



PIR CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

AN OPEN AL-ANON LITERATURE MEETING

Zoom Meeting Trusted Servant Reading

BEFORE THE MEETING

Choose 3 people to read the following:

- 12 Steps
- Detachment
- About Al-Anon

PREAMBLE

READ BY THE TRUSTED SERVANT

Hello! I'm [NAME] and I'm a [member of Al-anon, Double-winner, etc.].

Welcome to the Pagans in Recovery - Circle of Friends. This is an open Al-Anon literature meeting.

Pagans in Recovery (PiR) is a 12 Step/12 Tradition fellowship based on the example pioneered by Alcoholics Anonymous. We wish to assure people seeking recovery that they can recover without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or to deny their own. We welcome people who follow alternative spiritual paths, including those who worship or work with one or more Goddesses, Gods, Spirits, Energies, Powers, or Ancestors, and whose spirituality may include magical practices.

PREAMBLE

READ BY THE TRUSTED SERVANT

PiR does not seek any conflict or controversy. Nor are we allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution. Our primary purpose is to help one another and ourselves to achieve and maintain recovery. Pagans in Recovery is not specific to any individual Twelve-Step program, nor do we wish to compete with or replace any of them. Rather, PiR is available to all who need it, to be used in conjunction with the Twelve Step programs we individually are involved in. Because of this diversity of our community we define recovery in multiple ways. As such, the recovery language used in our meetings, for example “sobriety” is left up to each individual.

The format for this meeting is the reading of a selected daily meditation from one of the Al-Anon conference approved daily readers followed by open discussion sharing. This is an open meeting. While in most Al-Anon meetings, attendees are asked not to identify as belonging to another 12 step fellowship when sharing, in this meeting you are free to identify however you feel most comfortable. All are welcome here.

ABOUT AL-ANON

READ BY THE TRUSTED SERVANT

[SHARE SCREEN]

The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength, and hope in order to solve their common problems. We believe alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery.

We who live, or have lived, with the problem of alcoholism, understand as perhaps few other can. We, too, were lonely and frustrated, but in Al-anon we discover that no situation is really hopeless and that it is possible for us to find contentment, and even happiness, whether the alcoholic is still drinking or not.

The Al-anon program is based on the 12 Steps (adapted from Alcoholics Anonymous), which we try, little by little, one day at a time, to apply to our lives, along with our slogans and the Serenity Prayer. The loving interchange of help among members and the daily reading of Al-anon literature thus makes us ready to receive the priceless gift of serenity.

THE 12 STEPS

READ BY A FRIEND IN RECOVERY

12 Steps Adapted for Pagans

1. We admitted that we were powerless over our addiction – that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of our Higher Powers as we understood them.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to our Higher Powers, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have our Higher Powers transform these shortcomings.
7. Humbly asked our Higher Powers to assist in our transformation.
8. Made a list of all the persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer, meditation, and our craft to improve our conscious contact with our Higher Powers (as we understand them), praying only for the knowledge of their Will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

DETACHMENT

READ BY A FRIEND IN RECOVERY

Detachment is neither kind nor unkind. It does not imply judgement or condemnation of the person or situation from which we are detaching. Separating ourselves from the adverse effects of another person's alcoholism can be a means of detaching: this does not necessarily require physical separation. Detachment can help us look at our situations realistically and objectively. Alcoholism is a family disease. Living with the effects of someone else's drinking is too devastating for most people to bear without help. In Al-Anon we learn nothing we say or do can cause or stop someone else's drinking. We are not responsible for another person's disease or recovery from it. Detachment allows us to let go of our obsession with another's behavior and begin to lead happier and more manageable lives, lives with dignity and rights, lives guided by a Power greater than ourselves. We can still love the person without liking the behavior.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

READ BY THE TRUSTED SERVANT

[STOP SHARING SCREEN]

Rules of Engagement

- Please use the raise hand function under Reactions to indicate you wish to share.
- Please refrain from eating, smoking, moving, or any other distracting behaviors on camera. Instead, turn your camera off during these times. This is especially important because we have people attending from a variety of 12 step fellowships.
- Please share your experience, strength, and hope in recovery while avoiding cross-talk or interruptions.
- Please be considerate of time in your sharing so that everyone may have a chance to share.

[Trusted Servant reads a daily meditation, shares on it, and opens the floor for discussion. May choose another reading once the first topic has been discussed.]

5 MINUTES TO CLOSE

READ BY THE TRUSTED SERVANT

In closing, I would like to say that the opinions expressed here were strictly those of the person who gave them. Take what you liked and leave the rest. The things you heard were spoken in confidence and should be treated as confidential. Keep them within the walls of this room and the confines of your mind. A few special words to those of you who haven't been with us long: Whatever your problems, there are those among us who have had them, too. If you try to keep an open mind, you will find help.

You will come to realize that there is no situation too difficult to be bettered and no unhappiness too great to be lessened. We aren't perfect. The welcome we give you may not show the warmth we have in our hearts for you. After a while, you'll discover that though you may not like all of us, you'll love us in a very special way—the same way we already love you. Talk to each other, reason things out with someone else, but let there be no gossip or criticism of one another. Instead, let the understanding, love, and peace of the program grow in you one day at a time.

SERENITY PRAYER

READ BY THE TRUSTED SERVANT

[SHARE SCREEN]

Let's take a moment of silence to reflect on the experience and fellowship shared here this evening, how we connected as a pagan community and how we showed up for ourselves and for each other.

Now for all who care to join, you can un-mute and join us in the Serenity Prayer.

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

So mote it be.