Back to Basics

of our alcoholism. Even though we've done some very foolish and destructive things while drinking, we will never have to repeat these actions, provided we are willing to admit our faults and correct them. If we are genuinely sorry, God has already forgiven us. Now, it is time to forgive ourselves.

The "Big Book" authors tell us this on page 70. Starting with the fourth line in the first paragraph, they write:

"... If we are sorry for what we have done, and have the honest desire to let God take us to better things, we believe we will be forgiven and will have learned our lesson. If we are not sorry, and our conduct continues to harm others, we are quite sure to drink. We are not theorizing. These are facts out of our experience." (A.A., p. 70, para.1, lines 4-10)

So, it is time to make a searching and fearless moral inventory — time to clean up the wreckage of the past so we can experience the **"miracle of healing."** We have copies of our assets and liabilities checklist for those who would like to use this format for their Fourth Step.

As we have already said, there is no right or wrong way to do the Fourth and Fifth Steps. Just do them.

Are there any questions?