

REFUGE RECOVERY

A Buddhist Path to Recovering from Addiction

HEART PRACTICES MEETING SCRIPT (IN-PERSON)

Welcome to the _____ meeting of Refuge Recovery. All are welcome here. We are a Buddhist-oriented, nontheistic recovery program that does not ask anyone to believe anything, only to trust the process and do the hard work of recovery. No previous experience or knowledge of Buddhism is required. This program provides a systematic approach to recovering from all forms of addiction. When sincerely practiced, it will ensure a full recovery from addiction and a lifelong sense of well-being and ease. Our understanding is that recovery is a process of healing the underlying conditions that lead to addiction. It is also establishing and maintaining abstinence from the substances and behaviors that we have become addicted to. In Refuge Recovery, we are developing the ability to inhabit the conditions of our present reality, whether pleasant or unpleasant.

My name is _____ and I am the current group secretary. I am here as an elected volunteer to facilitate the meeting.

I have asked _____ to read the Preamble from page 229.

I have asked _____ to read the Guiding Principles.

I have asked _____ to read the Process from page xi.

INTRODUCTIONS

In an effort to get to know each other, we start by introducing ourselves. There is no need to identify yourself by anything other than your name. My name is _____.

Welcome everyone.

MEDITATION

I have asked _____ to lead the meditation.

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In revolving rotation: Loving kindness - compassion - appreciation - tonglen - forgiveness - equanimity

We will now read Chapter Thirteen, the Path of Heartfulness from our book. I have asked ____ to start the reading on page 89. After they have finished, they will share on their experience with tonight's topic for a few minutes. We will then open up for sharing from the group.

SHARING

The meeting is now open for sharing. In order to give more people an opportunity to share, we have a timer. Please limit your sharing to __ minutes. Try to keep your sharing focused on the topic, or on the relationship of recovery, addiction and Buddhist principles. **Please refrain from crosstalk. Crosstalk is the commenting on or offering of advice to others in the meeting.** This meeting sharing format is tag/pass. Please choose someone to share when you have finished. We will end the sharing 5 minutes before the meeting ends. I will now turn the meeting over to_____.

We have come to the end of the sharing portion of our meeting.

DANA

At this time, we take a few minutes to offer dana. Dana is our practice of generosity and support. Refuge Recovery is freely offered. We have no dues or fees. Donations are used to cover the shared costs each local group incurs at the world level. We have a five dollar suggested donation but any amount is welcome. We appreciate your generosity.

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CONFIDENTIALITY

In order for this to be a group where we feel safe to share about our recovery and create an atmosphere of openness, we ask that who you see here and what you hear here remain confidential.

MENTORSHIP

Mentorship is an important aspect of our program.

Those who are able to mentor please raise your hand.

If you have questions about mentorship, please refer to the Mentorship Pamphlet on refugerecovery.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Those who are willing to offer their contact information to others please add your name to our contact list.

All of our meetings can be found on refugerecovery.org

This group's business meeting is held on _____.

Are there any other Refuge Recovery announcements from the floor?

DEDICATION OF MERIT

I have asked _____ to read the dedication of merit.