



ALPHA SIGMA PHI FRATERNITY
to **BETTER** the MAN.

Leading up to the 175th Anniversary of Alpha Sigma Phi, we are focusing on one of the values each quarter. This Fall, we rededicate ourselves to the value of Purity.

Has the meaning of Purity changed? The modern world has a much different understanding of the word purity than that of our earlier brothers, and the meaning of the word has changed a bit with the passage of time. Some definitions say, “free from contamination.”

Earlier in the history of Alpha Sigma Phi, brothers would have had a more philosophical understanding of purity. They would have understood that it meant a general freedom from immorality and linked the word to virtue and integrity. The meaning that puts it most pointedly is “nobility of soul and spirit.” That is precisely why purity was chosen to be one of the five values that Alpha Sigma Phi has held dear for so many years now.

The inclusion of purity within the values is meant to remind us to look into our soul and spirit for our motivations. A brother consistently strives for purity of mind, body, and soul. The man who is pure of thought, word, and deed does not shrink from adversity or lofty goals. There are no self-pities, rationalizations, or apologies. He is moral and a gentleman in the finest sense of the word. Like integrity, purity is doing the right thing when no one else is watching. There are no hidden agendas or tainted motivations. A pure man can look back on his actions and not be ashamed of what he did or why he acted. How do you make decisions? Purity includes understanding the motivations that inform your decisions and not just the decisions themselves.

The value comes into play in every action and decision that people make, whether consciously or subconsciously, and whether those decisions are large or small. It is whether you are genuinely listening to someone during a casual conversation, just the same as whether you are listening when someone needs you the most. It is whether you pick an occupation for titles and money rather than the enjoyment or good you can do for society.

Plato stated that an unexamined life is not worth living. The value of purity calls for us all to look into ourselves and see where our motivations lay. Through understanding our motivations and changing those motivations, and possibly the actions after them, we grow to be better men. Each chapter should reflect on Purity during the Fall quarter of 2019. This includes chapter discussion, reflection, and activities. Our matching Philanthropy for Purity is Aware Awake Alive, focusing on alcohol abuse and hazing among young people. Document chapter activities and share with Fraternity Headquarters.