

"From Pulpit to Presence: A Journey of Recovery and Awakening"

About Don

Don Phelps is a former pastor turned Buddhist-informed recovery mentor. After a career in the corporate sector, he entered seminary and spent ten years in ministry within a conservative Christian denomination. His ministry ended involuntarily due to active alcoholism—a crisis that led to a profound personal transformation. Through recovery, Don experienced a radical spiritual shift and no longer identifies as Christian. Today, he draws on his lived experience to help others find freedom through honesty, presence, and Buddhist-inspired recovery. Don is a Recovery Dharma facilitator and Certified Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS) candidate.

"I left the church, lost myself, and finally found the path that set me free."

Signature Talks

- From Pulpit to Practice: A Pastor's Path to Recovery How letting go of rigid faith opened the door to healing through Buddhist principles.
- Spiritual But Not Religious: A New Language for Recovery For those seeking recovery outside of religion mindful, open, and real.
- Letting Go to Wake Up: The Courage to Change Everything A motivational look at surrendering identity and embracing transformation.
- Serving Without Saving: Redefining What It Means to Help Support grounded in presence, not preaching.

Booking & Speaking Info

Don offers presentations at no fee. He simply asks for reimbursement of basic travel expenses, including mileage (IRS rate), lodging if needed, and meals for extended events. Presentations typically run 35–45 minutes, with optional Q&A upon request.

Contact Don

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