



AMP Recovery

AMP Men's Recovery FACILITATOR TRAINING MANUAL

Version 1.0 HDH/DP

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Introduction

Thank you for answering the Lord's call to become a leader in this Ministry! Without individuals like you, this much needed ministry would not be able to be a success, we are honored to have you join us in helping men in the fight for sexual purity.

As Christians, we must strive for purity in all aspects of our lives, particularly in the realm of sexual purity. This is a program for individuals who want it, not for those who need it. Our success will become evident by individuals like you choosing to step up and agree to be trained to lead AMR meetings. Further our ongoing success is made possible by you reviewing these training materials and leading your own meeting.

With the healing of our wounds comes a desire for us to help others in their recovery journey just like we were helped. This is at the core of our continued success in recovery and represents our 12th Step. Leading meetings is an important part of this process and being properly trained and equipped to lead meetings is vital to the success of any healthy recovery program. Proper training and accountability are part of being a leader in a Christ-centered ministry such as AMR.

As Christians we are called to a higher purpose than those of secular support groups. We must follow certain spiritual truths as written in scripture on how Christians should conduct their activities, including leading Christian recovery groups. Remember, we do not serve man when we lead a meeting, we serve the Lord. God will call the willing and this training manual will help equip the called. We equip or train those by using scriptural truths in this training: All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the servant of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17) If you are reading this training manual, there is a good chance that you have been called by God to lead an AMR meeting. This does not mean that you can only be called before taking the training. This call may occur while you are reading this material or going through the training program. Regardless, when you are ready, God will call you into service. Please do not ignore this call!



AMR Facilitator Requirements:

In order to be an AMR Facilitator you must have:

1. Given your First Step in an AMR Support Meeting
2. Completed AMR Facilitators Training
3. Be an active member of AMR:
 - Be on AMP Recovery GroupMe
 - Be on AMR Facilitator GroupMe
 - Attending, on average, 1 Support Meeting a week.
 - Be in, have scheduled, or completed a Step-Study or an individual sponsored 12 step program.

AMP Men's Recovery's (AMR) Guiding Principles

We are a parachurch ministry organization. This means that we are a Christian faith-based organization, started by apostolic men, that works outside and across denominational lines to engage in social welfare and evangelism. We seek to come alongside the church, particularly apostolic churches, and specialize in programs that generally fall outside the programs or competencies of local churches.

The primary mission of AMR is to help apostolic and other men fight for sexual purity. Our primary methods are "support" and "growth" group meetings that are based on the 12 Steps. We believe that the 12 Steps are rooted in Biblical principles and that Jesus Christ is our highest power in achieving sexual purity. As such, we expect that most men in the program will encounter Jesus as they work their recovery.

The following principles help guide the ministry of AMR and its leaders.

1. AMR is a ministry of rigorous honesty – truth. Honesty is always more important than sobriety.
2. AMR is a ministry of those called into service.
3. AMR's primary purpose is serving the Lord by helping individuals fight for sexual purity.
4. AMR is a ministry led by a loving God as expressed through servant leaders and other volunteers.
5. AMR is self-supporting, never dependent on outside contributions.
6. AMR should forever remain non-professional and led by servant volunteers; however, our service center may employ special workers as needed.
7. AMR has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AMR name should never be drawn into public controversy. Furthermore, AMR should never endorse, finance, or lend the AMR name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
8. AMR attendance is based on attraction rather than promotion. Word of mouth and non-professional advertising is always preferred and encouraged.
9. It is AMR's foundation to always place the principle of fighting for sexual purity over individual personalities from group members down to leadership. Therefore, we are to remain anonymous to those outside of our group and downplay our worldly status and prestige to those within the group.
10. AMR is a ministry of inclusion. Any individual who is fighting for sexual purity is welcome to any meeting.
11. AMR is a ministry of good works as a result of us working alongside the Spirit of God.
12. AMR is a ministry of unity. Our common welfare comes first. The needs of the whole should outweigh the needs of the few.

Detailed Description of AMR's Guiding Principles

Below is a detailed description of each of our twelve guiding principles. These principles are essential to the ministry maintaining its mission and its integrity.

1. AMR is a ministry of rigorous honesty – truth. Honesty is always more important than sobriety.

AMR preaches rigorous honesty above all else. Our disease thrives in secrecy, and we must be willing to admit our faults to God, ourselves, and others in order to maintain integrity in our lives and of the ministry. Honesty over sobriety is what we strive for. Sobriety from destructive behaviors will happen if we are honest about even our smallest struggles. There should never be a negative consequence by leadership for our confessed honesty; only the support and love of those around us to help us be restored from a slip or relapse. Fear, condemnation, and isolation do not help us recover. Love, acceptance, and community do.

Those of us who speak the truth and practice rigorous honesty are fulfilling the scriptures written below:

These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace; (Zechariah 8:16)

O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; (Psalm 15:1-2)

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. (Ephesians 4:25)

2. AMR is a ministry of those called into service.

AMR is led by men who have been prompted by the Spirit of God. This can be done in two particular ways; first, by a deep feeling of want to give back by leading as stirred by the Spirit of God and second, by a facilitator identifying a specific man to learn the ways of an AMR facilitator. We accept either way as a method God uses to call us into service. Called to service does not necessarily mean becoming a AMR facilitator. Other areas of service are volunteering to read the meeting script, interacting in the GroupMe account, being an Accountability Partner, Calling and checking on "Missing Persons", Being a Sponsor or as simple as being helpful. It can be comprised of various methods. Any way we feel called by the Spirit of God to serve the ministry is a right way.

Those of us who have been called into service are fulfilling the scriptures written below:

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: (1 Peter 4:10)

Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; (1 Peter 5:2)

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." (Isaiah 6:8)

3. AMR's primary purpose is serving the Lord by helping individuals fight for their sexual purity.

AMR's purpose is at the core of our mission, and we should never waver from this mission. Any activity that pulls us away from this primary purpose should be stopped. Any activity other than our primary purpose of serving the Lord by helping individuals fight for their sexual purity should always be placed second in our hearts and minds. The greater priority is the spread of the gospel through helping others, not the support of the ministry.

Biblical truths that reinforce the need for our primary purpose can be found below:

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

Only fear the LORD and serve Him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you. (1 Samuel 12:24)

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:37-39)

4. AMR is a ministry led by a loving God as expressed through His Word, leadership, and other volunteer servants.

AMR is led by the Lord through His Word and His Spirit, as it speaks through the leadership which oversees all ministry operations. We believe that AMR, being a para-church organization, should follow the hierarchy laid out in scripture. We are to be led by the Lord as He leads the AMR leaders to make decisions that bring glory to God and benefit the men who attend our meetings. All leaders of AMR are volunteer servants of Christ.

Biblical truths that reinforce our leadership structure can be found below:

And he put all things under his feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church. (Ephesians 1:22)

And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. (Colossians 1:18)

And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed. (Acts 14:23)

5. AMR is self-supporting, never dependent on outside contributions.

AMR is fully supported by the voluntary contributions of its own members. We believe that any public solicitation of funds using the AMR name is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, therapists, or other outside agencies. Furthermore, we believe that acceptance of large gifts from any source (including our own members) that carry any obligations whatsoever is unwise. Finally, it should be a concern if any AMR treasury continues to accumulate funds, beyond prudent reserves, for no stated AMR purpose. Experience has warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our ministry as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

Biblical truths that reinforce our financial structure can be found below:

Soon afterward He went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with Him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: ... who provided for them out of their means. (Luke 8:1-3)

Do not acquire gold, or silver, or copper for your money belts, or a bag for your journey, or even two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for the worker is worthy of his support. (Matthew 10:9-10)

And when I was with you and was in need, I did not burden anyone, for the brothers who came from Macedonia supplied my need. So I refrained and will refrain from burdening you in any way. (2 Corinthians 11:9)

*The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender. (Proverbs 22:7)
For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. (1 Timothy 6:10)*

6. AMR should forever remain non-professional and led by servant volunteers; however, our service center may employ special workers as needed.

AMR defines professionalism as the occupation of counseling persons for fees or hire. Professional counselors are allowed to lead groups and sponsor members if they do not refer men to their paid counseling practice or ask men to pay a fee for sponsoring them. All AMR leaders should remain as unpaid volunteers lest the leadership's primary purpose be swayed by financial ideals.

Nevertheless, AMR may employ members who possess skills needed by the ministry such as consulting, legal, accounting, or compliance. Nevertheless, our usual AMR "12 Step" work is never to be paid for.

Biblical truths that reinforce our volunteer servant leadership can be found below:

But love [everyone], and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most high... (Luke 6:35)

Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ. (Colossians 3:23-24)

God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them. (Hebrews 6:10)

7. AMR has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AMR name should never be drawn into public controversy. Furthermore, AMR should never endorse, finance, or lend the AMR name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

No member or leader of AMR should ever use the name of AMR to express any opinion on outside controversial issues – particularly those of politics, sexual addiction or pornography reform, or support of any Christian denomination above another. The ministry of AMR opposes no person, ideal, religion, or government. Furthermore, AMR does not endorse, finance, or lend the AMR name to any church, counseling group, rehabilitation facility, or business outside of AMR. Past experience has taught us that problems of money, property, and authority can divert us from our primary purpose. Therefore, AMR should never be a business nor sell products. All books and meeting products are by donation only. Any property acquired by the ministry should not use the AMR name so it can be easily discarded. Although AMR may cooperate or partner with other recovery ministries, it should not go as far as officially endorsing other ministries. AMR can bind itself to no one.

Biblical truths that reinforce our need to avoid public opinion and controversy can be found below:

But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the [Jewish] law, because these are unprofitable and useless. (Titus 3:9)

*They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. (1 Peter 3:11)
Don't let them waste their time in endless discussion of myths and spiritual pedigrees. These things only lead to meaningless speculations, which don't help people live a life of faith in God. (1 Timothy 1:4)*

8. AMR attendance is based on attraction rather than promotion. Word of mouth and non-professional advertising is always preferred and encouraged.

We believe AMR should avoid sensational advertising. Our names and photos as AMR members should not be broadcast publicly as we should remain anonymous in this respect. This includes using AMR members to promote AMR in a non-AMR public setting, particularly if said member has some “higher” status in society such as actors, musicians, or professional athletes. Attendance should be guided by the principle of attraction, word of mouth, rather than promotion, public advertisement. Nevertheless, public advertisement of the AMR name or mission, without the names or appearance of individual members, is not prohibited if done in the spirit of the 12th Step.

Biblical truths that reinforce our need to promote individually and avoid public promotion can be found below:

And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. (Matthew 6:5)



The tools of our trade aren't for marketing or manipulation, but they are for demolishing that entire massively corrupt culture. (2 Corinthians 10:4)

And the master said to the servant, "Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full..." (Luke 14:23)

9. It is AMR's foundation to always place the principle of fighting for sexual purity over individual personalities from group members down to leadership. Therefore, we are to remain anonymous to those outside of our group and downplay our worldly status and prestige to those within the group.

We are all one body of Christ. Therefore, we place our principle of fighting for sexual purity over individual personalities. One member of the group is not more important than another member and we must always remain humble in our recovery. We do this by remaining anonymous to those outside of the group and by downplaying our worldly status and prestige to those within the group.

Biblical truths that reinforce our need to act as one body and downplay our status can be found below:

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28)

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. (Romans 12:15-18)

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. (Romans 10:12)

10. AMR is a ministry of inclusion. Any individual who is fighting for sexual purity is welcome to any meeting.

AMR is a group open to any individual who struggles with any type of sexual purity issue. Anyone can start a "same sex only" group as the belief is that members of the opposite sex should not be in the same group meetings. Nevertheless, we are to include all individuals, of all races, of all religions, and of all sexual orientations into our groups. We love as Jesus loved and we are open to any individual who would like help restoring a Biblically based sexual purity in their life. No individual should be shut out, only their behavior. We are accepting of all, but never affirming of an individual's sexual sin.

Biblical truths that reinforce our need to include everyone can be found below:

So God create man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (Genesis 1:27)



For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:12)

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

11. AMR is a ministry of good works as a result of us working alongside the Spirit of God.

Working alongside the Spirit allows certain “fruits” to appear in our ministry and the lives of those who attend and lead AMR. This “fruit” is also known as “good works” or good deeds done in gratitude of God’s mercy and grace for us. Good works are not a prerequisite for our salvation but are a byproduct of our gratefulness for our salvation and freedom in recovery. Good works appear within us as we work our recovery program and seeing these good works appear bears evidence to the Spirit of God working within us and our ministry. Good works within us can appear as overcoming addictions, lives being restored, broken relationships mended, afflictions healed, marriages and relationships reconciled, and even people saved. We will always see good works as the Spirit of God penetrates the hearts of broken men and they successfully work their recovery program.

Biblical truths that reinforce the appearance of good works can be found below:

For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:8)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

12. AMR is a ministry of unity. Our common welfare comes first. The needs of the whole should outweigh the needs of the few.

We must all work together for a common goal. We are all one body in Christ and as one body we all have different parts. Each member of AMR is but a small part of the entire body. We must be cognizant of this idea that the whole of the ministry comes before our own personal goals or welfare. The needs of the overall ministry come before the needs of one group or one individual member. Nevertheless, after the needs of the ministry are met, the needs of the group or individual can be, and should be met. This should all be accomplished in a spirit of unity in the ministry but more importantly in Jesus Christ.

Biblical truths that reinforce the need for unity and common welfare can be found below:

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. (Romans 12:4-5)



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I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgement. (1 Corinthians 1:10)

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:7)

As previously stated, these principles are at the core of who we are and Who we represent, that is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is important that we all look to these principles when making decisions that affect or change the ministry and our goals.

Types of Groups

The definition of a group is a collection of two or more people who interact with one another, accept rights and obligations as members, and who share a common identity or purpose.

Keep in mind the words of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” (Matthew 18:20). It is important to realize that when we gather at AMP meetings, Jesus is there with us because, as a Christ-centered group, we gather in His name.

Groups are led by two core methods, command, and facilitation. Command groups use authoritative power whereas facilitation groups use group dynamics/members. Examples of command groups include the military, sports teams, government, or churches. Examples of facilitation groups are 12-step groups, non-profits, life groups, and other support groups. We specifically deal with facilitation groups in AMP.

Although there are a variety of group types in different organizations, there are essentially two types of groups that AMP deals with during the recovery process: **support groups** and **growth groups**.

Support Groups

Support groups are groups of comfort. As our 12th Step scripture states, Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves received from God. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). Typically, in these groups, an individual comes to share their life struggles with others, comment on topics presented, and listen to others share. In AMP support groups, no feedback is allowed during the meeting, but the individual sharing can request feedback on their specific situation be given after the meeting is over if they so choose. The members of the support group are there to support each other, find accountability partners, find a sponsor, or find a growth group that can help them in their recovery. All general AMP meetings are considered support groups.

Growth Groups

Growth groups are groups that utilize a program to promote change in the individual’s heart and mind. A growth group helps eliminate old false beliefs an individual has and replaces them with new beliefs. In the case of an AMP growth group, these new beliefs are replaced with Biblical truths. This scripture speaks to the growth aspect we seek. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. (1 Peter 1:6-7). In working through our trials, or in our case the 12 Steps and various exercises in the Castimonia book, we “suffer grief” through these exercises. Working through these exercises, in turn allows for growth by us praising God for His healing of our brokenness. A group dedicated to



working through the Castimonia book and the 12 Steps is considered an AMP growth group. This could be a large group of individuals or a meeting between a sponsor and Sponsee. In these growth groups feedback is given from the leader to the individuals and vice versa. However, the first meetings of the month step studies are not considered a growth group as there is no feedback given.

It is important to distinguish between these two types of groups and that these groups do not interfere with one another and the group members. In other words, we are not to change the rules and begin giving feedback during an AMP meeting. This could lead to member disillusionment and a feeling of lack of safety in these meetings thus destroying the meeting. Feedback should only be given outside of the meeting time and only after permission has been requested and given by the individual. This is essential to growth for a proper and safe recovery meeting.

Facilitator Do's and Don'ts List

In this section a list of facilitators' do's and don'ts is presented so that there is accountability for AMR facilitators and that all facilitators know what is to be expected of them. This is not a complete list and as the ministry grows, items may be added to the list.

Facilitator Do's

1. Try to arrive at least 5 to 10 minutes early; early enough to set up the Zoom and collect your thoughts.
2. Keep your topics around 5 minutes in length. The exceptions are songs that may run between 5 to 10 minutes and the occasional video that may run 5 to 10 minutes. Remember that while you are in a position of authority, don't get "preachy!" Topic resources can be found on www.amprecovery.com/resources
3. Only present one topic at a time or use one item (book or video) at a time.
 - a. For example, don't use a reading from a book and then play a song/video for a topic or read out of two different books on two different subjects (reading out of two different books on the same subject is allowed).
4. We suggest you allow 5 minutes per share for the first 30 minutes, after that, it may be necessary to shorten the share time, be mindful of the time.
5. The meeting should last between an hour and fifteen minutes and an hour and a half to respect everyone's time.
6. Always keep a timer handy to keep members on track. Feel free to use discernment if a member is having a breakthrough moment and their time is almost over. i.e., pause the timer and give them a little while to finish but restart when they begin to ramble.
7. Always try to leave 10 minutes of the meeting time for group announcements, prayer, and closing.
8. Group Announcements ideas Check **calendar** on AMP Recovery website.
9. At the end of the meeting, fill out "Attendance Report" on our google forms ([AMP Men's Recovery \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com/forms)).
10. Remember to maintain control of the meeting. The following are suggestions for doing so based on different scenarios and attendees:
 - a. Excessive Talker: If someone talks too much, they may be trying to control the group. Use a subtle approach with the individual by looking for a break in their comments and jump in. This is when having a timer with a loud alarm may be helpful. Don't be afraid to ask someone to stop sharing if they have overused a significant amount of time. If this does not work, feel free to speak to the member privately after the meeting.
 - b. Silent Member: If someone is silent at every meeting, privately encourage them to share and help them understand that this is a safe place. Telling them our story helps them feel that they are not alone and the only ones with sexual sin. After they share, make a sincere "thanks for sharing" by looking directly at them and smiling.
 - c. Constant Debater: If someone is constantly debating the topic or other shares, this should be dealt with as quickly as possible. The constant debater will try to destroy the group even if they are not consciously aware of it. They should be approached after the meeting as soon as they are identified and either asked what is going on

- in their lives, to tone down the negative and debating remarks, or if all else fails to leave the group.
- d. **Group Conflicts:** Conflicts can ensue if members begin blaming others for their anger or uncomfortable emotions. Simply redirecting members to use “I” or “me” statements can resolve this quickly.
 - e. **The Cross-Talker:** If a member consistently breaks the rules and talks directly to another person during their share or places their hand on a man who is upset and sharing, then action should be taken to correct this. Approaching this individual and carefully explaining what crosstalk is can clear up this issue. If he continues to do this, you may need to stop him during his share in the group. If all else fails, ask the group to share their feelings on this individual’s crosstalk and lack of respect.
 - f. **Foul Language:** If a member consistently breaks the rules and uses foul or offensive language, the Jesus model should be followed. Approach persistent offenders outside of group time and discuss Colossians 3:8.
 - g. **Mr. Feedback:** There will be times when a member requests feedback from the group and other members may try to give feedback during group time. In a support group, this should not occur. Put a quick end to this by simply reminding the men involved that feedback is not part of the group, however, it can be requested and given after the group is finished. Encourage them to stay afterward to conduct feedback outside of group time.
 - h. **Mr. Arrives Late, Mr. Leaves Early:** If a member consistently arrives late or leaves early, it is important to speak to him about this issue and how it can negatively affect the group, especially if they do not announce why they are arriving late or having to leave early. Sporadic issues with arrival/departure are not so much an issue as consistent arrival/departure issue. This consistency can be a control issue, a lack of respect for the group, or disrespect to the Lord.
 - i. **Mr. I’m Cured:** There is nothing wrong with a member proclaiming they have been cured. However, in our experience this is more about feeling relief from the problem rather than being healed. Our program is a life-long program of sanctification. Nevertheless, there will be those that say they are cured. Be encouraging to them but do not allow them to try to convince others they don’t need the group’s support. Always leave the door open for them to return if needed without insinuating that they will be back or need to come back. Furthermore, encourage them to stay and work the program so that they can teach others. Miracle cures are possible, but it doesn’t leave a pathway for us to help others. Read “The Answer” from the Castimonia book for information on this.
 - j. **Mr. Criticism:** From time to time there will be group members who excessively criticize their employer, church, family members, or spouse. Although some venting of frustrations is allowed and even encouraged, excessive criticism and unhealthy personal attacks towards others should not be tolerated. We are not to judge others (Matthew 7:1-5) because we don’t know what is in their heart and why they do the things they do. This is especially true if the husband is judging his wife and her healing. A simple discussion afterwards on Matthew 7 may be helpful to them.
 - k. **Threat of Suicide:** The threat of imminent suicide should not be taken lightly. There is no difference between “I tried it but stopped” and “I don’t want to live anymore” statements. Any threat should be dealt with by speaking directly to the individual

immediately after the meeting. If they leave early, or if you feel there is an imminent threat of suicide, message another facilitator in the meeting asking them to take over and call 9-1-1 and explain what is going on, you may need to disclose as much information as you have. Do not take suicide threats lightly. Report this to your AMR leadership as soon as possible, even if that is the call you make prior to dialing 9-1-1, leadership may have more information on the member to help authorities.

11. Remember to allow men to express their emotions in the group setting if it does not break the rules or turn into violent screaming. There are certain times where a man who has experience trauma may cry excessively or have short angry outbursts. This is actually allowed and encouraged since the group is a safe place and perhaps the only place they can do this. However, try not to get drawn into the emotions being displayed as becoming emotionally entangled with the group could damage you and the group. Remember three items:
 - a. Time: Although allowing someone to cry for a few minutes is acceptable, we can't allow this to stop the group entirely. After a reasonable time, the facilitator can either stop the share or ask other members to stay after praying with this individual. In a support group setting, the facilitator can ask others to share what they are feeling witnessing this man cry.
 - b. Safety: If the emotions are causing the group to slip into an unsafe place, then it would be wise to ask the individual exhibiting the emotions to gather themselves and pass the share to someone else. This is especially important in angry outbursts.
 - c. Group Responsiveness: It is important for the facilitator to gauge the group members affected by the emotional share. They could become anxious, supportive, indifferent, or could try to "rescue" the individual by consoling them. The facilitator must put a stop to consoling or rescuing activities as it stops God from working.
12. Do know your limits! If you cannot answer a member's question, ask them if you can bring it up to a ministry leader or professional counselor. Do not mislead members into thinking you know everything. If difficult group situations come up, hard things are said, or tough questions are asked, feel free to ask your ministry leaders for feedback without revealing the individual(s) involved.
 - a. Admitting you don't know the answer is not weakness or failure on your part. Being uninformed or inexperienced is fine because these can be fixed. Do not bluff your way out because bluffing is lying. The group will respect the truth and it will become stronger because of it.
13. Do practice "active listening". Active listening is where we can hear and see what an individual is sharing. Researchers estimate that close to 90% of our personal communication is non-verbal such as posture and body movements... Active listening involves proactively observing all the body language of group members. There are, however, some barriers to active listening in the group setting.
 - a. Personal problems can negatively affect our ability to be active listeners, especially significant ones. An argument with our spouse or our child may keep us distracted during the group as we rehash what was said or done. In these situations, it may be best for a co-facilitator to lead the group and allow us time to work through our problem. However, we are not to leave the group without a leader, as this will send a negative message to others.

- b. Our emotional status can keep us from practicing active listening. If we are feeling angry or depressed, we are unlikely to listen effectively. Be mindful of your emotions before and during leading groups.
- c. Disruptive group activity can take our minds off actively listening to the person sharing. It is important that a disruptive activity be stopped so that all can listen to the person sharing. Use discernment when deciding what is considered a disruptive group activity. Distractions such as loud noises or excessive movement from a member when others are sharing, reading, etc. If this becomes an issue, we recommend muting a member or turning off their video.

Facilitator Don'ts

It is important that all facilitators review this “Do Not” list to maintain health and growth in the group setting. As you can see, there are much less “don'ts” involved in facilitating only because we trust in God to guide our facilitators.

1. Meetings are primarily for our members, not for the facilitator. Please be mindful of this if you do need to do a NEGATIVE check-in at a meeting that you are leading, if possible, save your check-ins for a different recovery meeting. HOWEVER, rigorous honesty is paramount to recovery.
2. **Do not** present inappropriate topics. Topics considered inappropriate are listed below:
 - a. Videos or photos with foul language, nudity, or displaying sexually triggering material (i.e. swimsuits, underwear, lingerie, etc..)
 - b. Music with foul language or sexually triggering sounds or lyrics.
 - c. Literature denying the existence of God.
 - d. Literature contradicting scripture.
 - e. Topics of conjecture, 3rd party witness stories.
 - f. Personal sexual matters (in-depth/explicit examples).
 - g. Family-oriented confidential matters.
 - h. Other people's personal secrets (gossip).
3. **Do not** allow a break in confidentiality except to report a crime.
 - a. A member who breaks confidentiality, except for legal reasons, can quickly destroy a group. Do not allow this to occur! What is shared in the group should stay in the group. Those members that consistently break confidentiality should be asked to leave the group until they are willing to keep things shared to themselves and within the group.
4. **Do not** allow others to convince you that you are not good enough to lead or that your sin is too great.
5. **Do not** leave a meeting without a facilitator. Either cancel the meeting in advance or assign a back-up facilitator to lead the meeting.



AMP Men's Recovery Facilitator Code of Ethics

As an AMP Men's Recovery (AMR) Facilitator...

1. I agree AMR is a ministry God uses to help heal the sexually broken.
2. I agree that we are not therapists, only trusted servants helping facilitate meetings.
3. I agree to complete any needed AMR facilitator training.
4. I agree to do my best to attend monthly facilitator meetings.
5. I agree to maintain confidentiality regarding AMR.
6. I agree that the 12-steps are one method God uses to heal the broken.
7. I agree that God can use therapy/counseling as a positive, constructive method for healing.
8. I agree to abstain from sex outside of my marriage.
9. I agree that rigorous honesty is paramount to recovery and will practice such over counting sobriety.
10. I agree to submit to the AMR Leadership and honor any decisions agreed upon by the facilitator committee concerning ministry direction.