

General Guidelines

These are extremely subject to change

1. Purpose

We want to create a space for us to practice Steps 10 and 11, and to discuss the ways that our practice of those Steps affects any and all aspects of our lives. However, we are not a 12-Step group, and we do not identify as such.

2. Who we are

We are (ideally) five in number. We like to believe that we came together because two of us “invited” a third to join us, then those three “invited” a fourth, and the four “invited” a fifth. While this may not be strictly true, it does offer a pattern for “visitors” to create a similar space. We are therefore a “private” group, but we are not exclusive (see the guideline on Visitors, below).

3. Meeting format

We meet for an hour, once a week. We begin with the practice of Steps 10 and 11. What happens after that is probably some sort of unstructured discussion, which we hope will be guided by our individual understanding of a Higher Power.

4. Commitment

We realize that our continued existence is dependent on a strong individual commitment. We understand that our attendance is routine rather than optional, but we also understand that circumstances change and that our ability to attend may change too. Each of us understands and accepts that, if our attendance falls off, we *may* be asked by the four others to drop out and be replaced by someone new.

5. Decisions about the meeting

These are guided by our Higher Power. We prefer that these decisions be unanimous.

6. Visitors

We may, with the consent of others, invite someone to join us for one meeting – perhaps more than one. However, we anticipate that the visitor will, if interested, start his own similar space of five people – he may not join us permanently. Each of us may choose to join that new group if invited, perhaps by leaving his “home” group. If that happens, the remaining people agree on inviting “replacement(s).”