

GOODFELLOWSHIP

"No priest, nor king, nor counsel made its laws, or ever shall, for it is free."

Good Fellowship is one of the elemental things—rooted in man with good and evil, love and hate. Its temples are wherever good men get together—its shrines and sanctuaries the hearts of men. More than the impetuous comradeship of youth, it is the settled faith of men in men. Passing all boundaries of nation, creed or calling, it asks only the open heart, the honest purpose, the cheerful countenance. Its password is the kindling eye, its pledge the hearty hand—its finest messages are unspoken. It is the golden age made manifest. Rites, religions, men and measures pass—good fellowship remains; for it is eternal love of life, eternal faith, eternal charity and cheer.—*Kehler.*

Lion Presidents and Secretaries, are you promoting Good Fellowship in your club? The fundamental basis of Lionism, the rock on which it stands, is the Good Fellowship of the members in it. Out of this comes all that is good.

Some sociable individual has said: "Get acquainted with your neighbor—you may like him." Perhaps he had reference to the Lions Club, the chief end of which is to accomplish those things which warm the hearts of men and bring them into closer harmony.

Is there a saner or a safer method of creating Good Fellowship than getting together with your fellow men once a week, putting your feet under the same table that real, red-blooded human beings systematically sit down to every week, and looking them squarely in the eye? There are times in the life of every man when he needs to forget his own troubles and think about the other fellow's. Attendance at club meetings provides just that surcease which busy business men require to keep them physically fit and mentally alert.

The moral of "common clay" is Good Fellowship—the thing that leavens the loaf of life. Without it, life is little better than mere existence, a wearisome grind at which red-blooded men rebel. The secret which the Lions Club is earnestly trying to disclose for the benefit of its members is the method through which every man may develop that natural desire for companionship, acquaintance and mutual esteem which, after all, are as the flowers by the wayside.

That is why the members of your Lions Club try to instill into your daily association the spirit of Good Fellowship that they may always keep before you the end to be achieved. That is why they believe it is for your own interest that you meet with them once each week, giving visible expression to your purpose, that all the world may see, and, seeing, believe in the sincerity and beauty of your associations and fellowship.

Truly, there is nothing more desirable than fellowship—*friendship*. To the man with many friends the stream of life murmurs happiness, contentment, success. It broadens and deepens with the passage of time. Its ripples, glistening in the sunlight, are emblematic of those responsive souls, who, giving of their best, receive it back a thousandfold.

Good Fellowship! That is the Lions ideal. No matter what may come nor how sorely business may press and try you, no matter if your personal inclination is to crawl into a corner and grouch about your troubles, make it a habit as fixed as the day to go to the weekly meetings and help make them what they should be. This done, the burden of life's grind will lighten in the joy of service, and you will return to your task with mind attuned to success, in rhythm with the great human family of which you are, individually, but a link in the chain from Alpha to Omega.

Good Fellowship! That is the one and only way of life. Live it, for in it you will always find the rift in the clouds, and through it you will find courage so that your feet will never falter in the pathway to that pinnacle which all desire but so few attain—success.

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