

Prospective Members Ceremony International Order of Job's Daughters

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This ceremony was prepared for an open Bethel meeting specially to inform the friends, neighbors, and relatives of members what Job's Daughters is about. It isn't very long and it is recommended that it be accompanied by some other event, such as a mother-daughter banquet, or tea where questions can be answered and petitions distributed. It is also suggested to plan some mixer games so that the members and friends can get to know each other informally.

Officers and Choir shall wear official regalia, follow established lines for floor work, and assume the attitude of prayer when necessary. Prepare the Bethel room as per Ritual, placing in Bethel Charter, Holy Bible, Horn of Plenty, Lily of the Valley, Incense Burner, and Dove in their proper places. National Flag and Bethel Flag should be placed in the Preparation Room.

It is extremely important that the members make a good first impression by conducting a smooth meeting where all officers have their parts memorized.

ENTRANCE OF BETHEL GUARDIAN AND ASSOCIATE BETHEL GUARDIAN

This shall be done per Ritual:

BG Bethel No. ____ of _____ (city) (State, Province, Territory or Country) of the International Order of Job's Daughters is about to convene for an Open Meeting. All present are invited to remain to acquaint themselves with a beautiful organization for the youth of today.

ENTRANCE OF BETHEL OFFICERS AND BETHEL CHOIR

A special ceremony may be given from the Supreme Book of Ceremonies.

HQ Marshal, you will retire and present the flag of our nation west of the Altar. (*Tribute given as per Supreme Book of Ceremonies on page 11*) All join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

DISPLAY OF BETHEL FLAG

Bethel Flag Bearer will present the flag as per Ritual. When flag is west of the Altar the Librarian will repeat the Job's Daughters Flag poem (found in the Supreme Book of Ceremonies on page 69)

HQ Bethel Flag Bearer, you will place the Bethel Flag in the East. (*as per Ritual*) Our Chaplain will lead us in the Lord's Prayer.

Chaplain approaches Altar and opens Bible per Ritual. Musician plays "Sweet Hour of Prayer". Chaplain remains standing during the following speech and then kneels for the Lord's Prayer.

C While I, the Chaplain, attend at the Altar, all members of Job's Daughters assume the attitude of prayer which is given by bowing the head and placing the open hands palm to palm fingers pointing upward. All others are asked to pray in the manner they are accustomed to. (*kneels*)

Our Father, which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.

Chaplain retires from Altar in usual manner. Musician plays "To a Wild Rose" or "Peace" Recorder assumes station at Recorder's desk.

HQ In the name of our Lord and by virtue of the power vested in me by the Grand Guardian Council I now declare Bethel No. ____ of (city, state, province, territory, or country) of the International Order of Job's Daughters regularly assembled for a meeting. Recorder, you will read the Special Dispensation.

Record reads the Dispensation, then is seated.

HQ We have invited you here tonight to witness our own special ceremony created specifically to help you understand what Job's Daughters is all about. We will be giving you a lot of new information tonight and I recommend you listen carefully to all of it. It will tell you a great deal about our Order. Several members will be sharing with you their pride in our Order this evening.

This is considered an open meeting. Usually our meetings are closed, which means only members of Job's Daughters, their parents, Master Masons in good standing, or women over the age of twenty who are either the wife, daughter, granddaughter, mother, sister, half sister, or widow of a Master Mason, are admitted to the meeting.

All of our regular meetings follow the form outlined in our Ritual, this little purple book. (*Hold up Ritual*) Each girl becomes very familiar with its

contents but remembers to keep it secret from unobligated persons. Our secrets are in no way destructive or offensive to anyone, but are merely in keeping with the high ideals of Job's Daughters. No part of the work of Job's Daughters is hidden from those who should know what the members do and are taught. The girls preside over the business and affairs of the Bethel and take an active part in all activities.

SP The International Order of Job's Daughters was founded in 1920 by Mrs. Ethel T. Wead Mick in the city of Omaha, Nebraska. Her dream has grown and now includes membership in over half of the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, Brazil, and the Philippines.

The fundamental object of the International Order of Job's Daughters is to band together young women for spiritual and moral up-building, to inspire the desire for knowledge, to teach love of Country and flag, love of home, respect for parents and elders, and reverence for the Holy Scriptures-the principles for which Free Masonry stands. Job's Daughters is Democratic and Christian in purpose, preparing young women for domestic, civic, patriotic, business, religious, fraternal, and social activities.

JP There is nothing more fitting to young women than the beautiful sentiment expressed in the Book of Job in the Bible, and as exemplified in our ritualistic work, indicating that through life, from early childhood to old age, we encounter trials and tribulations which must be met and overcome.

The drama, as developed by lectures, symbols and song, has an inspiring influence on all who attend the meetings. The great influence of an organization of this kind cannot be estimated.

The 42nd Chapter, 15th Verse, of the Book of Job tells us that "In all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job, and their father gave them inheritance." Job's Daughters are the relatives of Master Masons and their fathers have given them inheritance.

HQ The International Order of Job's Daughters is the only organization for girls that requires all of its members to be related to a Master Mason. While Job's Daughters is not a part of the Masonic fraternity, this prerequisite ties it closely to the Masonic Order.

1M The history of Masonry dates back to the time before the Christian Era. In the middle of the seventeenth century, a group of skilled architects banded themselves together for the protection of their craft and the prosperity of their skills. They were the first "Master Masons," creators of

the magnificent edifices of the Medieval Period of cathedral building in Europe. They worked under their own government, traveling from place to place as work required.

- 2M** Some years later, in 1702, a London, England lodge decided to open the doors of Masonry to men unskilled in architecture. As the demand for operative skill decreased, the lofty moral principles, noble ideals and manly virtues of those who were already members attracted to this society men of prominence in church and state, whose higher character and fine attainments had made them distinguished. This is the origin of Freemasonry as we know it today.
- 3M** Persecuted by church and state because of its successful effort to promote free thinking and lofty ideals, its history pages are smeared with the blood of the martyrs who gave their lives that this order survive. Its history also has gilded pages covered with the records of deeds well done, of bonded men set free, and of mercy and good-will to all mankind.
- 4M** A writer of authority on the subject of Masonry tells us that the great secret of this Order is that it makes men aware of the divinity within them. A Mason's whole life takes its beauty and meaning from this divine spark and inspires him to follow and obey it. This same writer says; "A man is a Mason when he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage which is the root of every virtue."
- 5M** This following quotation from "The Veil of Isis", by Winwood Reade, is a revelation of the high ideals of this great Masonic Order that we revere and honor. "The doctrines of Masonry are the most beautiful that is possible to imagine. They breathe the simplicity of the earliest ages, animated by the love of a martyred God. That word which Puritans translated CHARITY, but which is really LOVE, is the keystone which supports the entire edifice of the mystic science. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. TEACH ONE ANOTHER, HELP ONE ANOTHER. This is all our doctrine, all our science, all our law. We have no narrow-minded prejudices; we do not debar from our society this sect or that sect; it is sufficient for us that man worships GOD no matter under what name or in what manner. It is impossible to be a good Mason without being a good man."
- HQ** Job's Daughters owe their heritage to the Master Masons. We are proud of their victories over bitter persecution; we are grateful for their triumph over the snares of time.

The organized group to which we belong, and our meeting place is known as a "Bethel", meaning "Holy Place." Our meeting place is always this Masonic Temple. The affairs of the Bethel are directed by regularly initiated and affiliated members of the Order under the supervision of an adult advisory group composed of nine members and known as the Bethel Guardian Council. The two top adult authorities are the Guardian and the Associate Guardian of the Council. Our Guardian is _____ and our Associate Guardian is _____.

One of the lessons learned in a Bethel is that of equality. Regardless of one's status outside, when within the Bethel all are equal, even to the wearing of identical white Grecian robes by Bethel Officers and Bethel Choir. The Grecian robe was worn in the days of Job. Our colors, purple and white, are constant reminders of the royalty of motherhood and the purity of a womanly life. This official regalia suggests a forward, upward, and onward trend toward higher ideals.

In our ceremonies tonight, we have tried to answer most of the question you may have formulated about Job's Daughters. IF, however, there are any further questions that we have left unanswered, please ask any one of us after the close of the meeting and we would be most happy to help you. Anyone who is seriously considering joining our Order, we urge you to pick up a petition from our Guardian Secretary or Bethel Guardian (both rise) after the meeting. A petition is a two page form that must be filled out by you, your Masonic sponsor, and be confirmed by his lodge. We would be most eager to initiate each one of you into Job's Daughters.

ESCORT AND INTRODUCTIONS

HQ In the many years Job's Daughters has existed, we have found many people we are proud of because of their special services to our Order. We take time to recognize these many special people at each of our meetings. At this time I would like to present to you the beautiful people in Job's Daughters.

Continue with Escort and Introduction as per ritual, with the elimination of honors. Have the prospective members introduced after Presiding Officers.

REMARKS AND PRESENTATIONS

CLOSING

HQ Chaplain, you will attend at the Altar. *(Three raps)*

Chaplain approaches altar in the regular manner. Musician plays "Sweet HGour of Prayer"

C Oh Lord, be Thou Our Guardian on high,
Be there to counsel us, to keep us free from fear.
Be with us as we part on our various ways,
Guide and protect each one assembled here.
Help us to help each other. May we practice in
Our daily lives the trustful faith of Job.
Bless our leaders, our parents,
and those near and dear to us.
In Thy Name. Amen.

Chaplain reverently closes Bible while Musician plays appropriate music, and then returns to her station.

HQ All present will please be seated until the Bethel Officers and Bethel Choir have retired.

Retiring March proceeds as per ritual.