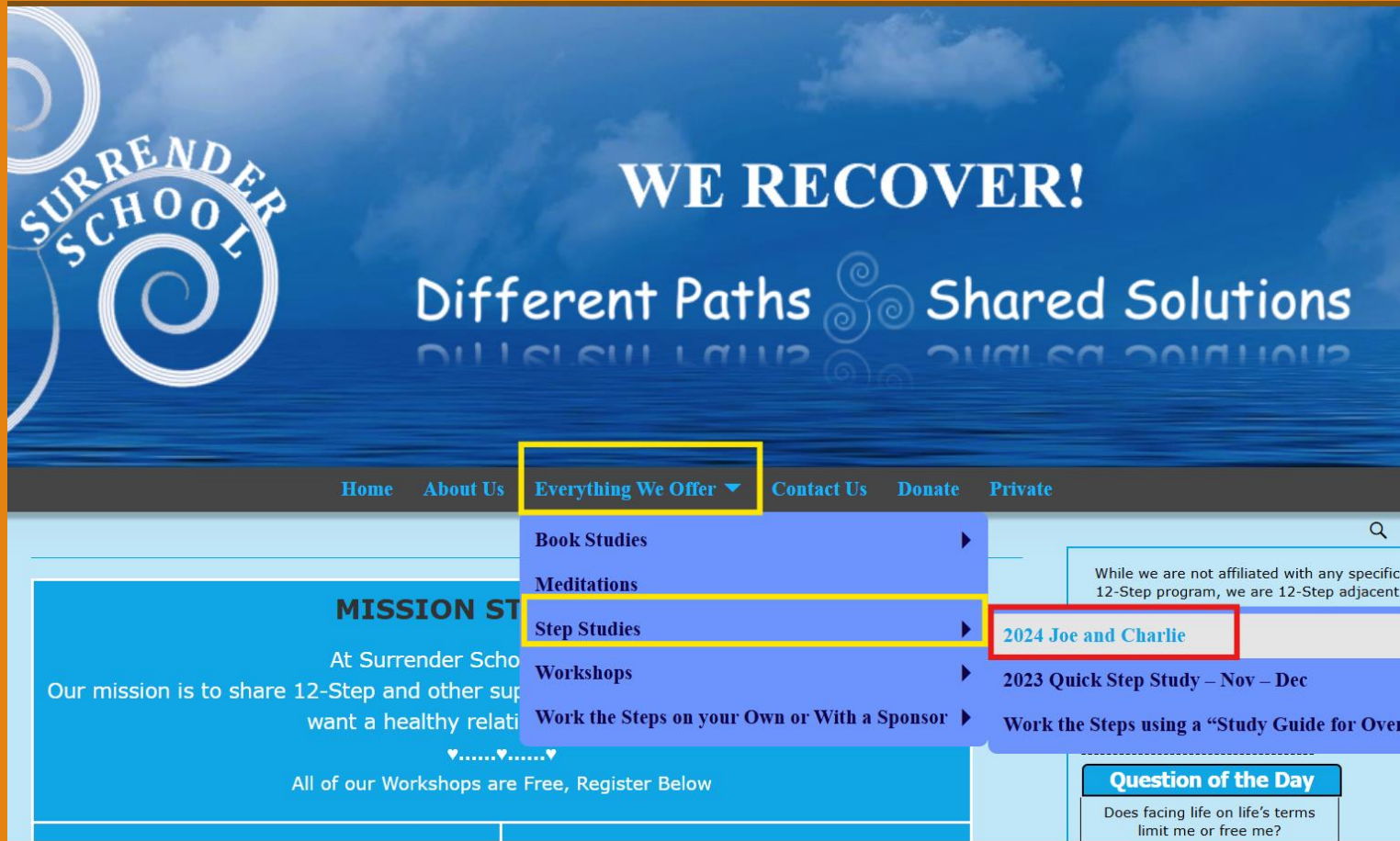


**SURRENDER SCHOOL  
PRESENTS  
JOE & CHARLIE**

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**BIG BOOK STUDY  
WEEK 9**



## HOW TO ACCESS SURRENDER SCHOOL

JOE AND CHARLIE RECORDINGS, HOMEWORK, AND DOCUMENTS.

**ANNOUNCEMENT  
FROM THE SURRENDER  
SCHOOL BOARD**

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# SET ASIDE PRAYER

God, please set aside everything I think I know about myself, my emotional sobriety, the 12 Steps and You; for an open mind and a new experience of myself, my emotional sobriety, the 12 Steps and especially You!

# Joe and Charlie - Big Book Study

## September 1 – November 3

- [AA History](#)
- [The Doctor's Opinion](#)
- [Bill's Story](#)
- [There is a Solution](#)
- [More About Alcoholism and We Agnostics](#)
- [Step 1, Step 2, and Step 3 \(HOW IT WORKS\)](#)
- [Step 4 – Part 1 – \(How It Works\)](#)
- [Step 4 – Part 2 – \(How It Works\)](#)
- [Step 5, Step 6, Step 7, Step 8, and Step 9 \(Into Action – Pages 72 – 84\)](#)
- [Step 10, Step 11, Step 12 \(Into Action & Working with Others\)](#)

## Source Credits:

YOUTUBE - [12 Step Retro Speakers](#)  
AA Big Book Online PDF - [AA Netherlands](#)  
Link to Handout Source - [Take The 12](#)  
History and Historical Fact Checks: [Silkworth.net](#)

## GOALS OF THE BIG BOOK

### GOALS OF THE BIG BOOK:

- **1st GOAL - THE PROBLEM**
  - *The Dr.'s Opinion*
  - *Chapter 1 - Bill's Story*
- **2nd GOAL - THE SOLUTION**
  - *Chapter 2: There Is A Solution*
  - *Chapter 3: More About Alcoholism*
  - *Chapter 4: We Agnostics*
- **3rd GOAL – ACTION**
  - *Chapter 5: How It Works*
  - ***Chapter 6: Into Action***
  - *Chapter 7: Working with Others*

GOAL 1 Describe The PROBLEM	GOAL 2 Describe The SOLUTION	GOAL 3 Define The ACTION Necessary for Recovery.
Doctors's Opinion Chapter 1 – Bill's Story	Chapter 2 -There Is A Solution Chapter 3 –More About Alcoholism Chapter 4 – We Agnostics	Chapter 5 –How It Works Chapter 6 –Into Action Chapter 7 –Working With Others
STEP 1	STEP 2	STEPS 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

A close-up photograph of a microphone on a stand, positioned in front of a keyboard. The image is heavily filtered with a warm, orange-brown color, creating a soft, vintage aesthetic. The microphone is the central focus, with its mesh grille and handle clearly visible. The keyboard keys are blurred in the background, suggesting a recording or broadcast environment. The overall composition is clean and professional, suitable for a title card or promotional graphic.

**MODERATOR, PLEASE  
START THE RECORDING**

**SURRENDER SCHOOL  
PRESENTS  
JOE & CHARLIE  
BIG BOOK STUDY**

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**WEEK 9  
STEPS 5 - 9**





## **Joe McQ,**

**Joe McQuany - (AA)  
(1928-2007, 78 years old)  
Sober: 1962 - 2007**



## **Charlie P.**

**Charlie Parmley - (AA)  
(1929-2011, 82 years old)  
Sober: 1970 - 2011**

**We are not the gurus of  
Alcoholic Anonymous!**

**We do not speak for AA as  
a whole!**

# AA BIG BOOK STUDY

## WEEK 9

INTO ACTION (PAGES 72-75)

## STEP 5

Step 5: Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

## STEP 5 - INTO ACTION



### AA Big Book: Into Action – Chapter 6, Page 72

*"**HAVING MADE** our personal inventory, what shall we do about it? We have been trying to get a new attitude, a new relationship with our Creator, and to discover the obstacles in our path. **We have admitted certain defects**; we have ascertained in a rough way what the trouble is; we have put our finger on the weak items in our personal inventory.*

*Now these are about to be cast out. This requires action on our part, which, when completed, will mean that we have admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being, the exact nature of our **defects**. This brings us to the **Fifth Step** in the program of recovery mentioned in the preceding chapter.*



## STEP 5 - INTO ACTION

**In Step 4**, we find those things that block us off from God.

**In Step 5**, we're going to talk about them to another human being.

**In Step 6**, we're going to become willing to turn them loose.

**In Step 7**, we're going to ask God to take them away.



## STEP 5 - INTO ACTION



### AA Big Book: Into Action – Chapter 6, Page 72



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*"This is perhaps difficult—especially discussing our defects with another person. We think we have done well enough in admitting these things to ourselves. There is doubt about that. **In actual practice, we usually find a solitary self-appraisal insufficient.***

*Many of us thought it necessary to go much further. We will be more reconciled to discussing ourselves with another person when we see good reasons why we should do so. The best reason first: **If we skip this vital step, we may not overcome drinking.***



# STEP 5 - INTO ACTION



## AA Big Book: Into Action – Page 73

*“But they had not learned enough of humility, fearlessness and honesty, in the sense we find it necessary, until they told someone else all their life story.”*

Moderator: Please post the 12 Steps of a Sponsor (Link)

### 12 Steps of a Sponsor

1. I will not help you stay and wallow in limbo.
2. I will help you grow to become more productive by your own definition.
3. I will help you become more autonomous, more loving of yourself, more free to continue becoming the authority of your own living.
4. I cannot give you dreams or “fix you up”, simply because I cannot.
5. I cannot give you growth or grow for you. You must grow yourself by facing reality, grim as it may seem at times.
6. I cannot take away your loneliness or pain.
7. I cannot sense your world for you, evaluate your goals, or tell you what is best for you in your world. You have your own world.
8. I cannot convince you of the crucial choice of choosing the scary uncertainty of growing over the safe misery of not growing.
9. I want to be with you and know you as a rich and growing friend, yet I cannot get close to you when you choose not to grow.
10. When I begin to care for you out of pity, when I begin to lose trust in you, then I am toxic, bad, and inhibiting for you and for me.
11. You must know - my help is conditional. I will be with you, hang in there with you, as long as I continue to get even the slightest hints that you are trying to grow.
12. If you can accept all of this, then perhaps we can help each other to become what God meant for us to be...mature adults, leaving childishness forever to little children.

## STEP 5 - INTO ACTION

### AA Big Book: Into Action – Chapter 6, Page 73

“More than most people, **the alcoholic leads a double life**. He is very much the actor. To the outer world he presents his stage character. This is the one he likes his fellows to see. He wants to enjoy a certain reputation, but knows in his heart he doesn't deserve it.



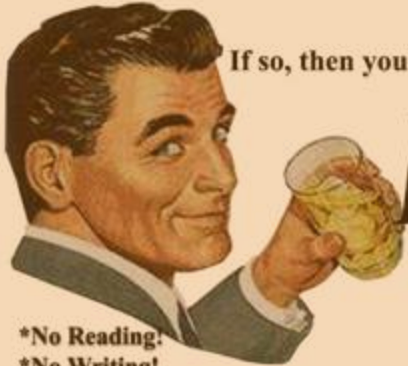
The inconsistency is made worse by the things he does on his sprees. Coming to his sense, he is revolted at certain episodes he vaguely remembers. These memories are a nightmare. **He trembles to think someone might have observed him.** As fast as he can, he pushes these memories far inside himself. He hopes they will never see the light of day. **He is under constant fear and tension—that makes for more drinking.”**



# STEP 5 - INTO ACTION



Tired of being told like it is?  
Still looking for that easier, softer way?  
Sick of the same old time-tested direction?



If so, then you are ready for:

## RENT-A-SPONSOR!!

- \*No Reading!
- \*No Writing!
- \*No Deadlines! (Many models to choose from)

#### Standard Features Include:

- \*Listening to your sniveling without constant reference to the Steps
- \*Co-signing your excuses and rationalizations every time
- \*Work only the steps you want - in the order you choose

Yes, at Rent-A-Sponsor we know how unique you are, and we understand!

- \*Learn the secret of giving it away before you even have it!
- \*Why walk the walk when you can just talk the talk!
- \*Remember it's better to look good than to feel good!
- \*Why save your ass at the cost of saving your face?

Half-measures our specialty!

### Call 1-900-POUR-ME-1

(Call now & receive a FREE copy of "Staying Sober on War Stories Alone!")

"Great Spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds."  
Albert Einstein

## AA Big Book: Into Action – Chapter 6, Page 75

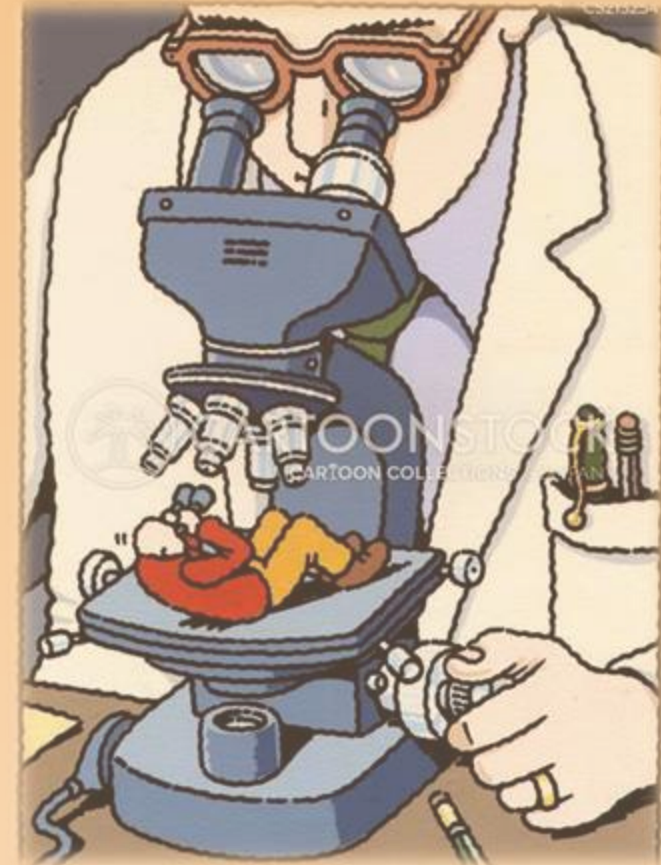
*"When we decide who is to hear our story, we waste no time. We have a written inventory and we are prepared for a long talk. We explain to our partner what we are about to do and why we have to do it. He should realize that we are engaged upon a life-and-death errand. Most people approached in this way will be glad to help; they will be honored by our confidence."*



# STEP 5 - INTO ACTION

## AA Big Book: Into Action – Chapter 6, Page 75

*"We pocket our pride and go to it, illuminating every twist of character, every dark cranny of the past. Once we have taken this step, withholding nothing, we are delighted. **We can look the world in the eye.** We can be alone at perfect peace and ease. Our fears fall from us. **We begin to feel the nearness of our Creator. We may have had certain spiritual beliefs, but now we begin to have a spiritual experience. The feeling that the drink problem has disappeared will often come strongly.** We feel we are on the Broad Highway, walking hand in hand with the Spirit of the Universe.*



# AA BIG BOOK STUDY

## WEEK 9

INTO ACTION PAGES (75 & 76)

STEPS 6 AND 7

Step 6: Were *entirely* ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Step 7: Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

# STEP 6 - INTO ACTION



## AA Big Book: Into Action – Chapter 6, Page 75



***RETURNING HOME*** we find a place where we can be quiet for an hour, carefully reviewing what we have done. **We thank God from the bottom of our heart that we know Him better.** Taking this book down from our shelf we turn to the page which contains the twelve steps. **Carefully reading the first five proposals we ask if we have omitted anything,** for we are building an arch through which we shall walk a free man at last. *Is our work solid so far? Are the stones properly in place? Have we skimmed on the cement put into the foundation? Have we tried to make mortar without sand?*



**Step 1 - Willingness was the foundation (pg. 23, par. 5)**

**Step 2 - Believing was the cornerstone (pg. 47, par. 2)**

**Step 3 - Arch that we pass through to freedom - 3 is the keystone (pg. 62, last line)**





## STEP 6 - INTO ACTION



**Sometimes we'd rather sit in today's pain and suffering than take a chance on changing in the future cause we don't know what change will bring.**

**If I have to get rid of my selfishness and become unselfish, then how am I going to get what I want in the future?**

**If I'm going to have to get rid of my dishonesty and start operating honestly, then how the heck am I going to make a living? I don't know nothing about honesty when I get here.**

**If I'm going to have to start getting rid of my self-seeking and frightened character and start operating on courage that scares the hell out of me. I don't know nothing about that.**

**If I'm going to have to start considering other people and their needs and their wants, then who's going to take care of me?**

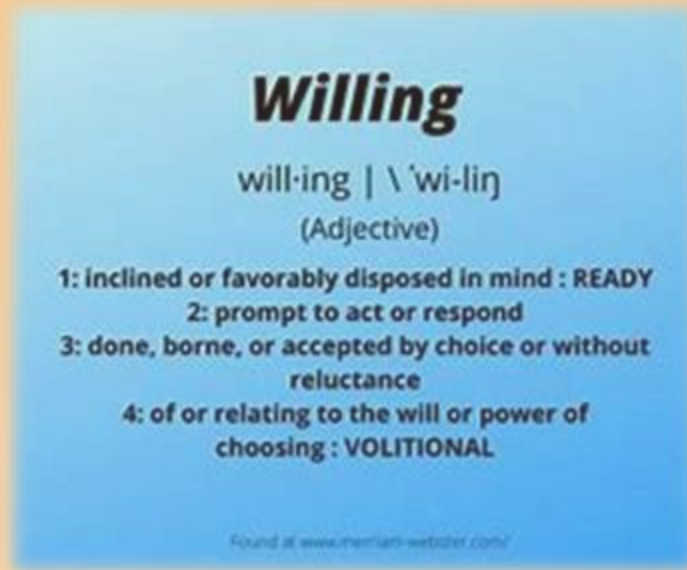
**Sometimes we would rather sit in today's pain than take a chance on changing in the future.**

# STEP 7 - INTO ACTION



## Step 7: Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

### AA Big Book: Into Action – Page 76



*"WHEN READY, we say something like this: "My Creator, I am now **willing** that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding. Amen." We have then completed Step Seven."*

God will do for me, what I can't do for myself.

God will not do for me, what I can do for myself.

# STEPS 6 & 7 - INTO ACTION



- **If I ask God to take away selfishness and I start trying to practice unselfishness, then slowly the old habit dies and a new habit takes its place.**
- **If I want God to take away dishonesty, then I must do my part, which is to practice honesty in every situation that comes up...**
- **If I want God to take away fear then I've got to kick myself in the butt and practice courage.**
- **If I want Him to take away inconsideration, then I must start considering other people and their needs and their wants ...**
- **If I stay selfish, dishonest, self-seeking, frightened and inconsiderate it's got to be because that's the way I want to be.**

# AA BIG BOOK STUDY

## WEEK 9

INTO ACTION (PAGES 76 - 84)

STEPS 8 AND 9

Step 8: Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

Step 9: Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.





**STEP 8 - INTO ACTION**  
**THE STORY OF DR. BOB'S LAST DRINK**





## STEPS 8 - INTO ACTION

### REVIEW STEPS 1 - 7



**Steps 1, 2 & 3** We got right with the Spirit. Because we were powerless, we saw the need for the power.

**Step 3** We decided to go after that power, and we made a decision that God was going to be the Director. He's the Father, we're the children. He's the Employer, we're the employee (we work for him)

**Step 4 & 5** We found out those things that block us off from God, that block us off from our fellow man, that creates the resentments and the fears and the guilt's etc.

**Steps 6 and 7** we begin to work on those in...**We begin to get right in our minds through 4, 5, 6 & 7. That removes just enough self-will, to begin to look at our relationship with the world and everybody in it.**

# STEPS 8 - INTO ACTION



**Step 8:** Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

COLUMN 1	
Who did I hurt?	
1	<b>The Employee:</b> Resentment Inventory Face to Face Amends
2	<b>The IRS:</b> Fear Inventory Equal Restitution (Equal Amounts)
3	<b>The Wife:</b> Sex Inventory Face to Face Amends
4	<b>My Ex:</b> Harms Done to Others Face to Face Amends
5	

## AA Big Book: Into Action – Page 76

*“NOW WE NEED more action, without which we find that **“Faith without works is dead.”** Let’s look at Steps Eight and Nine. **We have a list of all persons we have harmed and to whom we are willing to make amends.** We made it when we took inventory. We subjected ourselves to a drastic self-appraisal. **Now we go out to our fellows and repair the damage done in the past.** We attempt to sweep away the debris which has accumulated out of our effort to live on self-will and run the show ourselves. **If we haven’t the will to do this, we ask until it comes.** ”*

# STEPS 9 - INTO ACTION



## Step 9 is a definite three-part step.

1. The first part tells us **the kind of amends to make.**
  - *"We made direct amends..."*
  - Direct amends is probably eyeball to eyeball, face to face, one on one.
2. Then he tells us **when to make them**
  - *"wherever possible"*
3. Then he tells us **when not to make them**
  - *"except when to do so would injure them or others."*



## STEPS 9 - INTO ACTION



### AA Big Book: Into Action – Page 77

*"We don't use this as an excuse for shying away from the subject of God. When it will serve any good purpose, we are willing to announce our convictions with tact and common sense. The question of how to approach the man we hated will arise."*

# STEP 9 - INTO ACTION

## MAKING AN AMENDS TO THOSE WE HATE

### AA Big Book: Into Action – Page 77

“The question of how to approach the man we hated will arise.” It may be he has done us more harm than we have done him and, though we may have acquired a better attitude toward him, we are still not too keen about admitting our faults. Nevertheless, with a person we dislike, we take the bit in our teeth. **It is harder to go to an enemy than to a friend, but we find it much more beneficial to us.** We go to him in a helpful and forgiving spirit, confessing our former ill feeling and expressing our regret.”



# STEP 9 - INTO ACTION

## SWEEP OUR SIDE OF THE STREET

### AA Big Book: Into Action – Pages 77 & 78

***"Under no condition do we criticize such a person or argue. Simply tell him that we will never get over drinking until we have done our utmost to straighten out the past.***



***We are there to sweep off our side of the street, realizing that nothing worth while can be accomplished until we do so, never trying to tell him what he should do. His faults are not discussed. We stick to our own. If our manner is calm, frank, and open, we will be gratified with the result."***



# STEP 9 - INTO ACTION

## FEAR, GUILT, AND REMORSE



### AA Big Book: Into Action – Page 78

*"In nine cases out of ten the unexpected happens. Sometimes the man we are calling upon admits his own fault, so feuds of years' standing melt away in an hour. Rarely do we fail to make satisfactory progress. Our former enemies sometimes praise what we are doing and wish us well. Occasionally, they will offer assistance. **It should not matter, however, if someone does throw us out of his office.** We have made our demonstration, done our part. It's water over the dam."*



illustrations of.com #11348

**...the purpose of making the amends is not to get you to like me. I hope you will when I'm through. But the purpose is to get rid of my fear, my guilt and my remorse.**

# STEP 9 - INTO ACTION

## EQUAL RESTITUTION



### AA Big Book: Into Action – Page 78



***“Most alcoholics owe money. We do not dodge our creditors. Telling them what we are trying to do, we make no bones about our drinking; they usually know it anyway, whether we think so or not. Nor are we afraid of disclosing our alcoholism on the theory it may cause financial harm. Approached in this way, the most ruthless creditor will sometimes surprise us. Arranging the best deal we can we let these people know we are sorry. Our drinking has made us slow to pay. We must lose our fear of creditors no matter how far we have to go, for we are liable to drink if we are afraid to face them.”***





## STEP 9 - INTO ACTION

### AMENDS

#### AA Big Book: Into Action – Page 83

*"There may be some wrongs we can never fully right. We don't worry about them if we can honestly say to ourselves that we would right them if we could. Some people cannot be seen - we sent them an honest letter. And there may be a valid reason for postponement in some cases. **But we don't delay if it can be avoided.** We should be sensible, tactful, considerate and humble without being servile or scraping. **As God's people we stand on our feet; we don't crawl before anyone.**"*

*"You can't be right by doing wrong, and you can't be wrong by doing right."*

## STEP 9 - INTO ACTION

### THE PROMISES OF THE PROGRAM



#### AA Big Book: Into Action – Pages 83 & 84

*"If we are painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be amazed before we are half way through. We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness. We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it. We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace. No matter how far down the scale we have gone, we will see how our experience can benefit others. That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear. We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows. Self-seeking will slip away. Our whole attitude and outlook upon life will change. Fear of people and of economic insecurity will leave us. We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us. We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.*

*Are these extravagant promises? We think not. They are being fulfilled among us, sometimes quickly (spiritual experience), sometimes slowly (spiritual awakening). They will always materialize if we work for them."*



## STEP 9 - INTO ACTION

### THE PROMISES OF THE ALCOHOL



**What caused me to want to quit drinking was the guilt, shame and remorse that I had as a result of the harm that I did other people. And these promises began to come about in my life; they came about not in my body but in my mind.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol I knew... a new freedom and a new happiness.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol I did... not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol I would... comprehend the word serenity and we would know peace.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol... no matter how far down the scale I had gone, I could will see how my experience would benefit others.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol... that feeling of uselessness and self-pity would disappear.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol I would... lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in my fellows.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol... self-seeking would slip away.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol my... whole attitude and outlook upon life would change. Whenever I took a drink of alcohol... fear of people and of economic insecurity would leave us.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol I would... intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle me.**

**Whenever I took a drink of alcohol I would... suddenly realize that alcohol was doing for me what I could not do for myself**



**MODERATOR, PLEASE  
STOP THE RECORDING**

**Surrender School Closing  
Announcements?**

# SERENITY PRAYER

**God grant me the serenity to accept the things I can not change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.**