



Nugget

Honesty, the best policy

Index

Acting on the Square brought into the 21st century.

Summary

Acting on the Square 'honesty and fair dealing', brought into the 21st century.

Keywords

Square, Honesty, Fairness

Honesty, the best policy?

A woman went to the local supermarket to buy food for a dinner party. She stopped at the meat counter and asked the butcher for a large chicken. He went to the cold store at the back and took out the last chicken he had, returned, and placed it on the scale. 'This one weighs four pounds madam,' he said. Pausing for a moment the woman said, 'Well I am not sure that will be big enough, so do you have any that are bigger?' The butcher took the chicken off the scale, turned around, and placed it back in the cold store. He then pretended to search for another one and then brought out the same bird and placed it on the scale discreetly applying some finger pressure. 'Ah,' he said with a smile, 'This one weighs six pounds.' 'Well I'm not too sure,' said the woman with a frown, 'I'll tell you what, wrap them up for me, I'll take them both.'

Honesty is the hinge on which our relationships with others hangs. It is not merely honesty in action but honesty in intention. It is about being fair and truthful with others. The foundation for a successful life is built on being honest and trustworthy in our personal relationships and in our working life. It requires and demands much less effort to go through life each day as someone who is truthful than one who is deceitful. We can go far in life with personal integrity and nowhere without it.

In our Masonic Ritual we have heard the words, '*To your neighbour by acting with him on the square . . . and by doing to him as in similar cases you would wish he would do unto you*'. As Masons we strive to become better people; being honest and acting on the square marks us out as men to be respected and trusted.

##END##

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.

For further nuggets and other learning materials visit "Solomon" at <http://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

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