

But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦.

When I started looking into Freemasonry, I was overwhelmed by all of the information and varied views about just what it is all about. So I read and read, I talked with Masons, and I thought about just what Freemasonry is. And this is what I came up with:

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Itâ??s a club.
You join it. You attend meetings. Business is conducted at the meetings. You gather socially. You do fundraisers. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

Itâ??s a fraternity.
You join in brotherhood. You pledge your loyalty to it. You help your fellow brothers, and you receive help from them. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

Itâ??s philanthropic.
It uses your money and time to help others. It helps the poor. It helps the needy. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

Itâ??s a mystery.
You seek it, it doesnâ??t seek you. Its secrets are held in high regard. It imparts timeless wisdom. It uses symbols and allegory to explain itself. It has secret signs and words. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

Itâ??s open and visible.
Its secrets are published. Itâ??s secrets are known. Its buildings are prominent and visible. Its members often wear identifiable pins and rings. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

Itâ??s a system of morality.
It teaches good morals. It instructs good ethics. It promotes integrity. It despises falsehood. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

It believes in God.
It finds God in nature. It finds God in Science. It finds God in Mathematics. It finds evidence of God

everywhere. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

Itâ??s selective.
It requires belief in God. It investigates you. It votes on you. It decides if you are worthy for it. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

It sets aside differences and breaks down walls.
It doesnâ??t discuss religion. It doesnâ??t discuss politics. It accepts men of all God-believing theologies. It is open to all denominations. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

Itâ??s theater.
Its rituals and ceremonies rival many local theater groups. But itâ??s more than thatâ?¦

So what is it? Itâ??s Freemasonry! But itâ??s so much moreâ?¦

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Date
11/10/2026
Date Created
05/22/2007