

## **BACK TO BASICS: TWELVE STEP CALLS**

...I remembered the very basic thing that you had taught me to do before any A.A. activity - pray.

...I backed up and said the Third Step prayer, "God, I offer myself to Thee--to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of life. May I do Thy will always!" Prayer is the first basic before making a Twelfth Step call.

...Ebby told Bill, "I know you are going to gag on this, but they taught me that I should try to pray to whatever God I thought there was for the power to carry out these simple precepts." The third basic tells me that I should never shy away from the spiritual aspects of the program.

The fourth basic is to never talk down to an alcoholic, for we realize that they have an illness.

The fifth basic is that I should immediately seek out an alcoholic when I feel in danger of taking that first drink.

...it wasn't that Dr. Bob wanted to get sober, it was that Bill had to carry the message so that he could stay sober. Bill says in A.A. Comes of Age (p.70), "I knew that I needed this alcoholic as much as he needed me. This was it. And this mutual give-and-take is at the very heart of all of A.A.'s Twelfth Step work today. This was how to carry the message."

...in making a Twelve Step call. I must remember one simple fact. The only reason I am here is through the grace of God, and it is with the grace of God I must carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Forty-Eighth annual meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous:

Our Twelve Step Work: 1998 Final Report page 13 paragraph 2 lines 6-8 & 11-18, paragraph 3 lines 1,2,7-12,16 & 17, paragraph 4 lines 5-7 & 9-14, and paragraph 7, lines 2-5.