

DeMOLAY INTERNATIONAL



ORIENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

The most important factor in the orientation-to-DeMolay program is YOU. You as an individual member and your chapter as a group must extend yourself in fellowship to the young man joining YOU. Make him aware that YOU are joining HIM also. His contribution as an individual is vitally important to the growth of DeMolay. Communication is a two-way exchange. Make him feel a part of the action from the beginning. This kind of personal inter-action will produce an active chapter that works together to achieve goals of far-reaching accomplishments in personal development, community projects, and lifelong fellowship. AND THAT'S WHAT YOU AND DeMOLAY ARE ALL ABOUT.

JUNIOR COUNCILOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

Usually the Junior Councilor is in charge of coaching new members in their Obligations, and most chapters also have him responsible for implementing the orientation program. In this way he can combine these two duties in one program. If it is a large class, the Junior Councilor usually has a committee to assist him.

The orientation program should be set up so that while the chapter is having its business meeting, the new members are being productively occupied in their orientation class.

The Orientation-to-DeMolay Program in your chapter should be well planned and executed. It is important that the instructor be well versed in all points to be covered and capable of answering any questions that may be asked.

REASONS FOR AN ORIENTATION-TO-DeMOLAY PROGRAM:

- a. Develop fellowship.
- b. Develop interest.
- c. Educate the new member about DeMolay.
- d. Insure the future of the chapter.
- e. Occupies the new member's time while chapter is in business meeting (most chapters hold their Orientation Program at this time).

NECESSARY PREREQUISITES FOR AN ORIENTATION PROGRAM:

- a. A convenient, well ventilated place to meet with the new members.
- b. A responsible and well prepared Committee.
- c. Well defined Orientation Program.

An effective orientation program should only take 2 or 3 sessions. Approach these sessions seriously. Cover the basic things, but don't overload the new member as he will learn as he proceeds in his DeMolay career. The following checklist will assist you in setting up and carrying out an effective Orientation-to-DeMolay program.

Actually, your orientation program really begins immediately after the new members election when you . . .

- inform him of his election.
- invite him to participate in chapter activities.
- invite him to attend orientation sessions.

SESSION NO. 1

(Can be an introductory meeting prior to the Initiatory Degree.)

- Explain history of the Order and your chapter.

Explain duties of the various officers and Advisory Council.

Explain duties of the various committees.

Explain conduct and dress expected at meetings.

Explain activities of the chapter.

Explain what to expect at the Initiatory Degree.

SESSION NO. 2

(Following Initiatory Degree)

Coaching on Initiatory Degree Obligation.

Explain DeMolay government at all levels—ISC, Executive Officer, etc.

Explain Chapter customs—kneeling, raps, etc.

Explain what to expect at the DeMolay Degree.

Assign the new members to various committees.

SESSION NO. 3

(Following DeMolay Degree)

Coaching in DeMolay Degree Obligation.

Explain Ritual Work.

Explain district and jurisdictional operations and conclaves.

Explain their Obligation to get new members.

Remember a good basic knowledge of DeMolay IS important—but PERSONAL COMMUNICATION as a chapter and as individual members is what will keep him turned on to you and you tuned in to him. Active interested new members are the lifeblood of our organization.

TAKE TIME

Don't orient a new member then become slack in your interest. Keep a mental checklist to remind yourself.

REVIEW EACH NEW MEMBER'S PARTICIPATION:

- Is he attending meetings?
- What committee is he on?
- Has he learned his Obligations?
- Does he attend chapter activities?
- Has he brought in any new members?
- Should he be an officer?

INCLUDE THE PARENTS

Parents are interested in their son's organization and activity. Include them in your continuing orientation.

- invite them to public ceremonies
- inform them about DeMolay—(use the pamphlets)
- make them always feel welcome
- inform the new member's mother about the Mothers' Club.

Using this outline and setting up an effective orientation program in your chapter will pay dividends in terms of increased attendance, new activities and greater fellowship.

Let's make DeMolay
synonymous with
ACTION.

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IT'S 'UP TO YOU

- Enthusiasm for your chapter, your organization, and your membership new and standing is the key to success.
- Interest and make new members active but don't overload them.
- Assure them that their contribution is needed and their participation is welcome.
- Educate them to understand your programs and the structure of your club.
- Encourage them to communicate their ideas and suggestions from the beginning.
- Let them know you need their ideas by being a receptive listener.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP CONTACT:

**THE MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT
ISC HEADQUARTERS**

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