

New Waters Recovery Explores the Purpose of AA Prayers in Addiction Recovery

RALEIGH, NC, UNITED STATES, June 5, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- New Waters Recovery & Detox North Carolina, we understand that successful recovery is more than just detox or therapy—it's also about connecting to a deeper sense of purpose, surrender, and commitment. One of the most enduring sources of that connection for millions in recovery is the use of AA prayers—timeless affirmations of hope, healing, and humility that support individuals through the 12-step process.

What Are AA Prayers and Why Do They Matter?

Much of the heart of Alcoholics
Anonymous (AA) is found in The Big
Book, which shares the stories of the
first 100 individuals to achieve sobriety
using the 12 steps. Within these steps
are prayers—tools designed to
increase self-awareness, promote
mindfulness, and replace self-centered
thinking with a focus on service and
personal growth.



New Waters Recovery & Detox North Carolina



New Waters Recovery Building

These prayers, including the widely known Serenity Prayer, help individuals stay grounded and focused as they navigate the ups and downs of early recovery. They are often used to open or close meetings, serve as daily affirmations, and reinforce the mindset needed to maintain sobriety.

Control vs. Surrender: Finding the Balance

While AA emphasizes surrender—acknowledging one's powerlessness over addiction—it also calls for deep personal responsibility. As The Big Book states in Chapter 5:

"Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path."
This clarifies that successful recovery involves both surrender and effort. AA prayers are not magical incantations—they are tools to cultivate willingness, self-honesty, and transformation. The real power lies in the individual's commitment to applying them.

Examples of AA Prayers Here are just a few of the meaningful prayers found in AA literature: 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."

Third Step Prayer (Big Book, p. 63): "God, I offer myself to Thee—to build with me and do with me as Thou wilt..."



New Waters Entrance



Seventh Step Prayer (Big Book, p. 76):

"My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad..."

These prayers are not simply recited—they are lived, guiding individuals through introspection, forgiveness, accountability, and action.

Secular Options & Accessibility

Although AA originated from a Christian context, The Big Book includes specific guidance for agnostics in Chapter 4. Many participants redefine their "Higher Power" in a way that aligns with personal belief systems—whether it's nature, spirit, the universe, or collective human wisdom. Books like The Little Book: The Alternative 12 Steps offer secular interpretations to make these principles more accessible to non-religious participants.

Breaking Myths About AA Prayer

Myth: AA prayers are a "magic bullet" for recovery

Truth: They are tools for commitment and change—not a replacement for evidence-based

treatment.

Myth: You can replace treatment with AA meetings

Truth: AA and professional treatment work best together, offering structure, support, and daily

accountability.

Myth: AA is only for religious people

Truth: AA embraces a variety of spiritual and secular interpretations, making it accessible for

everyone.

Why New Waters Recovery is the Best First Step

Addiction is complex and often intertwined with deep-seated emotional and psychological wounds. At New Waters Recovery, we believe in starting recovery with a clear mind, full assessment, and compassionate care. That's why our programs include:

Supervised Medical Detox

Safe, 24/7 care with medication-assisted treatment and holistic therapies

Comprehensive Mental Health Evaluation

A full 7-day psychological assessment to uncover trauma, co-occurring disorders, and root causes of addiction

Personalized Aftercare Planning

Placement in the most appropriate next level of care—residential treatment, IOP, sober living, and beyond

About New Waters Recovery

Founded in 2022, New Waters Recovery is a premier detox and mental health assessment center in Raleigh, NC. With a focus on integrated care and lasting outcomes, we blend evidence-based treatment with spiritual, emotional, and psychological support—including respect for programs like AA and the powerful role of prayer in recovery.

Contact Information:

New Waters Recovery 3810 Bland Rd, Suite B, Raleigh, NC 27609

Phone: (984) 203-7955

Email: info@newwatersrecovery.com Website: <u>www.newwatersrecovery.com</u>

Admissions Office

New Waters Recovery & Detox North Carolina +1 (984) 203-7955 email us here Visit us on social media: LinkedIn Instagram Facebook YouTube

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