

Setting The Tone Friday Night Issue Groups

It is the responsibility of the group leader to set the “tone” for the meeting. This will assist in keeping the members focused on their own recovery. In some groups, there is time for each person to share more than once. The tone and topic of discussion will vary as the sharing progresses. This is natural and is fine as long as the discussion remains on recovery issues. It is NOT “required” that a person share only on a specific topic. The purpose once again of setting the tone is to get participants focused on their own recovery. It is important to remember that we are leading a 12 Step group and as leaders we must be able to share on our own recovery as it relates to the 12 Steps and 8 Principles. The leader will set the example for others in the group.

Suggestions:

Life Recovery Bible

The Life Recovery Bible devotionals are a great resource to use. The Life Recovery Users Guide (found in the front of the Bible) can aid in using this Bible more effectively.

CR Literature

There are many “issue-specific” handouts available at the information table. These handouts are all considered Celebrate Recovery approved material. These same materials, along with others, are in each of the Issue Group Binders. These handouts are an excellent source of education for specific issue groups. For example, if you are leading a Codependency group, you might consider reading an issue-specific handout such as “Codependency and Christian Living”, “What is Codependency”, or “Enabling”. It is helpful to read the literature just prior to starting the share time. This gets group members focused on recovery.

12 Steps and 8 Principles

Any of the 12 Steps and/or 8 Principles are great to use for discussion.

Serenity Prayer

The “Serenity Prayer” can either be read in its entirety or the focus could be on one particular section. For example, “accept the things I cannot change”, or “trusting that You will make all things right”.

Celebrate Recovery

Slogans

The "Slogans" are a fun way to introduce a variety of different recovery topics. One way to do this is to pass around the slogan sheet and have each person read a slogan. Then transition into open sharing. Another way is for the leader to start the sharing on a particular slogan such as "Live and Let Live".

Added Note:

Absolutely **NO** material outside of Celebrate Recovery approved literature is to be brought into the meeting. The Holy Bible of course is OK. An example of what's not OK includes the Big Book, The Twelve and Twelve, books from Christian authors regarding recovery, poems, etc... Although these tools may be good, this will avoid any potential problems of cult-related information and/or non- biblical teaching.

In addition, **NO** catalogs of Tupperware, Avon, crafts for sale, or personal "home business" literature, etc. are to be introduced during Celebrate Recovery meetings. Remember that our focus is RECOVERY.

It **IS** fine for the group leaders to have available a list of recommended books relating to a particular recovery issue. These books are **NOT** intended to replace the Celebrate Recovery curriculum. They are at no time to be used during the meetings. They are for outside use only, and to help a participant gain a better understanding of their particular hurt, habit, or hang-up. There is a list of recommended books on the Celebrate Recovery web site at www.celebraterecovery.com. The CR T.E.A.M must first approve any books placed on the recommended list. It is important to make sure these books are Biblically sound.