



# OVERCOMERS OUTREACH CANADA

June 2017 Newsletter

## THE TWELVE STEPS – A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY: STEP #6: READINESS:

This year, we have been going on a journey through our 12 step program. Here's a look at step #6. Please check out our website to see all six steps covered so far!

We have finally reached the halfway point of our spiritual journey through the Twelve Steps. Before we look at Step #6, let's review the first five:

1. We admitted we were powerless over our sin or 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 God as we understood Him.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

So far we have said, "I *can't*, but God *can*, so I *will* – surrender my life to Him!" We then made an inventory (a list of all of our wrongs), then confessed them to God, ourselves, and someone else. Now we come to step #6:

**"Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."**

It's one thing to become aware of all of our sins, mistakes and failures. And it's another thing still to share that with another human being. But now we must also be ready and willing to allow God to get rid of all that junk that's inside of us. The Biblical basis for this step is found in James 4:10: "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."

Notice however that we're not talking about trying to lift ourselves up. We are humbling ourselves before the Lord, and as we take that small step, He will do for us what we cannot do for ourselves. "To expect action in Step Six is a mistake. Step Six purposely calls for no action on our part. It is a time for an internal change of heart and mind."

*(Meditations for the Twelve Steps – A Spiritual Journey).*

...continued on page 2

continued from page 1

This truth is so clearly laid out in this Scripture: “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.” (Romans 12:2, NLT). Step Six is such a great example of this Bible verse in action! It is about recognizing that I can’t change myself, but God can transform me as I allow Him to change my thinking.

One of the best ways of doing this is by reading the Bible. God’s Word will help us to renew our minds. It will help us to discover how much God loves us, and teach us more about the good plans and purposes that He has for our lives! If you haven’t started reading the Bible for yourself, I want to encourage you to begin to do so today.

### **Sixth Step Prayer:**

“Dear God, I am ready for your help in removing from me the defects of character that I now realize are an obstacle to my recovery. Help me to continue being honest with myself and guide me toward spiritual and mental health.” Amen! (*Prayers for the Twelve Steps*).

### **Chris Jordan**

President, Overcomers Outreach Canada

---

## **TELL US YOUR STORY!**

In each of our quarterly newsletters, we want to share with you a testimony of someone whose life has been changed through the ministry of Overcomers Outreach. If you have a story to share, please submit it to us, making sure to let us know what OO group you’re involved in, and you might just see your story in an upcoming newsletter! Note: For the sake of anonymity, we will only print your first name and last initial.

### **Supporting Overcomers Outreach Canada Financially**

Overcomers Outreach is a faith ministry – we depend on the Lord and His people for the ongoing financial support needed to operate and expand this ministry.

Financial support can be designated to a specific ministry area:

1. General operating expenses (telephone, website, office expenses, etc.)
2. Program Consultant’s or Executive Coordinator’s salary and expenses.
3. Or simply designated as “wherever needed”.

Donations may be made by cheque or online through [Paypal](#) - just click on the Donate link on our website. Please add a note to designate the area of ministry you wish to support, and provide us with your mailing address; a receipt will then be sent out early in the new year for donations made in this year. Thank you for your support of this unique and important ministry!

## THE REWARD OF PURITY

One of the standards in our Overcomers program is PURITY.

Purity is defined as abstinence from vices (or sin if you wish) and having abundance of virtue. In purity as in all things we need to overcome, the virtue lies in our striving for it. And seeking the will of God, and giving our all in the constant pursuit of living a life of purity. This pursuit will make us free even though in some areas of life it might be a whole lifetime of constant effort to do so (myself- patience). Such pursuit can be a very challenging journey and for some of us it will take time and we will need a lot of help on our life journey of living a life of purity.

*“Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.”* (2 Cor. 7:1, NLT).

Notice God said work toward holiness. That tells us we will have to put some effort into being pure. And what kind of work will we have to do? Here are some of the things we will have to work on: Perceptions, motives, goals, words and actions must all change if we are to achieve and maintain any level of purity in our lives, because we are now seeking to do the will of God and not the pleasures of life as in lust, drinking, drugs etc. Now our focus is on what is good and right, trying to do the will of God in all areas of our lives.

*“So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.”* (James 1:21, NLT).

Having discovered the errors in our perception of reality and the world around us, we also can see the results of keeping secrets about ourselves from God and other people. We also see the pain this causes those around us. As we strive for purity we also see the need for self-forgiveness and the need to forgive others and in some cases to make amends for the wrongs we have done.

*“God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.”* Matt. 5:8, NLT).

If we all could humbly look at ourselves through the eyes of God in His word, and became willing to release our flawed behaviours to God, then every day would become a new day and our love for God would grow and we would have His peace in our life always. Thus we would then have the reward of Purity.

**Ken Sundelin**

Addictions Consultant, Overcomers Outreach Canada

## TRUST: ANNUAL OVERCOMERS OUTREACH CONFERENCE:

**October 28, 2017 from 9:00 am - 4:30 pm**

At Kilcona Park Alliance Church. 1977 Norris Road in Winnipeg, MB.

A FREE training conference for anyone who wants to help people overcome their addictions and compulsive behaviours.

*Includes worship, speakers, breakout sessions, and several testimonies of those who have found freedom in Christ. Everyone is welcome!*

---

## WHO'S WHO IN THE ZOO:

Here's a look at the current leadership team of Overcomers Outreach of Canada.

We are here to serve you!

President & Executive Coordinator:

Chris Jordan

Vice-President:

Mark Kleinsasser

Treasurer:

Pete Gerbrand

Secretary / Women's Ministry & Resource Manager:

Joan Griffith-Parker

Men's Ministry:

Willie Froese

Program Consultant:

Ken Sundelin

Accountant:

Rey Schellenberg

### Overcomers Outreach Canada

Box 1933

Beausejour, MB R0E 0C0

Phone: 1.866.881.2480

Email: [info@overcomersoutreach.ca](mailto:info@overcomersoutreach.ca)

Website: [www.overcomersoutreach.ca](http://www.overcomersoutreach.ca)

Twitter: [twitter.com/OvercomerCanada](https://twitter.com/OvercomerCanada)

Facebook: [facebook.com/overcomersoutreachcanada](https://facebook.com/overcomersoutreachcanada)

**Chris Jordan, President & Executive Coordinator:**

[chrisjordan@live.ca](mailto:chrisjordan@live.ca)

**Ken Sundelin, Addictions Consultant:**

[kensundelin@hotmail.com](mailto:kensundelin@hotmail.com)

To read this newsletter online, please go to "News" on our website.

To see a price list of our resources, visit "Resources" on our website, or email

[resources@overcomersoutreach.ca](mailto:resources@overcomersoutreach.ca)