

Step Two Summary

“Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity”

Directions for step two are on page 47:

“We need to ask ourselves but one short question. Do I now believe or am I even willing to believe, that there is a Power greater than myself?”

Just like step one, step two is nothing more than a question to be answered. This is to be looked at in two parts.

Part 1- Belief or willing to believe. If you already have a conception of God then you have this part done. If not, then the directions state that you don't have to believe, you can begin with just being willing to believe. What does that mean?

It simply means that you are willing to do what we did and follow the process, and then see if it works for you as it has for us.

Page 48 tells us what will handicap us from moving forward:

“We often found ourselves handicapped by obstinacy, sensitiveness and unreasoning prejudice.” It continues, “This sort of thinking had to be abandoned.”

Prejudice is defined as “An adverse opinion or leaning formed without just grounds or before sufficient knowledge.”

Simply put, if you are close minded to the idea of enlisting the power of God to solve your problem, then there is no way to move forward with the program.

For those of us who this prejudice, just as Bill had (see page 10-12), this is in many cases the deciding factor:

Pg 48 -“Faced with alcoholic destruction....alcohol was a great persuader, it finally beat us into a state of reasonableness.”

Pg 53- “When we became alcoholics, crushed by a self imposed crisis we could not postpone to or evade, we had to fearlessly face the proposition that either God is everything or else He is nothing. God either is, or He isn't. What was our choice to be”

Have you been beaten up enough to concede and become willing to believe? If not, you will remain handicapped, and if alcoholic, “the time and place will come when you will drink again.”

Aside of alcohol persuading us to be willing to believe, we also have recover alcoholics at meetings to show you face to face with many recovered people that were just as resistant as you may be and yet every one of them will give their testimony that “God has done for them what they could not do for themselves.”

Now, if you are willing, this is what we know:

Pg 46- We found as soon as we were able to lay aside prejudice and express even a willingness to believe in a Power greater than ourselves, we commenced to get results, even though it was impossible for any of us to fully define or comprehend that Power, which is God.”

It goes on: “Much to our relief, we discovered we did not need to consider another’s conception of God. Our own conception, however inadequate, was sufficient to make the approach and to effect a contact with Him.”

“As soon as we admitted the possible existence.....we began to be possessed of a new sense of power and direction, provided we took other simple steps.”

Pg 12- “It was only a matter of being willing to believe in a Power greater than myself. Nothing more was required of me to make my beginning. I saw that growth could start from that point.”

Part 2- There are “qualifications” that must be met for our conception of God:

1- What can God do?

According to the step, we must believe that our conception of God has “the power to restore us to sanity.” That means that He can remove the alcoholic mind, the insanity that occurs just prior to the first drink that learned of in step one. This is the “crux” of our alcoholic problem.

2- Where is God?

Pg 55 -”deep down inside of every man, woman, and child, is the fundamental idea of God. It may be obscured by calamity, by pomp, by worship of other things, but in some form or other it is there.”

“Sometimes we had to search fearlessly, but He was there.”

We found the Great Reality deep down within us. In the last analysis it is only there that He may be found.

Your conception of God needs to pass these two qualifications