

The Solution

We saw that our problem was threefold: physical, emotional and spiritual. Healing had to come about in all three.

The crucial change in attitude began when we admitted we were powerless, that our habits had us whipped. We came to meetings and withdrew from our habit. For the single man or woman this meant no sex with self or others, including not getting into relationships. For those in a marriage between a man and a woman, this meant “drying out” and not having sex with the spouse for a time to recover from lust.

We discovered that we *could* stop, that not feeding the hunger didn’t kill us, that sex was indeed optional. There was hope for freedom, and we began to feel alive. Encourage to continue, we turned more and more away from isolating our obsession with sex and self and turned to God and to others.

All this was scary. We couldn’t see the path ahead, except that others had gone that way before. Each new step of surrender felt it would be off the edge into oblivion, but we took it. And instead of killing us, surrender was killing the obsession! We stepped into the light, into a whole new way of life.

The fellowship gave us monitoring and support to keep from being overwhelmed, a safe haven where we could finally face ourselves. Instead of covering feelings with compulsive sex, we began exposing the roots of our spiritual emptiness and hunger. And the healing began.

As we faced our defects, we became willing to change; surrendering them broke the power they had over us. We began to be more comfortable with ourselves and others for the first time without our “drug.”

Forgiving all who had injured us, and without injuring others, we tried to right our own wrongs. At each amends, more of the dreadful load of guilt dropped from our shoulders, until we could lift our heads, look the world in the eye, and stand free.

We began practicing a positive sobriety, taking the actions of love to improve our relations with others. We were learning how to give; and the measure we gave was the measure we got back. We were finding what none of the substitutes had ever supplied. We were making the real connection. We were home.