



SOUTH CAROLINA SUPPLEMENT
S.K. Michael W Kirk
R. E. Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of South Carolina
Web Site: www.scgyr.org

Greetings Sir Knights

This month let us think about why we and our fraternity exist,

One of the most important things we do as men, masons, and Knights Templars is service to others. Selfless service should be fundamental in our lives. It should be offered and provided out of genuine and deep desire to help and be of service to others. It is unfortunate that many people today will not consistently help others without anticipating something in return, usually money.

As it should be, people are understandably committed to their daily needs, families, and friends, often helping each other whenever appropriate. We should strive however to extend this service whenever the need is apparent and appropriate, and whenever it is possible to do so. This should be done without thought of self or personal gain. Service to others can be accomplished in many ways, from financial to direct physical help, also through advice, support, and teaching.

Wouldn't the world be a better place if everyone would embrace these principles? If only. Unfortunately, selfishness, greed, gross materialism, and disregard for others seem to be the norm.

I read a headline the other day that stated that Masonry is needed now more than ever. I agree. The article as it turns out was, unfortunately, was more about declining membership than the philosophy.

I truly believe in Masonic philosophy, when practiced it is a wonderful thing.

We as Knights Templar should strive to live our lives in a positive manner, offering service to others whenever possible and not to live a shallow life of token efforts. Bring the philosophy out in the open.

Acts 20:35 "I have shewed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, it is more blessed to give than receive."

As I alluded to earlier, no one can be faulted for seeking to improve their life. To have purpose and goals as these are important. But we must not allow our pursuit of personal growth, titles, and happiness to ignore others, it then becomes selfishness. It is easy to become self-focused, our needs, our desires and ambitions can be all consuming.

Two great quotes I came across.

Mother Teresa – "At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by – I was hungry you gave me something to eat, I was naked, and you clothed me, I was homeless, and you took me in."

Carl Gustav Jung – "You are what you do, not what you say you'll do."

With continued fraternal love and affection.

Mike Kirk
R.E. Grand Commander
South Carolina Knights Templar.