

Twenty-six “Big Book” References to Guidance

(Revised: 03-29-12)

“To guide” is defined as: to lead, direct, influence, or regulate. Two synonyms are: to disclose and to show.

01. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 10, para. 4, lines 2-3)

(T)hey talked of a God personal to me, who was love, superhuman strength and **DIRECTION**,

02. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 13, para. 2, lines 1-3)

There I humbly offered myself to God, as I then understood Him, to do with me as He would. I placed myself unreservedly under His care and **DIRECTION**.

03. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 13, para. 4, lines 3-5)

I was to sit quietly when in doubt, asking only for **DIRECTION** and strength to meet my problems as He would have me.

04. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 46, para. 2, lines 5-9)

As soon as we admitted the possible existence of a Creative Intelligence, a Spirit of the Universe underlying the totality of things, we began to be possessed of a new sense of power and **DIRECTION**, provided we took other simple steps.

05. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 49, para. 0, lines 6-8)

. . . underneath the material world and life as we see it, there is an All Powerful, **GUIDING**, Creative Intelligence, . . .

06. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 50, para. 4, lines 1-6, 8-11)

Here are thousands of men and women, worldly indeed. They flatly declare that since they have come to believe in a Power greater than themselves, to take a certain attitude toward that Power, and to do certain simple things, there has been a revolutionary change in their way of living and thinking. . . .they found that a new power, peace, happiness, and sense of **DIRECTION** flowed

into them. This happened soon after they wholeheartedly met a few simple requirements.

07. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 56, para. 2, lines 9-10; para. 3, line 1; and para. 4, lines 9-10) (This is an example of guidance)

Then, like a thunderbolt, a great thought came. It crowded out all else:

"Who are you to say there is no God?"

. . . In a few seconds he was overwhelmed by a conviction of the Presence of God. It poured over and through him with the certainty and majesty of a great tide at flood. The barriers he had built through the years were swept away. He stood in the Presence of Infinite Power and Love.

08. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 57, para. 3, lines 1-2)

When we drew near to Him He **DISCLOSED** Himself to us!

09. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 67, para. 1, lines 1-5)

We avoid retaliation or argument. We wouldn't treat sick people that way. If we do, we destroy our chance of being helpful. We cannot be helpful to all people, but at least God will **SHOW** us how to take a kindly and tolerant view of each and every one.

10. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 68, para. 3, lines 6-7)

We never apologize for God. Instead we let Him **DEMONSTRATE**, through us, what He can do.

11. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 68, para. 3, lines 7-9)

We ask Him to remove our fear and **DIRECT** our attention to what He would have us be.

12. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 69, para. 3, lines 6-8)

In meditation, we ask God what we should do about each specific matter. **THE RIGHT ANSWER** will come, if we want it.

13. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 70, para. 2, lines 1-4)

We earnestly pray for the right ideal, for **GUIDANCE** in each questionable situation, for sanity, and for the strength to do the right thing.

14. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 79, para. 1, lines 3-6)

Reminding ourselves that we have decided to go to any lengths to find a spiritual experience, we ask that we be given strength and **DIRECTION** to do the right thing, . . .

15. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 83, para. 1, lines 7-10)

So we clean house . . ., asking each morning in meditation that our Creator **SHOW** us the way of patience, tolerance, kindness and love.

16. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 85, para. 2, lines 1-7)

Much has already been said about receiving strength, inspiration, and **DIRECTION** from Him who has all knowledge and power. If we have carefully followed directions, we have begun to sense the flow of His Spirit into us. To some extent we have become God-conscious. We have begun to develop this vital sixth sense.

17. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 86, para. 2, lines 1-5)

On awakening let us think about the twenty-four hours ahead. We consider our plans for the day. Before we begin, we ask God to **DIRECT** our thinking, especially asking that it be divorced from self-pity, dishonest or self-seeking motives.

18. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 86, para. 3, lines 1-6)

In thinking about our day we may face indecision. We may not be able to determine which course to take. Here we ask God for inspiration, an intuitive thought or a decision. We relax and take it easy. We don't struggle. We are often surprised how **THE RIGHT ANSWERS** come after we have tried this for a while.

19. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 87, para. 1, lines 1-4)

We usually conclude the period of meditation with a prayer that we be **SHOWN** all through the day what our next step is to be, that we be given whatever we need to take care of such problems.

20. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 87, para. 3, lines 1-3 and pg. 88, para. 0, lines 1-2)

As we go through the day we pause, when agitated or doubtful, and ask for **THE RIGHT THOUGHT OR ACTION**. We constantly remind ourselves we are no longer running the show, humbly saying to ourselves many times each day

"Thy will be done."

21. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 100, para. 1, lines 3-9)

When we look back, we realize that the things which came to us when we put ourselves in God's hands were better than anything we could have planned. Follow the **DICTATES** of a Higher Power and you will presently live in a new and wonderful world, no matter what your present circumstances!

22. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 117, para. 0, lines 1-4)

We urge you to try our program, for nothing will be so helpful . . . as the radically changed attitude . . . which God will **SHOW** you how to have.

23. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 158, para. 2, lines 1-3)

On the third day the lawyer gave his life to the care and **DIRECTION** of his Creator, and said he was perfectly willing to do anything necessary.

24. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 164, para. 1, lines 1-6)

Still you may say: "But I will not have the benefit of contact with you who write this book." We cannot be sure. God will determine that, so you must remember that your real reliance is always upon Him. He will **SHOW** you how to create the fellowship you crave.

25. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 164, para. 2, lines 1-3)

Our book is meant to be suggestive only. We realize we know only a little. God will constantly **DISCLOSE** more to you and to us.

26. (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 164, para. 2, lines 3-6)

Ask Him in your morning meditation what you can do each day for the man who is still sick. **THE ANSWERS** will come, if your own house is in order.