

## The Most Important Powerful Mason in Your Lodge

(The following does not have to be read. It can be used by the LEO by him asking the questions and guiding the discussions that may follow. (LEOs do not forget to pace and look at people. This is your chance to do a little "acting".) The format of discussion, with the brothers giving their input rather than a simple reading will give a more meaningful presentation.)

The LEO paced the area between the altar and Senior Warden as he looked into the faces of each brother present. "Who is the most important and powerful mason in this lodge?" he asked. Someone said, "Well the master is." "Why the master?" replied the LEO. The usual answers were given. The LEO then asked, "But what was the master before he became master?" "The Senior Warden," was called out. "So then the Senior Warden must be the one I asked about," said the LEO. He then went down the entire officer line in the same manner by asking what each officer did and he was before the current chair.

After he finished the office line, he asked, "But what about our Faith in God? Is not the first thing we are asked is in whom do we put our trust?" "Of course," was echoed by the brothers present. "Then perhaps our chaplain is the most important and powerful mason in our lodge," replied the LEO calmly. Using a similar discussion, the LEO then went through all the officers not in the progressive line by using how important are those duties each do.

When all the offices were discussed, the LEO continued. "But from where did we get the officers mentioned? And to where will they go as masons when they complete their duties?" asked the LEO. Quickly one mason said, "From the craft." A discussion followed about the importance of a good strong craft and how all present were important and powerful by what they all could contribute.

But the LEO was not finished. "So, my brothers, our power and importance to this lodge are not what office we hold or even if we hold one at the current time, if I am reading what you have said correctly. It is how we all do our obligations as mason." Again a discussion followed on how all were important and that the lodge cannot survive without the work all the brothers do together.

The discussion finished and a smile curled the lips of the LEO as he again walked the West and looked into the faces of each brother present. He then stopped and stared at an empty chair. He kept staring as he slowly said, "My brothers, I did not ask you who is the most important and powerful mason in this room. I asked you who was the most important and powerful mason in this lodge." Staring still at the empty chair, he continued, "I am looking at the most important and powerful mason in this lodge for his non-presence can close you if his numbers continue to grow. If we do not have those to do what we have just discussed, then those duties as well as ourselves will cease. Do what must be done to fill this chair with good masons that will make us all better masons." Again he looked into each face saying, "And also what we have to do to keep these equally important and powerful masons who are present to remain so." And with simply giving due guard and sign, he sat down.

WB John F. Maxwell

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