

## THE PIT AND THE PRINCIPLES

A person fell into a pit and could not get out. A number of folks passed by, looked in, and each had something to say:

The realist said, "That's a pit."

The attorney said, "I think we have a case against the city."

The judge said, "Only criminals fall in pits."

The preacher said, "This is God's will."

The fatalist said, "What will be, will be."

The pessimist said, "Watch out, the sides are likely to cave in."

The optimist said, "What a lovely safe place to sleep."

The intellectual said, "It's pretty logical when you think about it that you fell in."

The reporter said, "Can I interview you about how this happened?"

The guru said, "I try to avoid pits."

The new age person said, "This pit is all in your mind."

The capitalist set up a queue and sold tickets to see the man in the hole.

The CEO threw down a hundred dollar bill.

The HR rep asked if he documented it and whether the hole was compliant.

The startup founder suggested they pivot the hole into a scalable solution.

The bio-hacker offered a seven-step hack to get out in five minutes.

The millennial offered to start a GoFundMe to get him out.

The mindfulness coach guided him to breathe while posting a calming clip to Instagram.

The influencer stood on the lip with a selfie stick to get a picture and fell in beside him.

The therapist said, "This looks like complex PTSD," lowered an intake form, and promised to follow up in six weeks.

The psychiatrist said, "I can prescribe a pill to lower your anxiety."

The enabler said, "Stay there while I dig you out."

The person on the pity pot said, "Wait till you see *my* pit.

The Big Book Thumper asked, "What Step are you on?"

The "pure" alcoholic told him he'd fallen in the wrong hole and belonged in the *other* hole.

The NA Principle Police lowered a laminated list of unapproved words and actions for persons in holes.

The Zen monk said, "Before enlightenment, fall in a pit. After enlightenment, fall in a pit."

Finally, a person practicing the principles came by and, reaching out his hand, said, "I was in a pit like that once. Let me show you how I got out."

Discussion points for group

1. What is a principle?
2. How do we identify a person's principles?
3. Define three principles in a recovery program and use them in a sentence.