Step 12: Surrendering to Love

Adam G., May 11, 2019

I do not understand my own actions for I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing that I hate. I can know what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil that I do not want is what I do.

~Romans, 7:15



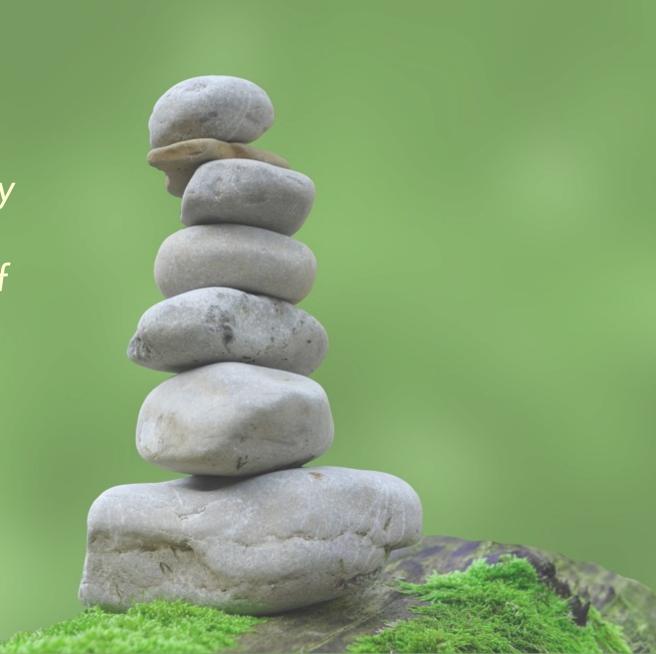
The central fact of our lives today is the absolute certainty that our Creator has entered into our hearts and lives in a way which is indeed miraculous. He has commenced to accomplish those things for us which we could never do by ourselves.

~There Is a Solution



We were having trouble with personal relationships, we couldn't control our emotional natures, we were a prey to misery and depression, we couldn't make a living, we had a feeling of uselessness, we were full of fear, we were unhappy, we couldn't seem to be of real help to other people...

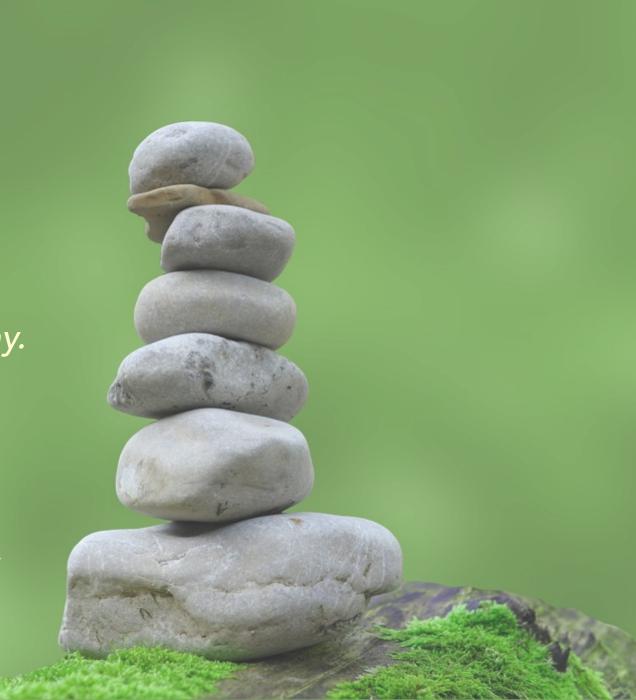
~(We Agnostics)



I was thrown in with a crowd of people who attracted me because of their seeming poise, health, and happiness. They spoke with great freedom from embarrassment, which I could never do, and they seemed very much at ease on all occasions and appeared very healthy. ...[T]hey seemed to be happy.

I was self conscious and ill at ease most of the time, my health was at the breaking point, and I was thoroughly miserable. I sensed they had something I did not have...

~(Doctor Bob's Nightmare)



12 Steps are designed to help me change from what I had become to something **entirely** different.

> Admitted complete defeat

Profound alteration in our reaction to life

Vast change in feeling and outlook

> Half measures availed us nothing

> Entire psychic change

I arrived here restless, irritable, and discontented, filled with shame, fear, guilt and remorse.

If I can change from that to peace of mind, serenity and happiness, I've undergone a revolutionary change.





"Overcoming our endless capacity for self-loathing"

Is it possible to form a relationship "on simple and understandable terms," to tap into this "unsuspected inner resource" without letting go of our low self regard?

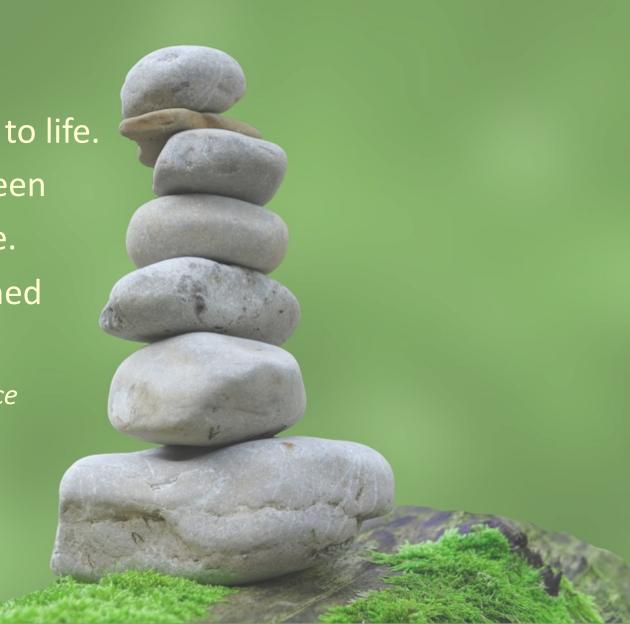


Main Obstacle: Determination.

The grim resolve
that I can do something
about everything.



...a profound alteration in our reaction to life. Such a change could hardly have been brought about by ourselves alone. Nor could it have been accomplished by years of self-discipline. -Alcoholics Anonymous, Spiritual Experience



Learn to feel compassion for my former self (process starts in 4-7)

Learn feel compassion for others (process starts in 8-9)

Practice receiving compassion from God (Step 11 – Centering Prayer)

Practice compassionate attention for others (Step 12)

Practice compassionate attention to myself (through all of this) - School of Love

Difficult to regard myself with compassion until I start to see others as God sees me

Surrender is the only spiritual disposition where we can be open to receiving God's love

