

What is the Price that is Paid for Addiction and Recovery?

We know the price of addiction. Any of us can recall the history of our past and see the wreckage of our addiction, which is the price we paid thus far. For if we are not forgiving, yielding, and surrendering to our addictions, then perhaps we are not finished.

The price of recovery is in part our price of addiction, but more so, the admission of powerlessness and the unmanageable of our lives in thought and actions. Recovery is also the need to have a Spiritual experience as a solution.

To accept the Spiritual solution and work we have to clear the path to G-d because it is blocked. Blocked by our addiction in thought and actions. Accepting this means working through the process of the 12 Steps. It means accepting the solution of the book "Alcoholic's Anonymous" in its entirety. The solution of the Big Book proposes radical changes in body, mind and spirit. Although it appears difficult, the process is simple. It is the view of the addict that perceives it as insurmountable. However, once the process is begun and taken to its end, the price seems quite small for the blessings of rebirth. The price of maintenance of a spiritual solution is the real price.

Just because we have become recovered from addiction by a Spiritual solution does not mean we are cured. The recovered person must continue to maintain the cleared path to their Higher Power(s). This means constant vigilance and pursuing the work necessary. Steps 10 & 11 provide the constant connective avenue for the recovered addict.

The 12th Step is vital because failure to pass this on to another makes the process of recovery nothing. The point is to live on a spiritual basis: not to settle for spiritual progress. The goal is spiritual perfection. The price is to continuously pursue this. To know that it is very unlikely that we will reach it but we must reach for the stars, for we are not second class citizens because we are addicts. We deserve that best and we can have it if we are willing to have a relationship with G-d and have a Spiritual experience.