

SAL Women's 12 Step In-Person Script

Welcome to this SAL Women's 12 Step Betrayal Trauma Recovery Meeting. Please silence your cell phones. We hope that in this group you will find the help and friendship that we have been privileged to enjoy. My name is _____. I am serving as the Group Moderator, and I am here working my own recovery.

SAL 12 Step recovery groups believe that God is at the center of personal recovery from betrayal trauma. James 5:16 will be our guide as we "pray one for another, that [we] may be healed". Will someone please volunteer to say a prayer from the heart?

The only requirement to be part of this group is that you are over 18 years of age, and there is a *problem of sexual addiction in a spouse, ex., relative or friend*. We understand—as perhaps few can—the pain, loneliness, and frustration that have brought us all together. We are a group of women who serve one another by sharing our experience, strength, and hope, as we recover from the effects that another person's sex addiction has had upon us. By so doing, we are recovering individuals and healing families.

Is there anyone here for the first time?

Welcome! We recognize how hard it is for some to join us and we are so grateful you are here! You will have an opportunity to introduce yourself shortly and there will be time after the meeting for any questions you may have.

We encourage you to go to sal12step.org to purchase the study materials for this program and find additional tools to help you in your recovery.

SAL Women's 12 Step Betrayal Trauma Recovery Groups utilize the *S-Anon Twelve Step Book* and *Working the S-Anon Program* as our primary study materials as we work the 12 steps. These books are not produced by S.A. Lifeline. We make no claim to their authorship and gladly abide by their copyright. Another way to work the 12 Steps is to enroll in the SAL Women's 12 Step Curriculum online at sal12step.org.

Will someone please briefly share what first brought them to SAL 12 Step meetings and what keeps them coming back? (2-3 minutes) (Thank the sharer).

1. SERENITY PRAYER

Will those who care to, please join us in the Serenity Prayer?

*God grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change
Courage to change the things I can
And the wisdom to know the difference*

*Living one day at a time
Enjoying one moment at a time
Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is
Not as I would have it*

*Trusting that You will make all things right
If I surrender to Your Will
That I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with You forever in the next.
Thy will, not mine be done.*

2. OPENING READINGS

The Twelve Steps are the foundation of our personal growth and recovery. The principles of the Twelve Steps are universal and applicable to all of us, regardless of our various beliefs. When practiced as a way of life, these spiritual principles help us to meet and rise above all difficulties in our lives—not just those associated with living with or having lived with sexual addiction.

We will now read (from *Working the S-Anon Program*):

- *The Twelve Steps of S-Anon (p.121)*
- *The S-Anon Problem (p.125)*
- *Keys to S-Anon Recovery (p.128)*

3. INTRODUCTIONS

We will now take a few minutes to introduce ourselves by first name only and state our steps worked and contacts made. A contact is reaching out to your sponsor or another woman who is working her own recovery. We recognize each of us is on our own journey to healing. As we introduce ourselves, we place no judgment or comparison, and always have the option to pass. I will begin and we will go around the room to my left.

My name is _____. I am working on step _____ and made _____ contacts this week.

4. PHONE LIST

We will now pass around the phone list. The purpose of the phone list is to give everyone an opportunity to reach out in times of need. Putting your name and phone number on the phone list is optional. We will pass the list around a second time so you can get information to contact members during the week.

5. SPONSORS

In this program, we work the 12 steps of S-Anon with a sponsor. We have found that connection is crucial to our recovery. We strongly encourage each person here to find a sponsor as soon as possible. Sponsors are members of the group who also have a sponsor, are working the steps and are willing to share their experience, strength and hope with

other members of the group. They help guide our step work and encourage us to keep moving forward in recovery.

Would someone briefly share how sponsorship has helped them this week?

6. DONATIONS

This SAL group has no dues or fees but is fully self-supporting through our own contributions. Donated funds cover the cost of activities for the group. If you are a newcomer, we ask that you not contribute. This is our gift to you, welcome!

You may also contribute online through sal12step.org or salifeline.org.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Are there announcements or items of business?

**If your group has 20 or more people regularly attending, please read the following:*

We have found that SAL meetings are most effective when groups consist of 20 people or less. Because our meeting is reaching this limit, we would like to invite each of you to consider being a part of the "Key 3" group of members who will start a new meeting. To start a new meeting, we need 3 people who meet the following criteria:

- 6 months attending SAL meetings.
- 6 months of working the steps with a sponsor.
- At least one person having worked through Step 3 with a sponsor and working on Step 4.

As it says in Step 12: '...to keep what we have found, we have to continue appreciating the gift and giving it away.'

If you are interested in starting a new meeting and meet the 'Key 3' criteria, please speak with me after the meeting today."

8. STEP STUDY OR TOPIC STUDY

(For step study, read out of approved material and discuss. For topic study, someone from the group presents on a related topic with group participation.)

We will end our discussion at ___ for adequate time to share (1/2 hour before the end of the meeting).

9. SHARING (MODERATORS READ SLOWLY)

Now it is time to share our personal experience, strength, and hope. We ask that you follow these guidelines: (Explain or expand as needed.)

- There is no cross talk. We do not interrupt others or comment directly about what they share.
- We do not give advice or gossip. We talk in the "I" and "me," not the "you" or "we" forms, speaking ONLY from our own experience.

- For the safety of our meeting, this is not the time to share graphic details of our loved one's addiction. We share from a recovery point-of-view. The emphasis should be on honesty, recovery, and healing—how to apply the Twelve Steps in our daily lives.
- Shares may include personal religious experiences; however, proselyting is not appropriate. Respect of all religious beliefs is fundamental to group unity.
- If you feel that something is said that is inappropriate, please raise your hand and the person sharing may change the subject or end sharing.
- Please respect the time allowed for sharing. 2-3 minutes is generally a reasonable time, which will allow others to have an opportunity.
- We will conclude sharing at _____. I will start the sharing.

10. WEEKLY COMMITMENT

It is now time to close the meeting. We encourage everyone in the group to contact other members during the week.

We are here seeking our own recovery. 'It works when I work it,' so how will I work it? We will now take 1 minute and silently consider our personal commitment to recovery and write down our recovery goals for the next week. Example: What steps I will work, calls I will make, daily prayer, and a commitment to surrender my will and my life over to the care of God as I understand Him.

<Wait silently for one minute>

11. CLOSING REMINDER

This is an anonymous program. We ask all members to respect our anonymity. The stories you hear are told in confidence and should not be repeated outside this meeting. They are told so that we might better understand this program and ourselves, and to give encouragement and help to newcomers, so we may keep what we have been given. *Who you see here, what is said here, let it stay here.*

12. CLOSING READINGS

We will now read (from *Working the S-Anon Program*):

- *Gifts of the S-Anon Program (p.131)*
- Group stands in a circle and recites in unison:
"Keep coming back! It works when I work it! and I am worth it!"

13. PRAYER

Will someone volunteer to say a prayer from the heart?