

Charity

Charity begins at home and spreads from there. Being Freemasons helps us become better at what we are in a moral sense. It is the greatest of one of the three principal virtues; faith, hope and charity; which “extends beyond the grave to the boundless realms of eternity.”

Charity keeps greed from rearing its ugly head and makes us better human beings, a result of caring. In the Entered Apprentice degree, we are divested of all mineral and metallic kinds. One of the reasons is that being in a poor and penniless condition, we may be more willing to contribute financially to a distressed worthy brethren.

Charity means more than just opening our wallets to help someone in need. It means opening our hearts, our time, our resources to assist those in need an open ear or mind, resources or contacts and maybe our time to help them through a most difficult period in their life.

Charity also means love. This overused word is very powerful but has many meanings to many people. Being opposite to the word hate, it makes it easier to understand what we, as humans, specifically as Masons need to do. Charity encompasses all things and those of us who possess it may have justly arrived at the summit of Freemasonry. It can make a profound difference in somebody's life.

Acting without glorification, personal need or restitution to ease the pain of others is charity. Random acts of kindness speak volumes of who we are and relieves the sorrow of the recipient. It even things out and puts us all on the level.