

Welcome To
Celebrate Recovery
Sponsor
(April 29, 2009)

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Celebrate Recovery
Sponsor/ Accountability Partners
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A. Review

B. Why Do I Need a Sponsor and Accountability Partners?

1. The first reason - other people multiply our efforts.

"Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; they get a better return for their labor." Ecclesiastes 4:9.

2. The second reason - other people help us correct our bad behavior.

"As iron sharpens iron, a friend sharpens a friend." Proverbs 27:17.

3. A third reason - other people help us love other people.

"Share each other's troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ". Galatians 6:2.

"I command you to love each other in the same way I love you." John 15:12.

4. The fourth reason - other people help us heal.

"Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results." James 5:16.

5. The fifth reason - other people help prevent relapses.

"It is better to be criticized by a wise person than to be praised by a fool." Ecclesiastes 7:5.

C. How to evaluate someone for the position of Sponsor or Accountability

Partner.

"But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law." Galatians 5:22.

E. How do I Find a Sponsor or Accountability Partner?

Sponsor Evaluation Questions

- i. Does the person walk their talk?
 - a. In others words, do they follow their own advice?
 - b. Are they worthy of imitation?
 - c. What is their lifestyle?
 - d. Do they really try to do what the Lord commands?
 - e. How do they deal with their sin?

- ii. Do they have a growing relationship with Christ?

- a. How do you know?
- b. By observation.
- c. Do they exhibit Christ-like character?
- d. Christ like character is described in Galatians 5:22.

"But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law."

- e. Jesus possessed all these fruits in full measure.
- f. A person who exhibits Christ like character exhibits these same fruits.

- iii. Do they desire to help others?

- a. Not as co-dependents, but in a healthy way.
 - b. What's a co-dependent?
 - c. It's a person who takes on others' problems and tries to fix them.
- iv. Are they compassionate and caring?
- a. Extend empathy but not pity.
 - b. Empathy is when we feel other people's pain.
 - c. Pity is when we look down on people who are in pain.
 - d. Do they offer sound, Biblical suggestions?
 - e. Are they good listeners?
 - f. Can they confront when necessary?
 - g. Will they open up about their own struggles?
 - h. Are they transparent?

Sponsor Qualities Questions

1. Are they are personal?
 - a. Do they share personal experiences when applicable?
 - b. Do they model the principles of recovery?
 - c. You can find out a lot by asking them to tell you about their recovery.
 - d. In other words ask them to give you their testimony.
2. Are they available? In other words do they have the time?
3. Can they coach?
 - a. What does a coach do?
 - b. Coaches observe and correct performance.
 - c. They point toward excellence and measure progress.
 - d. They help when you are stuck.
 - e. They slow you down when you are going too fast.
 - f. How do you know this when you are evaluating a candidate?
 - g. You don't.
 - h. However, if someone has already been through the program, they are going to know that this is a vital function that they will have to perform.

4. You can fire your Sponsor or Accountability Partner.

- a. These are not life time positions.
- b. If for some reason they are not meeting requirements you can get someone else.
- c. They can quit too.