

Worshipful Master Lodge Discussion Series

Title: Level

Version: 1.0

Purpose: Help brothers notice when they are judging a situation fairly or when their perspective has gotten skewed. The Level teaches us to look wider and longer before we decide something is broken.

Keywords: perspective, time horizon, shared ground, proportion, bias

Materials Needed:

None


Supporting Content/Guides

PDF - AMW Groundrules

Related Podcast Episodes:

 The Master Mason Series – Part III: The Workman and the Work

 Why We Judge Without Knowing: The Symbolic Cost of Unconscious Evaluation

 The Junior Warden: Noticing Before You Numb



Setup:

WM Time Needed:

2-3 minutes

Member Time Needed

None

Considerations:

Individuals in the lodge will participate in different ways. Challenging a member to participate in a way that is uncomfortable for them should only be done with a skilled facilitator and a high-trust group.

Messaging:

Most of us assume that if something feels unfair right now, it probably is unfair. But the Level asks a different question: is this a bump in the road or a mountain? A temporary stumble or a pattern that has been there all along? By the end of this conversation, you should be able to say what difference it makes when you actually look at the whole picture instead of just today.

Key questions:

“When you watch someone assess a situation fairly, what does that actually look like? How can you tell they are seeing the whole thing instead of just the part that bothers them right now?”

“Does any of that match how you try to look at things in your own work or at home? Where do you find yourself naturally taking the longer view, and where do you tend to react to what is in front of you?”

“Tell us about a time when you thought something was deeply unfair, but when you stepped back and looked at the span of things, it turned out differently than you first felt. How did you know to look again?”

“If this lodge applied that kind of proportion to its own conflicts, what would a visitor notice? What would change in how brothers talk about what is going wrong?”

“Is there something from tonight that shifted how you see a situation you have been carrying? What landed differently?”

Wrap-up:

Touch on the key points and highlights of the discussion. Pay special attention to discoveries or immediate learnings by the participants. Personalize positive feedback with “I really valued Brother [John’s] point about X, or Y”

DISCUSSION

Date of Meeting:

Rating? ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Key Points

Takeaways

The Best Part:

Thing's I'd do differently next time:

Do this again? Y N

If so, how often? _____

