



Guidelines for the 5th Step

Thank you for serving the Lord by helping others in their recovery and to grow spiritually. We appreciate you coming in to help our guests with the 5th Step. Please get in contact with one of the 12 Step Group Leaders:

- If you have any questions, problems or concerns.
- If suicide is ever mentioned, we are required to report this to our outreach pastor. Go directly to Kay or Diane to let them know.
- As with the confidentiality of a prayer partner, anything that is shared in this meeting must not be shared with anyone else, including your spouse.

Please keep in mind that completing Step 5 takes a lot of courage. You have been chosen to help with this step because of your ability to reach out to others with Christ's love. Here is some information to help you make the person completing step 5 feel more comfortable.

- 1 John 1:9: **But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.**
- Introduce yourself and greet the person warmly. Let them know that whatever is shared here will be held in the strictest confidence. We love you and God loves you so much.
- Open in prayer: Ask God to give them the willingness and strength to be open and share all their experiences and not to hold anything back.
- If the person is uneasy at some point, it is okay to share your personal strengths and weaknesses and what God has done for you in your life. Remember to keep it short—no leads or mini-leads. You are here to hear them!
- If someone has shoplifted 100 times, they don't need to list every time they shoplifted and where. If they stole from a family member, they should say that but you may not remember every item. In their heart they are saying what they did.
- Watch your time frame and close in prayer.
- Encourage them to take time for peace and rest after completing step 5. They will need some meditation/quiet time. Ask them to reflect on making sure that they have done all 5 steps to the best of their ability to this point.
- Ask them to go back to class and send the next person for their appointment.