

**Where Are You At? #2**

Is the Lord's Prayer in Violation of the 6th Tradition?"

The 6th tradition is the basis for our policy of non-affiliation. The twelve traditions of N.A. are not NEOGOTIABLE. They are the guidelines that keep our fellowship alive and free. (Basic Text pg. 58 line 6). The following information comes from the "Basic Text" and "It Works How and Why". For the sake of discussion I will quote from the above books and cite the page numbers. This is so we may obtain a better understanding of the question at hand. ARE WE VIOLATING THE 6TH TRADITION WHEN WE CLOSE OUR GROUP MEETINGS WITH THE "LORD'S PRAYER"?

The Lord's Prayer has its origin from the Bible, specifically from the Book of Mathews Chapter 6 Verse 6. The Lord's Prayer is a Christian prayer. Now lets get to the point of clarification, the 6th tradition states "An N.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the N.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property or prestige divert us from our primary purpose: The key words here are endorse and outside enterprise. "To endorse is to sanction, approve, or recommend". Endorsements can be either direct or implied. (B.T. pg 66-2nd paragraph). An implied endorsement is one that is not specifically stated, (B.T. pg 66-2nd paragraph). An outside enterprise is any agency, business venture, religion, society, organization, related activity, or any other fellowships, when we as a group wavier from our primary purpose, addicts who might have found recovery die. (B.T. pg 67). Ask yourself: What about people that are Atheist, Agnostics or may a different religious belief? Are we sending a mix message in regards to our spiritual program! Let's now look even further at the question at hand; in our text "It Works How and Why", it states that: when N.A.'s identity becomes too closely tied to the identity of another organization, the clarity of our Primary Purpose is muddled, losing some power". (I.W.H. & W. pg. 166) If we boost an outside enterprise that some find obnoxious, addicts seeking recovery may be discouraged from coming to our meetings. (I.W.H. & W. pg. 167 2nd paragraph). Remember when we voice support for religions as tho they are a part of our program the addict who suffers, even our own members might become confused. Ask yourself: "Do we distract other members at the meetings from N.A.'s message of recovery or give the new members the wrong impression about Narcotics Anonymous program"? (I.W.H. & W. pg. 170 3rd paragraph). Lastly it is stated clearly in the Basic Text pg. XV & XVI: "We believe that every addict including the potential addict suffers from an incurable disease of the body, mind and spirit. We were in the grip of a hopeless dilemma, the solution of which is spiritual in nature. Therefore this book deals with spiritual matters. WE ARE NOT A RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION. We owe it to ourselves, our groups and the fellowship to think honestly about this question. Should we continue to close our group meetings with "The Lords Prayer"?

If you are not in denial----the answer should be NO! The program is about change, please read our literature; this is not Ranoule's opinion. This information is straight from out textbooks. Some may say what different does it make! well it makes a lot of difference, because if we start compromising our traditions, what will it be tomorrow? Let's take the lead of WSO and the CSO, WHICH ORGANIZES OUR INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONVENTIONS, BY CLOSING OUR GROUP MEETINGS WITH just for today. p.s. The 4th tradition is not an excuse for doing what you what to do.K.C.B Ranoule "FLASH" T

**The Opinions expressed above do not reflect the views of South City Area Newsletter**

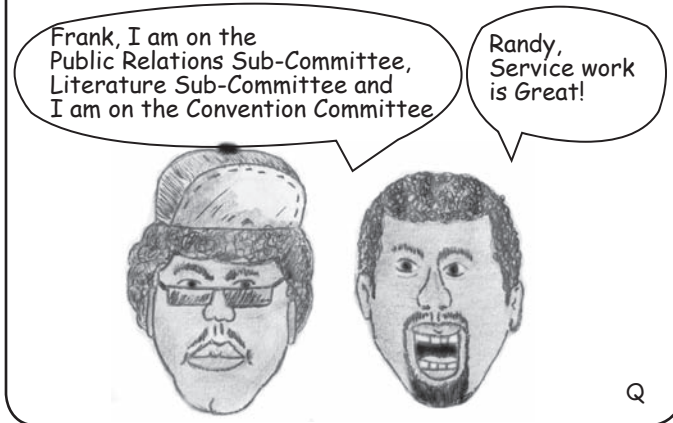
**Word Search - Step 8**

Find each of the following words.

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*On The Right NASCA Road*



*South City Area Newsletter*  
*"Keeping In Touch"*



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**Literature Sub-Committee**

Terri B. Mr. King Donna W.  
Quentin W.

For more Information contact the Literature Chairperson  
Terri B. - 773-425-1760 or email scaliterature@yahoo.com  
*\*Information cut off date is the 3rd Sunday of the month.*  
*\*All Articles sent in, are subject to approval and revision.*



**Some Basic Suggestions**

- Don't Use No Matter What
- A Meeting a Day for 90 Days
- Get a Sponsor
- Work The Steps
- Ask For Help

If you need help call (708) 848-4884  
Llámenos al (708) 848-5194 para la línea de ayuda en español

**Question Of The Month  
STEP 8**

**Why is saying "I'm sorry" alone, not sufficient enough to repair the damage that I have caused?**

Saying "I'm sorry" alone is not sufficient because, the eight step is about having the courage and willingness to accept responsibility for the damage that I have caused. Often times I have said I'm sorry for a particular thing and not identified with or have been honest with myself about the exact nature of what causes me to do, not do, or leave undone when it comes to dealing with people. This has caused me to repeat the same offenses which I have said I'm sorry for time after time. In accepting responsibility for my behavior, it allows me to find ways to make substantial changes that will have a positive impact on my life. The JFT Daily Meditation Book Pg #205 says "The variety of people we encounter in our day and the quality of our relationships with them determines, to a great extent, the quality of our lives". Today I continually work the steps because I want to grow spiritually and become a better person.

**In Loving Service, Brian D.**

Because our literature teaches us that we have to put actions behind our decisions. We just can't say we are sorry we have to not do the things that we are sorry for.

**April L.A.**

Saying I'm sorry does not have any real meaning unless it is followed by a change in behavior. This is the most important way to show an effective sincere change for truly being sorry.

**Emily E.**

I'm sorry and I'll try not to do it again. That's what you say!

**Yvette S.**

*Continue on page 3*

We will be happy to place your clean date in the NASCA newsletter. Supply us with your name, clean date or birthday, two months in advance. Please call 773-425-1760 or email us at scaliterature@yahoo.com

## NA Anniversaries and Birthdays

### July

DENNIS W.	7/3	16 YRS
DON W.	7/5	3 YRS
VONTRELL W.	7/25	19 YRS
KEITH S.	7/26	2 YRS
SHARION H.	7/27	10 YRS

### August

TANISHA J.	8/10	3 YRS
MICHELLE P.	8/10	20 YRS
VINCENT J.	8/15	5 YRS
WINNIE R.	8/17	2 YRS
GLEN P.	8/20	18 MOS
ANTON S.	8/20	1 YR
BRENDA R.	8/21	5 YRS
LIZ J.	8/24	21 YRS
GREG W.	8/24	6 YRS
ELAINE J.	8/25	9 YRS
BRYANT M.	8/27	2 YRS
STEVE S.	8/30	24 YRS
KIM W.	8/30	15 MOS
ANTOINETTE S.	8/31	2 YRS
BOBBY T.	8/28	2 YRS
CYNTHIA M.	8/8	11 YRS

### August

KELLY M.	8/1	9 YRS
SHARON E.	8/2	5 YRS
TONY G.	8/5	19 YRS
KEN H.	8/5	14 YRS
DIANA M.	8/7	9 YRS
LEO B.	8/8	15 YRS
CHYRISSE P.	8/8	1 YR
JOE C.	8/10	20 YRS

### Happy Birthday - AUGUST

MICHELE H.	8/2
AL C.	8/9
SHARON S.	8/10
RANOULE' T.	8/12
ANGELA D.	8/13
JOANNIE M.	8/13
REOLIA B.	8/15
NORRIS K.	8/15
JAMES 6'8"	8/16
HELEN I.T.	8/19
MELODY E.	8/23
ANITA E.	8/26
MYRTIS P.	8/27
CYNTHIA M.	8/19
DYMPHNA R.	8/31
HELEN T.	8/31

## Sub-Committee Info.

### Literature

The 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7:30pm@ K.A.M. Alliance 11451 Michigan Ave. is our Sub-Committee meeting, Please come out. Service work is always welcome.

### Public Relations

#### A Note from P.R. Committee:

P.R. Speakathon has been rescheduled for October 4th, and that a flyer will be circulating shortly. Also, we ask members help in finding out whether the following meetings are still open or closed:

### Tuesday

1. Recovery On The Boulevard – Access Community Health 5401 S. Wentworth 6 p.m.
2. Your Attendance Is Crucial – St. Mary's Church 310 E. 137th Street, Riverdale 8 p.m.

### Wednesday

1. On The Road To Recovery – Boy's To Men 1503 W. 68th Street 6 p.m.

### Thursday

1. NA At The Café – 810 E. 64th 2 p.m.

### Friday

1. Turning Point – Sweet Holy Spirit 8600 S. Chicago Ave. 7:30p.m.

### Recreation & Activities

REC AND ACT THANKS THE SUPPORT OF SOUTH CITY AREA. WE ARE GOING TO NEED THE SUPPORT OF EVERY GROUP AND MEMBER. WHY? BECAUSE AUG. 24 2008 IS OUR 20TH ANNUAL PICNIC WHICH WILL BE HELD FROM SUNRISE TO DUSK @ 83RD AND WESTERN DAN RYAN WOODS, GROVE #4.

ATTENTION ALL GROUPS: PLEASE MAKE SURE TO HAVE YOUR GROUP DONATIONS AT THE PARK NO LATER THAN 10:00 AM, AND PLEASE BE ADVISED AND ANNOUNCE TO YOUR GROUP THAT CARS THAT ARE ILLEGALLY PARKED WILL BE TOWED.

DEAR GOD,  
SHOW ME WHAT I HAVE DONE RIGHT ANDWRONG TODAY, SHOW ME HOW I CAN BETTER LIVE AND SERVE YOUR WILL TOMORROW.  
I.P. #9 LIVING THE PROGRAM.

CHAIRPERSON: SHIRLEY E. (773) 443-0644  
CO-CHAIRPERSON: FRED G. (312) 218-5580

## Question Of The Month STEP 8 (cont.)

Because I was always sorry! Step 8 is not about saying I'm sorry making amends, but actually accepting that I have caused harm in some way and trying to the best of my ability not to cause harm anymore. I must make amends by words and or action.

### Diana M.S

Sometimes action speaks louder than words.

### Joe "C"

Being sorry is very important but correcting the behavior is the most important thing. Step 2 says insanity is repeating the same mistakes expecting different results. Changing the behavior is essential.

### Anonymous

## Poetry Corner

**It was a miracle when I walked in the door.  
The crisis at hand was that I hurt to my core.**

**I could think of no future, I could think of no joy.  
I came to the meetings; I listened; I learned;  
I shared all my pain when it was my turn.**

**My life was in shambles, my spirit was dead;  
Continual thoughts of using encircled my head.**

**They said: "Wait for the Miracle?"  
What could that possibly be?  
I wanted to stop using, please, please just help me!**

**Then suddenly, out of the blue;  
yes it was true!**

**The Miracle had happened; I did not see  
it before. The Miracle was that I had walked in the door**

[www.nanj.org/newsletters/sanity/March08.pdf](http://www.nanj.org/newsletters/sanity/March08.pdf)

## Prayer

**God** grant me the **Serenity** to accept the things **I** cannot change **Courage** to change the things **I** can and **Wisdom** to know the difference

## Where Are You At? #1

**I am only limited by the degree of my unwillingness...**

In our program, we learn that recovery is a process and not an event. Or, if you prefer, recovery is a journey and not a destination. A key part of the process or journey is change. In order to recover from our disease of addiction, to stop listening to the lies that our disease tells us, we have to make changes in our lives beyond not picking up on our drug of choice. We have to change our old ways of thinking, and our old behaviors. In doing so, we no longer need to have our disease making decisions for us; we can make our own choices.

We were all to varying degrees spiritually bankrupt. We did what our disease told us to do, disregarding the consequences. Being self-centered to the extreme, we always listened to our disease, never hearing what the spirit inside each of us implored us to do; to stop feeding our addiction and start feeding our souls.

So the first change we had to make was to not feed our addiction a day, an hour, or a minute at a time; without that, we could go no further. We discovered we could manage that, and it worked. We began to feel a little better each day.

Then we were told that this is a simple program, it's just not easy. Even though we may not understand this concept, it means that the Steps are simple to understand, but may not be so pleasant to experience because now, we are growing past our active addiction, and moving towards the root of our problem: the disease and its accompanying insanity.

Over time we see a number of people who once shared the misery we feel, who are now growing into a fuller life. Did they do this as easily or pleasantly as a walk on the beach? Probably not. And if you ask any one of them where they needed to begin, they likely will say that they not had to only surrender to their disease, but they had to acquire the willingness to change. Once they had the willingness, they could continue to develop, becoming more and more who they wanted to be, and more importantly, the person that God intended them to become.

They made mistakes along the way, and continue to make them, probably on a daily basis. But in their hearts and spirits they kept their willingness alive, allowing them more possibilities in life than they ever dreamed about when in their active addiction. They stopped limiting themselves by their unwillingness.

Now, today, there are many opportunities for me in my life, Each day can bring a new experience, or allow me to understand a perspective different from my own. However, it's my responsibility to find those opportunities.  
- Am I willing to discover the new possibilities in my life today?

Grateful Recovering Addict,  
Central Pennsylvania - Article from - The Northern New England Regional NA Newsletter pdf.