

Faith, Curiosity, and Community Unity

A Christian, Scripture-anchored approach that protects agency, welcomes honest questions, resists coercion, and models humility in partnership

RHM can be explicitly Christian without demanding denominational uniformity from every participant or partner. Faith is offered through invitation, relationship, truthfulness, humility, and love of neighbor.

WHO THIS IS FOR

Participants, peer leaders, pastors, churches, counselors, educators, community agencies, volunteers, and people wondering how faith is included

HOW TO USE IT

Read online, download from the RHM website, share before a conversation, or use it as a guided discussion resource.

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<https://rhmw.net/RecoveryInitiative>

CHRISTIAN IDENTITY WITH RELATIONAL HUMILITY

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RHM's Christian identity shapes its commitment to dignity, truth, mercy, service, hope, responsibility, and love of neighbor.

The Recovery Initiative does not ask every participant or partner to adopt one denominational doctrine or theological vocabulary. RHM can be honest about its faith while also making room for questions, differences, informed choice, and the responsibilities of noncoercive community partnership.

Five durable commitments

DIGNITY

People are not reduced to a diagnosis, history, relapse, incarceration, theology, performance, or institutional label.

CURIOSITY

We seek to understand a person's story and questions before assuming that we already know what an experience means.

RESPONSIBILITY

Grace does not erase agency. Growth includes truth-telling, wise boundaries, repair, service, and concern for one's impact on others.

HUMILITY

Conviction is joined with teachability, self-examination, repentance, and willingness to correct what has caused harm.

KINDNESS

Confusion and disagreement are not invitations to shame, mock, pressure, or socially punish another person.

UNITY

Organizations and people can cooperate around shared good without pretending every belief, role, or method is identical.

Pastoral boundary: Faith should not become a way to bypass grief, deny complexity, claim authority over another person's conscience, or avoid appropriate medical, psychological, substance-use, or safety care.

HOW FAITH MAY ENTER THE CONVERSATION

Invitation, Consent, and Wonder

Faith conversations become more trustworthy when the participant's agency is protected and the helper remains curious.

Ask whether the person would like faith, Scripture, prayer, or spiritual reflection included.	Assume permission because the organization is Christian or the person accepted another service.
Explore what a passage, belief, doubt, or spiritual experience means to the person.	Use a verse as a quick answer that dismisses grief, trauma, anger, medical concerns, or complexity.
Offer one's perspective honestly while distinguishing it from diagnosis, treatment, or divine certainty.	Present personal interpretation as unquestionable authority over the person's choices or conscience.
Welcome questions, uncertainty, lament, and the need for time.	Treat doubt, disagreement, or confusion as rebellion that must be corrected immediately.
Refer to qualified pastoral, clinical, medical, or substance-use care when appropriate.	Use spiritual care to replace necessary professional evaluation or emergency response.

A peer or facilitator can ask

- Would you like faith or spiritual meaning included in this conversation?
- Is there a passage, tradition, prayer, or question that has helped - or harmed - you?
- What do you understand this to mean, and what makes that interpretation important to you?
- Would it be helpful to hear another perspective, or would you prefer that I keep listening?
- Is there a pastor, counselor, sponsor, family member, or trusted community who should be involved?

Mentorship posture: Mentorship should come from curiosity, ethical responsibility, and genuine wonder about what people can discover when their experience is taken seriously - not from superiority or ideological control.

SCRIPTURE-ANCHORED PRACTICE

Truth Expressed Through Love, Service, and Repair

The initiative uses Scripture as an anchor while encouraging participants and partners to examine how belief becomes lived wisdom.

HEBREWS 10:24-25

Consider how to encourage one another toward love and good works, remain connected, and keep encouraging community.

ROMANS 12:9-18

Reflect on sincere love, honoring others, patience, hospitality, empathy, and pursuing peace as far as it depends on us.

1 CORINTHIANS 12

Recognize different gifts and roles within one body without ranking human worth or expecting one member to do everything.

MICAH 6:8

Explore the relationship among justice, mercy, humility, and the ordinary choices of recovery and community life.

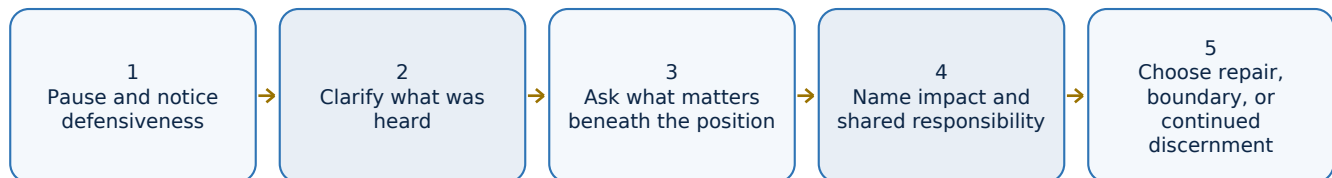
JAMES 1:19

Practice being quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger in groups, partnerships, and relationships.

GALATIANS 6:1-5

Hold restoration, gentleness, self-examination, shared burdens, and personal responsibility in meaningful tension.

When disagreement arises



A partnership test

Does our conduct model the relational health we hope participants will practice? Are we honest without being cruel, clear without being controlling, faithful without being coercive, and humble enough to learn from people whose role or perspective differs from ours?

Learn more: Explore how the initiative holds faith, peer leadership, experiential education, mentorship, neurofeedback, and partnership together: <https://rhmw.net/RecoveryInitiative>

Important: This public resource is educational. It is not a diagnosis, treatment recommendation, treatment intake, crisis service, or promise of outcome. For an emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department. In the United States, call or text 988 for crisis support.

Sources and further reading

Scripture anchors: Hebrews 10:24-25; Micah 6:8; Romans 12:9-18; James 1:19; 1 Corinthians 12; Galatians 6:1-5.

[SAMHSA, About Recovery](#) (updated 2024).

[Restoring Hope Ministries Recovery Initiative](#).