

## **RICHARD ROHR ON THE GOSPEL AND THE TWELVE STEPS OF AA**

The similar messages between the two teachings assure me that we are dealing with a common inspiration from the Holy Spirit and from the same collective unconscious.

In fact, I am still convinced that on the practical (read “transformational”) level, the Gospel message of Jesus and the Twelve Step message of Bill Wilson are largely the same message...

## FOUR ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT ADDICTION

1. We are all addicts.
2. 'Stinking Thinking' is the universal addiction.
3. All societies are addicted to themselves and create deep codependency on them.
4. Some form of alternative consciousness is the only freedom from this self and from cultural lies.

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## Stinking Thinking

can be used to refer to any type of negativity.

It is a widely used term in 12 Step groups where it is used to describe people who have reverted to *old patterns of thinking*.

## Types of Stinking Thinking

- Resenting other people
- Self-centeredness
- Blaming other people
- Feeling superior to everyone else
- Grandiosity
- Ill-will towards strangers
- Focus on the faults of other people
- Viewing the world in black and white
- Always attributing negative motives behind the actions of others


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The background of the image is a blue mosaic floor, likely from a swimming pool, with numerous bubbles of various sizes scattered across it. The text "Luke 5:27-32" is centered in the middle of the image in a black, sans-serif font.

Luke 5:27-32

## THE TWELVE STEPS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.

2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God.

4. Made a searching and fearless inventory of ourselves.

5. Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all of these defects of character.

7. Humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings.

8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood God, praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out.

12. Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs

We suffer to get well.

We surrender to win.

We die to live.

We give it away to keep it.