

Chances ...

To have faith is to believe and hope in something we cannot see.

To take a chance is in my opinion is very much the same, because we are unable to see what the outcome might be. People recovering from alcohol addiction tend to be masters on taking chances. Am I generalising? Yes, I am for the purpose of this exercise. I am an alcoholic in recovery, and we are very much the same.

Early in my life I took a chance with alcohol. Why? Well, everybody did. The outcome was great; it opened a new life to me, it offered me everything I wanted to be (or so I thought).

So, I made a choice to take more chances, because I am a chancer and I loved it. I and Mr Alcohol became big buddies. It was like the ABBA song, *"take a chance on me, honey I'm still free..."*, but with my luck the freedom was short lived. Very soon I was caught up in a self-made prison of fear, shame, envy, resentment and the opposite outcome of what I expected my chance would bring. I realized that chances are that I might have a drinking problem.

My choice of chances became few.

Last chance, seek help! Who me? This time it is for real!

I took a chance on Elim Clinic more than a decade ago. The best chance I ever took!

Will I ever take a chance to take a drink again? If I say never I am setting myself up for failure. If I say not for today my chances are good that I will succeed, and with the help of the God of my understanding, the skills I acquired at Elim Clinic, willingness, honesty and an open mind, I am sober for today... and that was the only chance I needed to try to be the best me I have ever been.

Take a chance on recovery, by accepting the help that is available, trust me.... It is worth it, you are worth it!!

By an ex-patient who is currently sober, and in recovery from alcohol addiction for 11 consecutive years.