

Occurrences of the Word “God” and Related Words
on Pages 1-164 of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, 4th Ed.

**Part 2: The 81 Occurrences of Capitalized Pronouns Referring to “God”
on pages 1-164 of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, 4th ed. (corrected)**
(Bolding added for clarity)

Chapter 1: Bill’s Story—Eleven (11) occurrences

- p. 12 (1st): “. . . a Czar of the Heavens, however loving **His** sway might be.” **
p. 12 (2d): “. . . God is concerned with us humans when we want **Him** enough.”
p. 12 (3rd): “. . . God. There had to be a humble willingness to have **Him** with me . . .”
p. 12 (4th): “. . . God. . . . and **He** came.
p. 12 (5th): “. . . God. . . . But soon the sense of **His** presence . . .”
p. 13 (1st): “There I humbly offered myself to God, as I then understood **Him**, . . .”
p. 13 (2d): “. . . God, . . . to do with me as **He** would.”
p. 13 (3rd): “. . . God, . . . I placed myself unreservedly under **His** care and direction.”
p. 13 (4th): “. . . God, . . . I admitted for the first time . . . that without **Him** I was lost.”
p. 13 (5th): “. . . the new God-consciousness within. . . . I was to sit quietly when in doubt, asking only for direction and strength to meet my problems as **He** would have me.”
p. 14: “God comes to most men gradually, but **His** impact on me was sudden and profound.”

** **NOTE:** This occurrence of the capitalized pronoun “His”—referring to “a Czar of the Heavens”—is part of a four-paragraph, handwritten section of text that was inserted into the printer’s copy of *Alcoholics Anonymous* just before the first edition was published on April 10, 1939. The four-paragraph section of text begins with the words “Despite the living example of my friend . . .” on page 12 of the fourth edition (2001) and ends with the words “Of course I would!” on page 12. This four-paragraph section of text was not present in the prepublication copy of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, better known as “the Multilith Edition” or “the Original Manuscript.” Please see *The Book That Started It All* (Hazelden, 2010) for more details.

Chapter 2: There Is a Solution—One (1) occurrence

- p. 25: “. . . our Creator . . . **He** has commenced to accomplish those things for us which we could never do by ourselves.”

Chapter 3: More about Alcoholism—No (0) occurrences

Chapter 4: We Agnostics—Fifteen (15) occurrences

- p. 45: “. . . the word ‘God’ brought up a particular idea of **Him** . . .”
- p. 46 (1st): “God. . . . to make the approach and to effect a contact with **Him**.”
- p. 46 (2d): “. . . God does not make too hard terms with those who seek **Him**.”
- p. 47: “. . . to commence spiritual growth, to effect our first conscious relation with God as we understood **Him**.”
- p. 53 (1st): “God is everything or else **He** is nothing.”
- p. 53 (2d): “God either is, or **He** isn’t.”
- p. 55 (1st): “. . . some kind of God . . . Sometimes we had to search fearlessly, but **He** was there.”
- p. 55 (2d): “. . . God . . . **He** was as much a fact as we were.”
- p. 55 (3rd): “We found the Great Reality deep down within us. In the last analysis it is only there that **He** may be found.”
- p. 56: “Our friend’s gorge rose as he bitterly cried out: ‘If there is a God, **He** certainly hasn’t done anything for me!’”
- p. 57 (1st): “. . . God restored us all to our right minds. . . . **He** has come to all who have honestly sought Him.”
- p. 57 (2d): “. . . God . . . He has come to all who have honestly sought **Him**.”
- p. 57 (3rd): “. . . God . . . When we drew near to **Him** He disclosed Himself to us!”
- p. 57 (4th): “. . . God . . . When we drew near to Him **He** disclosed Himself to us!”
- p. 57 (5th): “. . . God . . . When we drew near to Him He disclosed **Himself** to us!”

Chapter 5: How It Works—Thirty-Six (36) occurrences

- p. 59 (1st): “But there is One who has all power—that One is God. May you find **Him** now!”
- p. 59 (2d): “God . . . We asked **His** protection and care with complete abandon.”
- p. 59 (3rd): “3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him*.” **
- p. 59 (4th): “7. Humbly asked **Him** to remove our shortcomings.”
- p. 59 (5th): “11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him*, . . .” **
- p. 59 (6th): “11. . . . God *as we understood Him*, praying only for a knowledge of **His** will for us and the power to carry that out.”
- p. 60 (1st): “(c) That God could and would if **He** were sought.”
- p. 60 (2d): “. . . *Step Three*, . . . we decided to turn our will and our life over to God as we understood **Him**.”
- p. 62 (1st): “God makes that possible. And there often seems no way of entirely getting rid of self without **His** aid.”
- p. 62 (2d): “God was going to be our Director. **He** is the Principal; . . .”
- p. 62 (3rd): “God . . . we are **His** agents.”
- p. 62 (4th): “God . . . **He** is the Father, and we are His children.”
- p. 62 (5th): “God . . . we are **His** children.”

- p. 63 (1st): “We had a new Employer. Being all powerful, **He** provided what we needed, if we kept close to Him and performed His work well.”
- p. 63 (2d): “We had a new Employer. Being all powerful, He provided what we needed, if we kept close to **Him** and performed His work well.”
- p. 63 (3rd): “We had a new Employer. Being all powerful, He provided what we needed, if we kept close to Him and performed **His** work well.”
- p. 63 (4th): “We had a new Employer. Being all powerful . . . as we became conscious of **His** presence, we began to lose our fear of today, tomorrow or the hereafter. We were reborn.”
- p. 63 (5th): “We were now at Step Three. Many of us said to our Maker, *as we understood Him*: ‘God, . . .’
- p. 63 (6th): “. . . ‘God, I offer myself to **Thee**—to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt.’”
- p. 63 (7th): “. . . ‘God, I offer myself to Thee—to build with me and to do with me as **Thou** wilt.’”
- p. 63 (8th): “‘God, . . . Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do **Thy** will.’”
- p. 63 (9th): “‘God, . . . Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of **Thy** Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of life.’”
- p. 63 (10th): “‘God, . . . Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, **Thy** Love, and Thy Way of life.’”
- p. 63 (11th): “‘God, . . . Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and **Thy** Way of life.’”
- p. 63 (12th): “‘God, . . . May I do **Thy** will always!’”
- p. 63 (13th): “We thought well before taking this step making sure we were ready; that we could at last abandon ourselves utterly to **Him**.”
- p. 67: “‘God save me from being angry. **Thy** will be done.’”
- p. 68 (1st): “We trust infinite God rather than our finite selves. We are in the world to play the role **He** assigns.”
- p. 68 (2d): “. . . infinite God . . . Just to the extent that we do as we think **He** would have us, . . .”
- p. 68 (3rd): “. . . infinite God . . . and humbly rely on **Him**, . . .”
- p. 68 (4th): “. . . infinite God . . . does **He** enable us to match calamity with serenity.”
- p. 68 (5th): “We never apologize for God. Instead we let **Him** demonstrate through us, what He can do.”
- p. 68 (6th): “We never apologize for God. Instead we let Him demonstrate through us, what **He** can do.”
- p. 68 (7th): “We never apologize for God. . . . We ask **Him** to remove our fear . . .”
- p. 68 (8th): “We never apologize for God. . . . We . . . direct our attention to what **He** would have us be.”
- p. 71: “. . . God can remove whatever self-will has blocked you off from **Him**.”

**** NOTE:** On pages 166-67 of the A.A. General Service Conference-approved book *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, A.A. cofounder Bill W. writes: “We [Fitz, Henry, our grand little secretary Ruth, and myself] were still arguing about the Twelve Steps. All this time I had refused to budge of these steps. I would not change a word of the original draft, in which, you will remember, I had consistently used the word ‘God,’ . . . Who suggested the compromise words I do not know . . . In Step Two we decided to describe God as a ‘Power greater than ourselves.’ In Steps Three and Eleven we inserted the words ‘God *as we understood Him.*’ . . . Such were the final concessions to those of little or no faith; this was the great contribution of our atheists and agnostics.” Although the change from “God” to “a Power greater than ourselves” in Step Two and the change from “God” to “God *as we understood Him*” had already been made by the time copies of the prepublication manuscript of *Alcoholics Anonymous* (better known as the “Multilith Edition” or the “Original Manuscript”) were sent around the country, Step Eleven still read “God.” [See *The Book That Started It All: The Original Working Manuscript of Alcoholics Anonymous* (Center City, MN: Hazelden, 2010), 59; and “The Original Manuscript of *Alcoholics Anonymous*”: <http://www.silkworth.net/originalmanuscript/chapter5.html#howitworks>; accessed 12/16/12.]

Chapter 6: Into Action—Seven (7) occurrences

- p. 75: “We thank God from the bottom of our heart that we know **Him** better.”
- p. 76: “. . . God . . . Can **He** now take them all—every one?”
- p. 85 (1st): “. . . the vision of God’s will . . . ‘How can I best serve **Thee**-- . . .’”
- p. 85 (2^d): “. . . the vision of God’s will . . . ‘**Thy** will (not mine) be done.’”
- p. 85 (3rd): “Much has already been said about receiving strength, inspiration, and direction from **Him** who has all knowledge and power.”
- p. 85 (4th): “If we have carefully followed directions, we have begun to sense the flow of **His** Spirit into us. To some extent we have become God-conscious.”
- p. 88: “. . . humbly saying to ourselves many times each day ‘**Thy** will be done.’”

Chapter 7: Working with Others—No (0) occurrences

Chapter 8: To Wives—Two (2) occurrences

- p. 116: “If God can solve the age-old riddle of alcoholism, **He** can solve your problems too.”
- p. 120: “God has either removed your husband’s liquor problem or **He** has not.”

Chapter 9: The Family Afterward—Three (3) occurrences

- p. 130 (1st): “. . . a growing consciousness of the power of God in our lives. We have come to believe **He** would like us to keep our heads with **Him**, . . .”
- p. 130 (2d): “. . . a growing consciousness of the power of God in our lives. We have come to believe He would like us to keep our heads with **Him**, . . .”
- p. 133: “God . . . if trouble comes, cheerfully capitalize it as an opportunity to demonstrate **His** omnipotence.”

Chapter 10: To Employers—No (0) occurrences

Chapter 11: A Vision for You—Six (6) occurrences

- p. 158: “‘God ought to be able to do anything.’ Then he added, ‘**He** sure didn’t do much for me when I was trying to fight this booze racket alone.’”
- p. 164 (1st): “God will determine that, so you must remember that your real reliance is always upon **Him**.”
- p. 164 (2d): “God . . . **He** will show you how to create the fellowship you crave.”
- p. 164 (3rd): “God will constantly disclose more to you and to us. Ask **Him** in your morning meditation what you can do each day for the man who is still sick.”
- p. 164 (4th): “God . . . See to it that your relationship with **Him** is right, and great events will come to pass for you and countless others.”
- p. 164 (5th): “Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to **Him** and to your fellows.”