The Chapter

The Heart of DeMolay

THE PURPOSE OF THIS EXERCISE: To help each attendee understand that without the chapter, there would be no DeMolay and that they each has a key role in making their chapter here and especially back home, be success.

A number of our chapters back home may not be doing all that well. It is the responsibility of every member of a chapter to do all in his power to help the chapter have successful activities that the members want to attend; as a result of that, they will interest more young men to join our ranks, which allows more activities with more members attending, having more fun. It is not the responsibility of advisors or sponsoring, or the State bodies to make our chapters succeed and grow. It is up to the individual members.

What makes the Chapter the Heart of DeMolay. Dad Land with the help of the original nine DeMolays developed **The Chapter Concept** as the foundation of DeMolay. The key principles of DeMolay were made the foundation of the chapter.

 **Youth Led – Not Adult Led**

 **DeMolay Ideals as expressed in our ceremonies**

 **Balanced Program of activities**

**Observing the Obligatory Days and understanding their meaning**

 **Honors and Awards**

 **Leadership Training**

 **A Positive Adult and Youth Association**

**Brotherhood among the Members**

LEAD A DISCUSSION:

Ask those present to give examples in their own chapter of each of key principles are cared out in their chapter back home. Go principle by principle and ask for examples of where it is used and examples of where it is missing. Ask the members to give the reasons why their chapter is successful or not. What areas do they need to work on back home in their chapter. This is the week to learn how DeMolay should function and decide upon a plan of action to help your chapter become the Chapter that Dad Land and the original 9 DeMolays had envisioned.

Sum up the discussion, by focusing in on the weak points and strong points or all chapters discussed. Encourage the members to get the most out of this week; try to learn as much about DeMolay and the Chapter concept so that they can go back home and work with other members of their chapters to create the Brotherhood that will help make it possible for their chapter to grow and be a place where their members will want to be.

Please make a few notes on the discussion so that you can debrief the exercise at the evening staff meeting.