

**Illinois
Masonic
Education
Themes**

April

**Grand Lodge Committee
on Masonic Education**

April-When You Entered

Remember back to moments immediately after you entered the lodge on your initiation night. Review the Entered Apprentice Reception and Circumambulation.

Discussion Questions

1. How were you received?
2. It was said that this reception was to remind you not to reveal the secrets of Masonry “unlawfully.” What does “unlawfully” mean here? Are there secrets in addition to the modes of recognition (grips/words) which this experience refers to? Why or why not?
3. You were received just inside the door to the preparation room. Why not perform this portion of the ritual outside the door? In other words, the ritual could have had this “threat to the conscious” outside the door, why do you suppose we bring the candidate inside first?
4. After the reception, you were passed from the care of the JD to that of the SD. What do you think is the significance of this?

Notes and Guided Answers

1. *Point of a sharp instrument*
2. For discussion
3. For discussion
4. It is not for me to say, but allow me to draw attention to some things in the next slide.

April Supplement

This month we find ourselves quarantined and separated from our brethren. I recognize this as a difficult time but it remains important to continue to remember that each of us are Masons. Reach out to your fellow brothers and check in. Perhaps, set up a time to discuss some of these reflection questions.

It is still possible to conduct your own Masonic Education with this month's theme. You may read through the questions and think about your answers. Better yet, you may write your answers down in a personal journal. Or perhaps you have the ability to video chat or call your Brothers and Education Officers to work the questions.

Supplement to Q4: *During the preparation, you were with the Junior Deacon and the Stewards getting prepared. You saw their faces and you may have even spoken to them. Inside the Lodge room, you are passed from the care of the Junior Deacon and Stewards to the care of the Senior Deacon following the reception. At this point, you have heard the voice of the Senior Deacon but in many cases, you don't know who this man is. You've not performed any of the cultural practices tied to building trust (getting to know someone, experiencing their loyalty over time, etc.), yet you now walk, blindfolded and are forced to trust him with your safety. I ask, what is the significance of this?*