

Sept. 25, 1955

## Growing Smiles

A smile is quite a funny thing,  
It wrinkles up your face,  
And when its gone, you never find  
Its secret hiding place.

But far more wonderful it is  
To see what smiles can do;  
You smile at one, he smiles at you,  
And so one smile makes two.

He smiles at someone since you smiled,  
And then that one smiles back;  
And that one smiles, until in truth,  
You fail in keeping track.

New since a smile can do great good,  
By cheering hearts of care,  
Let's smile and smile, and not forget  
That smiles go everywhere.

—Author Unknown



*"He left us the Word . . . ."*

FOR THE WEARY:

Matthew 11: 28 through 30

Come unto me, all ye that labour and  
are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of  
me; for I am meek and lowly in heart,  
and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is  
light.

1 Peter 5: 7

Casting all your care upon him; for he  
careth for you.

TAKE YOUR BURDENS TO THE LORD  
IN PRAYER:

He will undo the heavy burdened, and  
let the oppressed go free.



# YOU BELIEVE

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**F**AITH or reason? Hope or logic? Belief or despair? Which to choose of each pair? Obviously happiness in life depends on faith, hope and belief. In fact, faith must be a higher faculty than reason in man, for confidence so often brings success whereas insecurity and timidity almost always result in failure. To reach our potential, we must believe not only in ourselves but in others, our Nation and God. A recent article entitled, "You Believe," from *Good Reading for Everyone* expresses this idea very eloquently and captures some of Masonry's faith in man's inner spirit building his outward accomplishments.

Belief begins with belief in yourself. In the mirror you're looking at your best friend or your worst enemy. Your world revolves around you. It starts and ends in your heart. What you are and hope to be begins with belief in yourself.

You believed you could walk when you took your first step. You believed you could talk when you said your first word. You believed you could learn when you started to school. You believed you could earn when you took your first job. You believed you could succeed and you did; or you failed because you didn't believe.

Your whole life is based on belief—faith of one kind or another. You help make America great when you believe in democracy and equal opportunity for all.

You add to growth and progress of your community when you believe in that progress.

You support law and order with your belief in fairness and justice.

You help all people everywhere with your belief in them.

Your belief stems from the greatest belief of all—your belief in God.

# GRATITUDE:

## *The Start of Action*

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**I**F there is one quality that characterizes true Freemasons, it is gratitude. We thank the Creator for opportunity. We recognize His gift of life—however given to us in terms of length and quality—as a foundation on which we can build to perfect ourselves and benefit others. Most people are thankful for whatever prosperity and protection they receive. Yet, the highest degree of all thankfulness is reached by him who is thankful even when life brings little material blessing or divine protection.

We in Masonry know that despite man's frailty and shortcomings, he is still warmed by the spark of brotherhood and kindness. We are thankful that in the heart of man there is still the flickering flame of brotherhood; there is still the spirit of democracy. We are thankful that despite many frustrations, our lives still can register some triumph. First and foremost, let us recognize and devoutly thank God for our commonest daily blessings; for the sunshine and the evening glow; for all

the loveliness of nature and all its phases for help and strength; for home and love and for friendship. Because these come in such abundance and are the daily gifts which we enjoy, they should not, therefore, be taken for granted.

As Freemasons, we thank God for this our glorious land, America. Above all, we must thank God for the continuing functioning of democracy and its ability to perfect itself. We are grateful for the right thinking of our citizenry which knows that even the Constitution of the United States was improved by amendments. Let us thank God for the heritage which is America's, a heritage which has come from many lands and belongs to all the strands of human migration which, coming here to this blessed shore, are now united in one insoluble bond. Reflecting on all our blessings, we must gladly rededicate ourselves to those sacred vows which bind us together so that we can grow with greater insight into our commitments and become true men of