

The Golden Rule June 15th & 16th, 2013

Matthew 7:12

“So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

↳ “So...” or “Therefore...”^(NKJ) indicates that this statement is continuous with the previous one.

God is the giver of good things so we are to do good to others.

“Jesus put in positive terms what was previously taught in the negative by Hillel, Philo, Isocrates and Confucius: ‘Do not do to others what you do not want done to you.’”^{1 & 2}

- ❖ Jesus does not address the avoiding of negative and wrong behavior, but emphasizes that His disciples must be proactive in finding ways to love and serve others based on their own desire to be treated well by others!
- ❖ This verse is called the “Golden Rule” because of its value in directing human behavior toward one another.
- ❖ Jesus said that the Law and the Prophets teaching was summed up by this attitude!

The “Golden Rule” covers a multitude of areas that would require thousands of specific rules regarding human conduct and treatment of others!

- ❖ Do you wish that others would speak to you with kindness and respect especially when in a disagreement?
... *Then speak to others with kindness and respect!*
📖 2 Timothy 2:24-25
- ❖ Do you wish that others would give you the benefit of the doubt rather than jumping to conclusions and criticizing you?
... *Then give others the benefit of the doubt!*
📖 2 Corinthians 10:12,10
- ❖ Do you wish that others would keep their word when they commit to do something?
... *Then keep your word!*
📖 Psalm 15:4
- ❖ Do you wish that others would initiate giving help when they see a need?
... *Then give help when you see a need!*
📖 Luke 10:25-37
- ❖ Do you wish that others would notice when you are missing, and would contact you to let you know that you are loved?
... *Then take time to contact someone that you haven't seen for a while!*
📖 1 Corinthians 12:14-26
- ❖ Do you wish that others would greet you with a smile, especially when you're feeling unnoticed?
... *Then greet others with a smile!*
📖 Romans 12:16
- ❖ Do you wish that others would willingly volunteer their time to serve the Lord without being asked, especially when you are leading a particular area of ministry and need helpers?
... *Then willingly volunteer your time to serve the Lord!*
📖 1 John 3:16-18

- ❖ Do you wish that others would reach out to show care and concern rather than withdraw from you or look down on you, especially when you are struggling with an area of sin in your life?
... *Then reach out and show care and concern for others!*
📖 Galatians 6:1-5
- ❖ Do you wish that others would be more concerned about how you are doing rather than going on and on about their own issues?
... *Then be concerned about others!*
📖 Philippians 2:1-5
- ❖ Do you wish that others would be merciful toward you, especially when you know that you have wronged someone?
... *Then show mercy toward others!*
📖 Luke 6:31-36

Luke 6:31
***“And as you wish that others would do to you,
do so to them.”***

Endnotes:

¹ Sproul, R.C. *The Reformation Study Bible*. Orlando: Ligonier Ministries, 2005.

² Robertson, A.T. . *Word pictures in the New Testament* . Nashville: Holman Reference, 2000.

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