

Tuesday 5:30 pm (Pacific) OA Meeting

“Welcome to the Tuesday 5:30 pm meeting of Overeaters Anonymous. My name is _____. I am a compulsive eater and your leader for this meeting.”

“Will those who wish, please join me in the Serenity Prayer: *God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.*”

To preserve our eleventh tradition of anonymity, we request no recording or screenshots of any kind at this meeting, no screen display of last names and we suggest your video to remain on. If others can hear what is being said, please use headphones.

“Are there any compulsive eaters here besides myself? “Is there anyone here for the first, second, or third time? Would you please tell us your first name so we can welcome you? If you are returning to OA or are visiting from another area, please tell us your first name so we can also welcome you.” [Welcome each person by name.]

“We encourage you to:

- get a sponsor to help guide your recovery;
- develop a plan of eating and, if you wish, write it down and report daily to your sponsor; and
- read OA-approved literature to develop a working knowledge of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.”

“Would someone please volunteer to read the OA Preamble?”

“The following is the OA Preamble:

Overeaters Anonymous is a Fellowship of individuals who, through shared

experience, strength, and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating. We welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees for members; we are self-supporting through our own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. OA is not affiliated with any public or private organization, political movement, ideology, or religious doctrine; we take no position on outside issues. Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors and to carry the message of recovery through the Twelve Steps of OA to those who still suffer.

“Would someone please read the 12 Steps of Overeaters Anonymous?”

TWELVE STEPS

1. We admitted we were powerless over food — 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.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to compulsive overeaters and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

“Would someone please read the 12 Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous?”

TWELVE TRADITIONS

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon OA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority — a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.
6. An OA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the OA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every OA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence, the OA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television and other public media of communication.

12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all these Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

“Thank you” Here are THE DEFINITIONS OF **ABSTINENCE** AND **RECOVERY** IN OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS:

1. Abstinence: The act of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight.

2. Recovery: Removal of the need to engage in compulsive eating behaviors. Spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery is achieved through working and living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Step program.”

TOOLS: “The OA Tools of Recovery help us work the Steps and refrain from compulsive overeating. The nine Tools are: a plan of eating, sponsorship, meetings, telephone, writing, literature, an action plan, anonymity, and service. For more information, read The Tools of Recovery pamphlet.”

SPONSORS: “Sponsorship is one of our keys to success. To find a sponsor, look for someone who has what you want and ask how he or she is achieving it. Will all abstinent sponsors please identify themselves by placing your name and phone number in the chat?

MEETING FORMAT: This is a literature meeting. We alternate between the Body Image, Relationships and Sexually book and the OA 12x12. We encourage all members to bring their books and participate. Each person may choose to read or pass. Each reader is asked to read a paragraph or two. We will read until approximately 6 pm and then open the meeting for sharing.

- On the 1st Tuesday of the month we read from the Body Image book
- On the 2nd Tuesday we read the Step that corresponds to the month
- On the 3rd Tuesday we read from the Body Image book

- On the 4th Tuesday we read the Tradition that corresponds to the

month

- On the 5th Tuesday we read from the Body Image book

(After the reading is done) We are now open for sharing on what has been read. This meeting discourages feedback, cross talk and advice giving. Cross talk during an OA meeting is giving advice to others who have already shared, speaking directly to another person rather than to the group, and questioning or interrupting the person actively sharing.

Who would like to begin sharing? If you would like to share, simply unmute yourself and begin sharing.

At approximately 6:25 pm: “It is now time to begin our closing. Thank you to all who are here tonight.”

SEVENTH TRADITION: “According to our Seventh Tradition, we are self-supporting through our own contributions. We encourage OA members to give as much as they are able, to help our group be self-supporting. Contributions can be made at <https://www.desertoa.org/donate.html> [put into chat]

REPORTS: [Secretary, InterGroup, Treasurer]

CLOSING: “By following the Twelve Steps, attending meetings regularly, and using the OA Tools, we are changing our lives. You will find hope and encouragement in Overeaters Anonymous. To the newcomer, we suggest attending at least six different meetings to learn the many ways OA can help you. The opinions expressed here today are those of individual OA members and do not represent OA as a whole. Please remember our commitment to honor each other’s anonymity. Whom you see here, What you hear here, When you leave here, Let it stay here. Let us all reach out by phone or email to newcomers, returning members, and each other. Together we get better.

“Thank you for asking me to be your leader. We encourage rotation of

service at this meeting. ***Who would be willing to serve as our leader next week?***

After a moment of silence, who would be willing to say the OA responsibility pledge and the prayer of your choice? We ask that everyone else remain muted. Thank you.”

OA Responsibility Pledge

Always to extend the hand and heart of OA to all who share my compulsion; for this I am responsible.

[Select one of the following suggested closings: Serenity Prayer, Seventh Step Prayer, Third Step Prayer, or the OA Promise ‘I put my hand in yours....’]