

Opening Script (Closed Meetings) Updated May 9, 2024

## [Do not read any of the red instructions out loud]

Ask members to obtain the readings prior to the meeting: The latest version of this document, the AA Preamble, How It Works, The 12 Steps, and The 12 Traditions [when it is a Tradition meeting.] These and all readings can be found on our website at <a href="https://www.thereisasolution.ca">www.thereisasolution.ca</a>

- 1) Please help us open the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. (Here members read the Preamble, How It Works, the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions [when it is a Tradition meeting])
- 2) Thank you for helping us open the meeting my name is \_ and I am an alcoholic.
- 3) This is a closed meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. In keeping with our singleness of purpose, attendance at a closed meeting is limited to people who have a desire to stop drinking.
- 4) AA's Seventh Tradition states: "Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." There Is A Solution now accepts e-Transfers to <a href="mailto:thereisasolutioncommittee@gmail.com">thereisasolutioncommittee@gmail.com</a>

5) If there are any newcomers or visitors to There Is a Solution, welcome! Is anyone here for their first AA Meeting? (If yes, have a newcomer meeting.)

Finally, anyone requiring proof of attendance at this meeting, please keep your camera on the entire meeting and send a private chat message to the host with contact details or stay behind following the meeting.

- 6) Please add an "asterisk" before your name if you are a member of *There is a Solution Group* and are willing to act as a temporary sponsor.
- 7) If you are around people who are not members of AA, please wear headphones or head to a space where you can be alone.
- 8) Following are a few guidelines for the meeting:
  - The chairperson will call on people to share.
  - Turn off your video if you need to move around.
  - Please mute your microphone when you are not the designated speaker.
  - Please use the chat respectfully.
  - Please be mindful of not using profanity during your share.
  - It is this group's conscience that if any person endangers another individual or disrupts the group's efforts to carry A.A.'s message, the group may ask that person to leave the meeting.



 Please keep your sharing brief so that everyone may have a chance to share. Meetings are 1 hour long. (except for the Big Book Study – Sunday 9:30 am)

# (Read topic from AA approved literature and pass out for sharing.)

# Closing Script – (Closed Meetings)

- 1) We recognize sobriety milestones here at *There is A Solution*:
  - 1 6 days
  - 1 to 3 weeks
  - 1 to 11 months
  - Number of years

Is anyone celebrating a sobriety milestone they would like recognized? Wait for it...

- 2) There is a Solution strongly believes in the primary purpose of carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic, and sponsorship is a vital part of the program. Please speak to the chairperson after the meeting if you want to talk about getting a sponsor.
- 3) If you have 3 months of sobriety and are interested in chairing a meeting, please sign in 10 minutes prior to the meeting with a reading prepared or, speak to the host after the meeting if there are any questions.
- 4) We have Zoom meetings at 9:30 AM and 7:30 PM seven days a week.

5) Please announce service opportunities and other meeting announcements listed below.

## **Announcements:**

- If you wish to do outside service, There Is a Solution has members chairing at AFM and HSC - you do NOT need one year of sobriety as you will be joining someone with one year of sobriety. Contact info on our website under the 'Group Service Opportunity" tab.
- There Is a Solution Group now has a speaker meeting on the last Friday of the month at 7:30 pm. May Speaker is Patrick D. If you are interested in doing a speaker meeting and have 1 year of sobriety, please send an email to thereisasolutioncommittee@gmail.com, attention Steve.
- Steinbach Auto City Group is having a "Potluck Supper and Speaker May 11<sup>th</sup>, The Friends of Bill and Bob Golf Tournament Will be held on Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup> and The Sioux Lookout New Lookout Group's 50<sup>th</sup> AA Fish Fry is on July 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>. See the "AA Event Tab" on our website for details on all of these events.
- 6) Are there any more announcements for the good of A.A? (Wait...)
- 7) I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand

of AA always to be there. And for that I am responsible.

What you hear here,

Whom you see here,

Let it remain here,

When you leave here! [Group Response: "Hear, hear!"]

8) (Pick a prayer of your choice from the list below):

For those who would, please help me close this meeting with (Prayer Name).

- The Lord's Prayer
- Acceptance Prayer
- Third Step Prayer
- Seventh Step Prayer
- Tenth Step Prayer
- Saint Francis Prayer
- The Pirate's Prayer



### Saint Francis Prayer

Lord, make me a channel of Thy peace; that where there is hatred, I may bring love; that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness; that where there is discord, I may bring harmony; that where there is error, I may bring truth; that where there is doubt, I may bring faith; that where there is despair, I may bring hope; that where there are shadows, I may bring light; that where there is sadness, I may bring joy.

Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort, than to be comforted; to understand, than to be understood; to love, than to be loved.

For it is by self forgetting, that one finds.
It is by forgiving, that one is forgiven.
It is by dying, that one awakens to Eternal Life.

Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

## The Pirate's Prayer

Whatever your race is,
Or your colour or creed
Whatever your faith is
It's the same colour we bleed.
So may Grace be your Harbour
And Higher Power, your true north
Let Faith be your Anchor
And make Love your home port.



#### Third Step Prayer

God,
I offer myself to Thee
To build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt.
Relieve me of the bondage of self,
that I may better do Thy will.
Take away my difficulties,
that victory over them may bear witness
to those I would help of Thy Power,
Thy Love and Thy Way of Life.
May I do Thy will always!

#### **Acceptance Prayer**

Acceptance is the answer to all my problems today. When I am disturbed, it is because I find some person, place, thing, or situation -some fact of my lifeunacceptable to me, and I can find no serenity until I accept that person, place, thing, or situation as being exactly the way it is supposed to be at this moment. Nothing, absolutely nothing happens in God's world by mistake. Until I could accept my alcoholism, I could not stay sober; unless I accept life completely on life's terms, I cannot be happy. I need to concentrate not so much on what needs to be changed in the world as on what needs to be changed in me and in my attitude.

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#### **Tenth Step Prayer**

I pray I may continue:
To grow in understanding and effectiveness;
To take daily spot check inventories of myself;
To correct mistakes when I make them;
To take responsibility for my actions;
To be ever aware of my negative and
Self-defeating attitudes and behaviors;
To keep my willfulness in check;
To always remember I need Your help;
To keep love & tolerance of others as my code; and
To continue in daily prayer how I can best serve You,
My Higher Power.