



# THE MESSENGER

## December 2025 Edition



[www.area32d2.org](http://www.area32d2.org)

An A.A. © Newsletter for District 2  
Serving Hillsdale, Jackson, and Lenawee Counties

### MY EXPERIENCE – Step 12 Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

At the depths of my alcoholism, I was in a hopeless abyss. I didn't see a way out of my addiction. I was suicidal. But through the experience, strength and hope of others in AA I received the strength to move forward. Spirituality to me is a sense of connection to something greater than myself. A higher power for good.

Through my sharing at meetings of my new experience, strength and hope I seek to provide the still sick and suffering a way out of their despair and addiction to alcohol.

I have found this practice to very helpful in my connection with others outside the rooms of AA. I try to be an example of good, by doing the next right thing.

*Bruce G. Hillsdale All Groups*

#### 12 Spiritual Principals

1. Honesty
2. Hope
3. Surrender
4. Courage
5. Integrity
6. Willingness
7. Humility
8. Love
9. Responsibility
10. Discipline
11. Awareness
12. Service

"AA is more than a set of principles; it is a Society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth will die."

*AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1955, "What Is the Third Legacy?", The Language of the Heart*

#### 12 Symptoms of Spiritual Awakening

1. An increased tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
2. Frequent attacks of smiling.
3. Feelings of being connected with others and nature.
4. Frequent overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
5. A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than from fears based on past experience.
6. An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
7. A loss of ability to worry.
8. A loss of interest in conflict.
9. A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
10. A loss of interest in judging others.
11. A loss of interest in judging self.
12. Gaining the ability to love without expecting anything.

<http://recoverytradepublications.com/blog.html?entry=12-symptoms-of-a-spiritual>

#### Be of service over the holidays:

- Invite a fellow alcoholic to one of the many holiday dinners or events put on by groups.
- Or reach out by calling.
- Or meet them at a meeting.
- Or go out for coffee.
- Or walk with and listen during a hike.

"The fellowship of A.A. is unique. Ties are made overnight that it would take years to develop elsewhere. No one needs a false front. All barriers are down. Some who have felt outcasts all their lives now know they really belong. From feeling as if they were dragging an anchor through life, they suddenly sail free before the wind."

*Lois W. wife of co-founder Bill W. Feb 1950 from The Best of the Grapevine Vol II*