

The Golden Rule

Matthew 7:12



All I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sand pile at school.

These are the things I learned:

- Share everything.
- Play fair.
- Don't hit people.
- Put things back where you found them.
- Clean up your own mess.
- Don't take things that aren't yours.
- Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.





- Wash your hands before you eat.
- Flush.
- Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.
- Live a balanced life - learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.
- Take a nap every afternoon.
- When you go out in the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands and stick together.
- Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the Styrofoam cup: the roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.





- Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the Styrofoam cup - they all die. So do we.
- And then remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned - the biggest word of all - LOOK.

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and equality and sane living.

Take any one of those items and extrapolate it into sophisticated adult terms and apply it to your family life or your work or government or your world and it holds



true and clear and firm. Think what a better world it would be if we all - the whole world - had cookies and milk at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and then lay down with our blankies for a nap.

Or if all governments had as a basic policy to always put things back where they found them and to clean up their own mess.

And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out in the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.





Matthew 7:12

Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.





"What is hateful to yourself, do to no other."

"Do to no one what you yourself dislike." (Tobit 4:15)





Matthew 7:12

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Matthew 7:12

Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you...





In fact, it changes every area of your life.





***In everything, do to others what
you would have them do to you.***



Think About How You Want Others To Treat You

Matthew 7:12 NASB

Therefore, however you want people to treat you...



Think About How You Want Others To Treat You

Matthew 7:12

Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you...



Look For Chances To Model This For Others

***Bringing out the best in others
requires a commitment of time and
energy and patience.***



Look For Chances To Model This For Others

2 Samuel 12:13-14

Then David confessed to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.”

Nathan replied, “Yes, but the LORD has forgiven you, and you won’t die for this sin. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, because you have shown utter contempt for the word of the LORD by doing this, your child will die.”



Look For Chances To Model This For Others

*I want people to forgive and forget,
that is exactly what I need to do for
others.*



Look For Chances To Model This For Others

If you want to be forgiven, forgive.

*If you want to be encouraged,
encourage.*

*If you want to be treated gently,
treat others gently.*



Look For Chances To Model This For Others

The purpose of the Golden Rule is not to manipulate others into behaving the way you want them to behave.

The purpose of the Golden Rule is for you to become perfect in holiness by giving to someone else the special kind of treatment you want for yourself.



Look For Chances To Model This For Others

Romans 5:8

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.



Look For Chances To Model This For Others

Doing unto others as you would have them do unto you—treating others as you want to be treated—helps you become like Jesus.



Make This The Primary Goal Of Your Spiritual Life

Matthew 7:12

Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.



Make This The Primary Goal Of Your Spiritual Life

The most crucial aspect of true spirituality is how you treat others.



Make This The Primary Goal Of Your Spiritual Life

"First and foremost, a successful pastor must be a good Christian. And that means he lives by the Golden Rule."



Think about how you want to be treated

Look for ways to model that behavior toward others.

Make this primary objective of your spiritual life.

