

## WHAT IS A MASON?

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Bethel #1, Anchorage, AK

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The lights are turned off or dimmed, all but the altar light and lights in east and west. Each member carries a battery-operated candle.

This ceremony can be done in a triangle, square and compass or cross formation, as long as the HQ, SP and JP form the 3 points of the foundation triangle before officers enter and when all other officers have left the room. The preferred method is the square and compass with the Chaplain and altar as the G. Officer's stations may be called instead of "Bethel Officer".

The AGB enters on the north marching line, standing in the east handing gavel to BG upon entrance.

Associate Bethel Guardian: ***"And in all the land were no women found so fair as the Daughters of Job; and their Father gave them inheritance among their brethren."***

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Guardian**

Bethel Guardian enters from Ante room, up south marching line. When even with southeast corner of altar turns on diagonal to east and ascends to east pedestal. Takes gavel from ABG

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Guardian: **A Mason is a man from whom all Job's Daughters receive their heritage. Every member of Job's Daughter is given a legacy through her relationship to a Mason, and it is this legacy that is the cornerstone upon which Job's Daughters is founded.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Honored Queen**

Honored Queen enters from Anteroom, up south marching line. When even with the southeast corner of altar turns on diagonal to east and stands mid-way between the East and altar, facing the altar.

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Honored Queen: ***(TURN ON CANDLE)*** For centuries the Beacon Light of Masonry has drawn men from all walks of life and represents every race, creed and religion. The rays from this beacon shine through out all Masonic organizations and their foundations are based on Masonic traditions and principles. A Mason is a Man who bases his life on three basic beliefs - Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Associate Bethel Guardian : **Senior Princess**

Senior Princess enters room from Preparation Room and stands at designated point in diagonal line from the HQ on HQ's right.

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Senior Princess: ***(TURN ON CANDLE)*** A Mason is a man that knows his satisfaction comes only from selfless giving (Pause) and from service to others without expecting anything in return. To find good in all and to extend brotherly love.

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Junior Princess:**

Junior Princess enters room from Ante Room and stands at designated point in diagonal line from the HQ on HQ's left and directly across from Sr. Princess. This now forms the triangle to build formation.

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Junior Princess: ***(TURN ON CANDLE)*** A Mason is a man who honors and values his promises (Pause) and knows that his life is a reflection of his character, morals and values and strives to be an example to others.

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Chaplain**

Chaplain enters room from preparation room and stands in center directly behind, west of the altar.

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Chaplain: ***(TURN ON CANDLE)*** A Mason is a man who shares many of the same values associated with a religious faith, but Masonry is *not* a religion. It is a brotherhood of men who want to make the world a better place.

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Marshal** (this Bethel Officer will enter carrying the flag, placing it in the east then turning and standing between Librarian and Sr. Custodian stations and facing the ABG. If there are two flags (US and another country or US and State Flag) have two flag bearers follow this officer in and place flags. When flags are placed these two flag bearers take position behind or beside the Bethel officer:

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #1: **(TURN ON CANDLE) A Mason is a man who is a patriot and will lay down his life for his country and his flag to defend freedom, liberty and the right to assembly for all, (Pause) even (PAUSE) when their philosophy of life differs from his.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer** - (the individual offices may be called by - station. When entering the room they alternate between the preparation room and the anteroom. Placement can be determined by the formation and room size. Once in place they are asked: What is a Mason and turn candle on.)

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #2: **(TURN ON CANDLE) A Mason is a man who hears the cries of distress and sorrow and will give all that he has to ease the pain and suffering.**

\*Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #3: **(TURN ON CANDLE) A Mason is a man who values education for himself and others. He is not imposing or controlling (Pause) but accepting in order that individuals may learn and decide for themselves.**

\*Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #4: **(TURN ON CANDLE) A Mason is a man who knows that his station in life is no higher than any other mans.**

\*Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #5: **(TURN CANDLE ON) A Mason is a man who would never promote himself or the members of the Masonic organization when providing compassion, service and assistance just to garner awards and accolades. Steadfast and upright he will receive his final reward.**

\*Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #6: (*TURN ON CANDLE*) **A Mason is a man who knows we are all equal in God's eyes and that prejudice is a creation of man. A Mason strives never to be judgmental.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #7: (*TURN ON CANDLE*) **A Mason is a man who others know to be truthful in his actions and thinking, dependable and honorable, and upon whom they can rely upon to be a true and loyal friend.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #8: (*TURN ON CANDLE*) **A Mason is a Man who wants and strives to make a positive difference in his community, schools and government.**

\*Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #9: (*TURN ON CANDLE*) **A Mason is a man who knows that Masonic charity comes first from the heart, then from the pocket-book.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #10: (*TURN ON CANDLE*) **A Mason is a man who feels the pain any honest man should feel at the thought of violating his word.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #11: (*TURN ON CANDLE*) **A Mason is a man who regards the entire human race as one family.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #12: **(TURN ON CANDLE) A Mason is a man who knows that without the feelings of love, life is lonesome, unhappy and unfulfilled. Fellowship with mankind provides that love.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #13: **(TURN ON CANDLE) A Mason is a man who takes for granted that no matter how industrious or saving a person is, there are sudden misfortunes or conditions over which they have no control and will need a temporary helping hand.**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **Bethel Officer**

Associate Bethel Guardian: **What is a Mason?**

Bethel Officer #14: **(TURN ON CANDLE) A Mason is a man whose obligation is to always exemplify the Masonic values, morals and character in his personal life, as an example to young womanhood of the qualities they should respect and seek out in their own lives.**

3 raps will be given by Bethel Guardian. As everyone stands, girls will kneel, setting the lighted candle down in front of them, assume the attitude of prayer and recite the Mother's Fathers and Guardians prayer. **Emphasis should be given to the line:**

**Bless and protect we pray thee, the Master Masons who give us heritage.**

Girls will pick up their candles and **turn them off** as BG gives one rap for those standing to sit; girls will stand, and retire in an orderly manner single file in accordance with formation used out the preparation and ante room doors. Bethel Guardian will retire from East on south marching line and flag bearers on the north marching line.

HQ, Sr. Princess and Jr. Princess who will remain in place with candles off

Once all officers have retired:

HQ then will say: **Brotherly Love** and turn candle on.

Sr. Princess then will say: **Relief** and turn her candle on

Jr. Princess then will say: **Truth** and turn her candle on.

THEN in unison all three will say: **These are the beacon lights of life**

Princesses turn around and retire followed by the HQ with the Associate Bethel Guardian retiring last.

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