

BROTHERHOOD

Everyone recognizes and appreciates brotherhood in action. The only question that besets everyone today is: why can't we have more of it? To have more actual brotherhood in this, or any community, we have to realize the underlying reasons for any brotherhood at all. First of all, brotherhood presupposes fatherhood, and the most basic fatherhood of all is the Fatherhood of God. As children of God, we are all brothers of each other. Any act against brotherhood is an act against our Father, God.

Another important prerequisite of brotherhood is understanding.

This understanding does not close its eyes to the differences of religion or race, but it tries to appreciate the sincerity of every person's religious belief and practice. As to race, understanding sees that men of every race are fundamentally human beings, with the same human yearnings for respect and dignity. Understanding does not tolerate blind intolerance.

The more we understand these things, the more brotherhood we will have. It is important for any community to be understanding, for the sincere conviction of brotherhood must precede brotherhood in action. I am honored to receive this Brotherhood Award for the University of Notre

Dame, for the University, as a community of scholars, is committed to understanding, and, in fact, you will find at Notre Dame men of every religion and every race who work together as brothers for a better world.
