

## THE TWELVE STEPS AND THEIR BIBLICAL COMPARISONS

1. **We admitted we were powerless over our addictions and compulsive behaviors. That our lives had become unmanageable.**  
*I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. (Romans 7:18)*
2. **Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.**  
*For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. (Philippians 2:13)*
3. **Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God.**  
*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. (Romans 12:1)*
4. **Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.**  
*Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD. (Lamentations 3:40)*
5. **Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being, the exact nature of our wrongs.**  
*Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. (James 5:16a)*
6. **Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.**  
*Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. (James 4:10)*
7. **Humbly asked Him to remove all our shortcomings.**  
*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)*
8. **Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.**  
*Do to others as you would have them do to you. (Luke 6:31)*
9. **Made direct amends to such people whenever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.**  
*Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you; leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:23-24)*
10. **Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.**  
*So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! (1 Corinthians 10:12)*

**11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and power to carry that out.**  
*Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Colossians 3:16a)*

**12. Having had a spiritual experience as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and practice these principles in all our affairs.**  
*Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. (Galatians 6:1)*

- All scripture quoted from the New International Version.