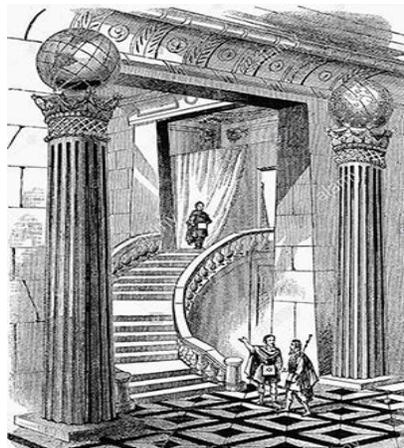


## Step 0 – An Introduction

To quote from a movie I just saw this past week “Let’s start at the very beginning, a very good place to start”. Unlike a typical twelve step program that is looking to correct an existing behavior, this 15 step program is focused on taking something already good, and making it better; that being ourselves, as Masons. In the coming months and possibly years, I hope to help my fellows of the craft traverse the winding staircase of life and share knowledge in a meaningful way. I consider it an honor to follow in the footsteps of the quarry master who brought us so many “nuggets”, and hope to continue bringing all my brethren to further light for my duration in this office.

While some of you may see some similarity with recovery programs in the structure providing the framework for my presentations, that is the extent of the correlation. The number 15 has a number of connections to Masonry, the first of which is the 15 total stairs of the winding staircase, additionally there were 15 Fellowcrafts that were part of that ancient conspiracy which we learn about in the ritual, 12 of which realized their errors and ceased, leaving 3 impediments to hinder advancement. This should remind us (especially me) that some steps may be harder to climb than others without help. I will do my part to ensure that there are no pitfalls or obstructions and hope that you will render me the same aid if something is unclear or if you have further questions. Also, if there is a topic that you would like to learn more about, feel free to ask me and I will conduct the research and help improve understanding. You never know when your question could help another person find an answer they didn’t know they were seeking.

And thus, even before we have touched the foot of the staircase, our journey together has already begun. I hope you will join me next month for Step 1 which will be ‘Plumb Beautiful’.



***‘The Winding Staircase - A 15 step path to improving yourself in Masonry’  
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