



NUGGET

Three Grand Principles of Freemasonry

Summary: The three Grand Principles of Freemasonry, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are explored.

Freemasonry was founded on the Grand Principles of **Brotherly Love, Relief** and **Truth** and they remain central to our ideals; all be it phrased in modern language.

Brotherly Love

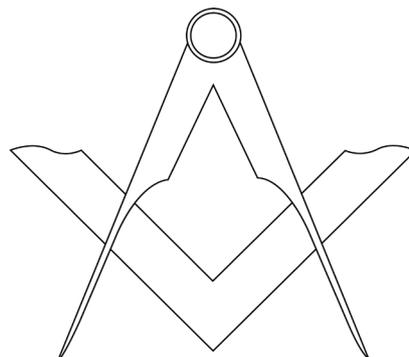
Today we might say Friendship. By the exercise of Brotherly Love we learn to think of all men as being of one family. It does not matter if they are rich or poor, whether high-born or of humble origin, as all are the same when they are born and all are the same when they die. Each should protect and support each other. Freemasonry acts on this principle and unites men of every country, sect or opinion. Through its teaching it brings people together, who might otherwise have remained at a distance from one another.

Relief

Today we might say Charity. All men should give Relief to those who are distressed. This especially applies to Freemasons, as we are bound together by an unbreakable chain of genuine affection. Our aim being to soothe the afflicted, support the unfortunate and comfort the unhappy, sympathise in their misfortunes, be compassionate and restore peace to their troubled minds.

Truth

Today we might say Integrity. It is the basis and foundation of every Masonic Virtue. Starting at our Initiation, we are taught to be good men and true. We should contemplate on this Grand Theme. We should try to regulate our lives and actions by its infallible demands. Hypocrisy and deceit should be unknown to us. Sincerity and straightforward dealing should be our distinguishing characteristics. Being true to oneself is clearly one aspect, and in doing so, we will be true to those we encounter.





Recommended use of Nuggets

Nuggets offer a short, simple and readily absorbed means of progressing Masonic knowledge and an easy way to introduce learning to Lodges and Chapters. It is hoped that they will become a regular feature of Lodge and Chapter meetings as well as a source for private-study.

Nuggets can be included as an item in the summons and read at most Lodge/Chapter meetings. They can be:

Read by either a new or an experienced Mason with the minimum of preparation and practice; though ideally, they need to be read a few times beforehand.

Themed with the meeting or activity.

Used to initiate a discussion within a Lodge/Chapter, LOI/COI, or group.

Read at home and shared as a topic for a future discussion.

Used as a focus for an unplanned, informal discussion.

*Note: All biblical passages are taken from the Authorized King James version and any reference to ritual will be from Emulation unless otherwise specified.

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