

Restoring Hope Group of McKinney, TX (RHG) Opening/Closing Script (Hybrid Meeting)

OPENING:

Hello everyone, and welcome to the Restoring Hope Group Big Book study meeting. My name is _____, and I'm a sex addict. _____ will be our facilitator today. On Zoom, please keep your microphone muted unless you're reading or sharing, please turn on your video, and if you're not local to McKinney, Texas, add your city after your first name, and last initial.

RHG is an open meeting, so anyone interested in learning more about SAA is welcome. Your anonymity will be protected, and we ask that you protect ours. If anyone does not identify as a sex addict or is a guest, please raise your hand, or if on Zoom, identify yourself so we can talk with you briefly outside the meeting. **(Pause)**

You will need a Big Book for this meeting. If you do not have one, we have books available for loan during the meeting, and a link to a digital copy is available in the Zoom meeting chat.

Let's have a moment for silent meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. **(Pause 3-5 Seconds)**

"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

We, of Sex Addicts Anonymous, have recovered from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body. To show other sex addicts precisely how we have recovered is the main purpose of this book, and this group.

RHG would like to recognize those who have reached milestones in their pursuit of sobriety. Is anyone celebrating a monthly or annual sobriety date? **(Pause so the facilitator can give a chip to people celebrating milestones. We have chips for 1, 2, 3, 6, and 9 months, and yearly)**

Do we have anyone joining the group for the first time today? **(Pause)**

(If yes) Welcome _____. When people who are new to our group are present, we spend the first 15 minutes talking through a diagram we call the Foundation, which will introduce you to the disease of addiction as described by the original Twelve Step text. _____ will now take a moment to go through this with the group. **(Turn over to Trusted Servant for Foundation presentation)**

To begin our study, we are going to review and comment on an SAA tradition on page 563. After that, we will be using the Big Book Study Guide prepared by members of the Dallas Primary Purpose Group of SAA. We'll briefly pause from time to time for members to comment about insights and directions for working the steps, as instructed in those paragraphs of the Big Book. All comments based on other literature, speakers, programs, religion, or therapy are considered outside issues, and better suited for discussion after the meeting or with your sponsor.

If you are not working the twelve steps with a sponsor or are new to recovery, we invite you to just listen. Please discuss with your sponsor whether you are ready to start sharing.

Today's tradition is _____. Who would like to volunteer to read the long and short form starting on page 563, and make a quick comment? **(Pause)**

We will begin our study on page _____. Can I get a volunteer to read, while I turn it over to our facilitator today?

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CLOSING: (Start reading 5-7 minutes before end of meeting)

This concludes our study for today. An important symbol of our willingness is a desire chip that signifies our desire to stop addictive sexual behaviors for good and for all, though we stay sober just one day at a time. If you are new, we encourage you to take this chip today. Is there anyone here that would like to begin your journey, or recommit to sobriety? **(Pause)**

Attending a twelve step meeting should not be confused with working a twelve step program with a sponsor. Will those of you who have taken these steps by the direction of the Big Book, been blessed with a Spiritual Awakening, and have the willingness to work with others, please raise your hand so that those looking for a sponsor can see to whom they can entrust their lives? To those who are new, we strongly suggest you get at least a temporary sponsor before leaving. You can change sponsors at any time. Please connect with any of them after the meeting if you would like to talk.

Our group suggests a \$2 donation to help carry the SAA message. **(Pass the pouch)** If this is your first meeting, please be our guest. Please see the chat for PayPal details on how to donate if you're on Zoom.

Who would like to volunteer next week for Greeter in the room? Greeter on Zoom? Open and Close? Facilitator? Present the Foundation if needed.. In the room? On Zoom? **(Give recorders enough time to get names)**

If you are new, we are glad you are here and hope you will come back and become part of our lives. Please remember that we express our desire to recover from sex addiction by working all twelve steps with a sponsor, not by how many meetings we attend. We would love for you to leave us your contact information so we can connect and get to know you, whether in person, or on Zoom.

Many of us meet for in person fellowship, before and after the meetings, and throughout the week. We would love to have you join us. Locations and times will be posted in the Zoom chat.

Would any sponsors like to introduce any new members? **(Pause)**
Are there any SAA announcements? **(Pause)**
Are there any prayer requests? **(Pause)**

“Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to Him and your fellows. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny. May God bless you and keep you until then.”

-Big Book page 164

Please join us in the Lord's prayer:

“Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!”