The “To Better The Man” Manual describes purity as “A brother consistently strives for purity of mind, body, and soul. The man who is pure of thought, word, and deed does not shrink from adversity or lofty goals. There is no self-pity, rationalizations, or apologies. He is moral and a gentleman in the finest sense of the word. Like integrity, purity is doing the right thing when no one else is watching. There are no hidden agendas nor tainted motivations. A pure man can look back on his actions and not be ashamed of what or why he acted. How do you make decisions? Purity is understanding the motivations that inform your decisions rather than about the decisions themselves.”

Does Purity mean the same thing today as it meant to brothers decades ago? Should it? Do we change the definition to match our current desired behavior? Is that a good thing or a bad thing?

What are your motivations for small things like interacting with friends and family on a daily basis? What are your motivations for going to school to get a degree? What are your ultimate goals with relationships and for your life after college? How can that be related to Purity?

Suppose you are forced to talk and engage with someone that either you do not like or does not like you. How do you exercise purity when interacting with someone that you dislike? How do you exercise purity when someone is disrespecting you? How do you react to someone who does not share your morals or political views?

Suppose you are approached by a homeless person asking for something. Do you treat that person differently depending upon their age, race or gender? Do you treat them differently if they just want to talk, are asking for food, or are asking for money? What are your motivations for the way you treat them. If your motivations differ depending upon the above factors, why do they differ? Should they differ? What is the best way to approach this situation when applying the value of purity?

Aware Awake Alive is the Philanthropy assigned to the value of Purity, focusing on alcohol abuse and hazing among young people. What motivations have members had when they were drinking? Is there a way to exercise purity and still consume alcohol? Does Purity mean sobriety? Is it hypocritical to require sobriety of new members, but apply a different standard to senior members? Is there a difference between alcohol use and abuse? How do you approach telling a drunk that they should stop drinking on a particular night? How would you approach speaking to someone if you think they have a drinking problem?