

## **Surrender (Driver and Fairway Woods/Metals)**

1. **I admit that I am a powerless person in the vastness of the universe, and living in my power will render my life unmanageable.**

“Tee it high and let it fly!” “Let the big dog eat!” “Display your Power!” Power! Power! Power! That’s what it’s all about these days. Power, however, you can get it. Here at the club, we will discover that we will discover a Power much greater than any power this world can offer by admitting we are powerless.

2. **I must come to believe that there is a *Power* outside myself that can restore the order in my life.**

“If it is to be – It is up to me!” “I’ve gotta look out for number one!” “It’s dog eat dog out there!” Our training teaches, despite what the world tells us, **we must come to believe**, “It’s **not** all about me.” **We must come to believe** that in the vastness of the universe, we are but a spec. We move out of the center of the universe, taking our rightful place on the periphery, tethered to the source of that ***Power*** greater than ourselves.

3. **I must make a decision to turn my Life *and* my Will over to the care of the Good Orderly Direction that directs a joy-filled and fruit-filled life.**

Get ready! It’s time to find your grit and plain ole guts. You’re going to discover it’s about “1 Thing.” It’s about identifying the “Key-Log,” “Strongholds,” the “Sounds of the Silence,” or however you may refer to it in your life that you’ve been using, consciously or unconsciously, to completely surrender to that ***Power*** greater than myself. This will be the scariest thing you have ever done. When you find that “1 Thing,” - you will, without question, know it. Why? You are going to get a feeling of freedom and joy you never felt before.

*“The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.” -John 19:32&33* **Jesus “surrendered” to fulfill the purpose he came for. To die that we might live.** Back in the day, when being crucified, the person would hoist themselves using their legs to ease the suffocation and prolong death. With this step, you will reach in – if you choose. Our experience has been, most turn back here. If you decide to go forward, you will be broken. Hang in. It will be the most freeing experience of your life.

### **Reach-In, (Long/Mid - Hybrids/Irons)**

4. **I will quiet myself** before God and make a *searching* and *fearless* moral inventory of myself and confront the cover-up I've been living.
5. **I will admit** to God, myself, and another person trustworthy and **TOTALLY** committed to the confidentiality of the inventory's findings, and become free from the cover-up.

This where your slate gets cleaned. Steps four and five transform the caterpillar into the butterfly. If you have the guts to enter the cocoon, you will emerge with a newfound feeling of freedom with the right person doing the probing. A gift few possess. The more thorough your preparation, the freer you will emerge. In other words, you will reap what you sow.

6. As a result of the inventory, **I will begin** talking to the God of my understanding regularly, asking for awareness of the strongholds that have me in their grip.
7. **I will humbly** ask God to remove the strongholds standing in the way of my *completeness and usefulness*. Those that cannot be removed I will block through strict accountability and other controls.

Well done! You've Responded "Intensely" to the most "Rigorous" "Testing" you've probably ever been through. Did you discover your "Key-Log," your "1 Thing," blocking the "Greatness" God gifted you with for God's purpose?

*"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."* -James 1:2-4

By now, you're experiencing feelings and other things you've never felt before. The pain you experienced has now become the healing agent in your life. It hurt – but it hurt so good. You descended into the hell of your life that caused your cover-up. You know, without question, you're not doing all this yourself. In the beginning, you may have been thinking about quitting. You're just in the middle rounds. So, keep telling yourself, *"I Just Gotta Go the Distance!"*

### **Reconcile, (6, 7, 8, Irons)**

8. **I will make a list** of all persons I have harmed and become willing to make amends to them all.

9. **I will make direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others. I must NEVER make an amends that will transfer my burden to another to rest my conscience.**
10. **I will continue to take daily personal inventory, and when I am wrong, I will promptly admit it.**

There are distinct differences between apologizing to someone and making amends to them. An apology is like putting a band-aid on a wound; it covers the source of the pain until it eventually disappears or reappears in many cases. Making honest and humble amends is an essential step toward rectifying a broken relationship.

The importance of making amends is it helps to detox your system spiritually. Making amends is an integral part of personal growth and healing. Let's take a look at the various types of amends beginning with "Direct Amends."

### **Direct Amends**

When making a "**Direct Amends**," we deal directly with the person we have harmed by taking personal responsibility for our actions. Be careful, however. Be sure to discuss this with your accountability first. Be cautious as to how you take responsibility and own your actions. **Never make promises with an amends.** Remember, the amends are to clean your slate, not get the other person to like you again, and/or forgive you. Chances are if a person you've harmed is going to forgive you, they will do so without an amends.

### **Indirect Amends**

"**Indirect Amends**" is the process of showing humility to amend something that cannot be undone. For instance, if a legal violation in the past or some other error(s) in judgment prohibits you from approaching the harmed party(s) directly, the amends can be made indirectly. This is done by making a "**life-long**" commitment to an outreach that reaches out to others who may be struggling with the same character defects and strongholds that you now recover from.

### **Living Amends**

Forgiving yourself is critical for keeping you from guilt and shame. Finally, a **“Living Amends”** is an assurance to yourself that you have come to KNOW your strongholds and defects and have made a genuine lifestyle change. Your security comes from the accountability you now keep and the balanced life you currently live, including service to others stemming from those strongholds and defects. Making living amends to yourself is critical to your assurance from self-sabotage during times of living in life's valleys.

### **Daily Personal Inventory**

The practice of the “**Daily Personal Inventory**” is a valued routine of the one-percenters. Think of it as going to the practice tee after a round to work out a swing flaw or keep checking on a swing basic. The ninety-nine percenters too often gloss over the personal inventory. This inventory can mean the difference between success and failure, winning, and losing.

### **Reach Out, (9 Iron, Pitching Wedge)**

- 11. Seek through prayer and meditation to improve my conscious contact with God, praying for the knowledge of God’s will for me and the power to carry it out.**

*“Be still, and know that I am God!”* That is God speaking to you. Make it a daily practice to be still. Prayer is communication – two-way communication. We don’t always have to do the talking. Romans 8:26 teaches, *“When we do not know what we ought to pray for, the Spirit itself intercedes for us through wordless groans.”* Listen to the sounds of silence. The goal here is to “improve our conscious contact with God. Speak only when spoken to. You will be amazed by the wisdom you will gain about yourself and life.

- 12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, I will carry this message to others *and practice these principles in all my affairs.***

These steps are designed to develop spiritual reflexes and a rhythm to your life, shaping you to live in a **Good Ordery Direction**. As the saying goes, *“You can’t keep it if you don’t give it away.”* You’ve gotten yourself out of a sinking boat. Now, you must see God in everything and carry this message to others. Another saying you’ve heard, *“Action speaks louder than words.”* Practicing these principles in your daily affairs is going to be your secret weapon. **You must inconvenience yourself daily - even at a price to yourself if need be.** *“The secret to successful living is simply found in giving.”*

“You’ve done the distance - now you’re not gonna stop. Just a man who gave up his will to thrive, as you boldly say, *“Lord, Your Will - Not Mine Be Done.”*

**Grace, (Sand Wedge, Putter)**

- 13. I will have a new and gracious perspective on life that will be the pathway to a new-found joy and completeness. I will comprehend the word serenity and realize that no matter how far down the scale I may have gone, I will see that my experience, strength, and hope can benefit others.**

God knew the path every life would take before they were ever created. Yet, God created them anyway. Every life has a unique purpose that is intended to glorify God. God has no Lemon Law. God makes no mistakes, and God makes no junk. Throughout biblical history, God used the most unsuspecting lives to change the course of humanity and the world.

- 14. My whole attitude and outlook on life will change when I realize that God is now doing for me what I was trying to do for myself.**

“Grace!” Some say it stands for “God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense.” Grace has been defined as “*Love that just won’t quit.*” It’s God’s mulligan for **anyone** who follows God’s word through a commitment to Jesus Christ. Jesus said, “*I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*” -**John 14:6**

At the start of these steps, admitting powerlessness may have appeared to be admitting defeat. However, now that you have “gone the distance,” you are experiencing a Power unlike anything humanly possible.

***Amen!***