.”

“**Tonight we ask:** “How does step _(____)_ currently apply in your life? To start the meeting I will read an excerpt from Chapters 8-11 that applies to this step and share my personal experience.”

(WEEK 5 :) (*Lead using the designated **Speaker on the Steps Meeting Format.***)

The Closing is on the Reverse Side...

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The Closing

(Begin at 6:55pm)

(Closing Meditation)

“Could someone please read the Closing Meditation?” (Please, avoid passing the basket during the Closing Meditation and The Reading on Sponsorship since it is distracting.)

(Sponsorship Reading & Sponsorship Rep.)

Working With Others is emphasized in the Big Book as the most powerful way to insure immunity from drinking. Our group conscience would also like to emphasize the power of taking a still suffering alcoholic through the steps. Could we now have The Reading on Sponsorship? (pause here for reading...)”**Our group offers** a Sponsorship Representative. This is a liaison to help newcomers find someone to take them through the steps. Could we now have a word from our Sponsorship Rep?”

(Pass Basket Now)

“In accordance with our 7th Tradition; there are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self supporting through our own contributions.”

(Membership & Service)

“Service to a home group is an invigorating way to practice the 12th step principle. If you would like to make **The Original Way Group** your homegroup, please see me after the meeting so I can put your name in our Group Sign Up Sheet. We have a variety of Service positions that help us carry the message. Our Business Meetings focus on Service and Carrying the Message. They are at 5:15pm on the 3rd Wed. of every month.”

(Anniversaries)

“I have asked _____ to pass out the Chips.”

(Clean Up)

“If you can, please, help us to clean up the tables, chairs, coffee, trash and floors.”

(Website & Announcements)

“Please check out our website **AA The Original Way .Com**

Next weeks meeting will be on __ (state next weeks format and step here.)__

Are there any **announcements?**”

(Closing Prayer)

“We will now close with **We** version of the Serenity Prayer... **God...**”