

Universal Advice to Freemasons

Freemasons, new and old, would be wise to seriously consider and bear in mind the following guides and pointers:-

1. Proficiency comes only by diligent and regular study;
2. Fluency is the result of constant practice;
3. Clear utterance and delivery is desirable at all times. The beautiful phraseology of a charge may be frequently marred by indistinctness and a mumbling form of speech;
4. Study the best Masters and ritualists. Note their emphasis and skill in delivery of the Ritual and follow their example at all times;
5. Cultivate deliberation in speech. There is no need for hurry or to rush the work. Your study and attention to the Ritual will give confidence to you and allow you to impress the person or persons you are addressing;
6. When learning the Ritual, start with a small part and make yourself master of it. Then proceed to the larger portion, frequently revising all as you progress. Many brethren find assistance when tackling a portion of the Ritual to learn the first paragraph or section followed by the last paragraph, constantly reading through the whole piece, whereupon the precepts of the piece gradually fall into place and understanding and proficiency are obtained;
7. Do not be afraid to advise the Master that you would like the opportunity to have a share in a part of the working of a degree or other lodge work. A Master who understands his role and duty to the Lodge will work with you and the officers to happily grant your request and earnestly encourage your continued attention and interest;
8. Be ready to assist the Master, officers and others in the Lodge both in the Temple and at the Festive Board. The most successful and happy Lodges are those in which all the members are both ready and willing to take a share in the work and proceedings;
9. Be Punctual in your attendances and smart in your appearance. Recognise that the success and reputation of the Lodge is in the hands of every member and dependent upon their service to it;
10. Be ready to take the place of an officer who may be unavoidably absent. It is a very happy and contented Master who is aware he has the ability to call upon many members to assist when required;
11. Never forget that your Mother (your Lodge) has a reputation to maintain;
12. Brethren all; be a Freemason ALWAYS, not only when within the Lodge, and heartedly enjoy your Freemasonry and the company of your brethren.