

Part #12
LEO / Training Briefing Guide

1. While most lodges tend to rely on a few “knowledgeable/talented “ Brothers to interact with prospective candidates, every Brother needs to be prepared to answer three questions: “What is Masonry?”,” “What Do Masons Do?””, and “Why are you a Mason?”
 - a. The best way to answer these three questions is to have thought through them ahead of time, so they need not take you by surprise.
 - b. Chances are very good that even the least outgoing Brother will be asked or have the opportunity to interact with a prospective candidate, often when he least expects it.
 - c. Considering these questions is extremely valuable not only to be able to answer a prospective candidate, but also for the Brothers themselves.
2. A Leo session devoted to a discussion of these questions will help each Brother in formulating their answers.
3. All Brothers should have a basic understanding of Masonry, the Masonic family (appendent bodies) and know appropriate brothers who can answer more detailed questions about Masonic History and the appendent bodies.
4. No two Brothers want/get the same thing out of the fraternity.
 - a. The best answers you can have to these questions come from your heart, as apposed to a memorized answer.
 - b. The prospective candidate will respect you if he feels you believe the answers.
5. No two prospective candidates will approach Masonry in the same way, with the same level of knowledge or for the same reasons.
6. What is Masonry?
 - a. Simple: The Oldest men’s fraternity which spans many of the countries of the world.
 - b. A group of like minded individuals trying to improve themselves.
 - c. A local Fraternity which cares about each other and our community.
 - d. Your answer:
7. What do Masons do?
 - a. A personal journey: subdue my passions and improve myself in Masonry.
 - b. Support local charities, state wide support for University of MN Cancer Center, Children’s ID, scholarships, etc.
 - c. Fellowship
 - d. Your Answer:
8. Why are you a Mason?
 - a. Only you can answer this one!
9. Feel free to focus on the core elements of Masonry:
 - a. Belief in Deity – regardless of individuals religion; Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, etc.
 - b. Tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth; interpreted today to include the values of Political Freedom, Religious Tolerance, and Personal Integrity.
 - c. Not a secret organization, but an organization which maintains a very few secrets (signs and symbols of recognition and specifics about the degrees being the principals ones).
 - d. A fraternal organization dedicated to making good men better.
10. Have a plan once you get the “How do you join?” or “Where do we go from here?” question.