

S.A.F.E. Homes



Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



“Therefore, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.” Matthew 7:12

The Cornerstone of Character

The Golden Rule, commonly quoted as “Do to others as you would have them do to you” has its foundation in respect. Many other character qualities like obedience, honesty, and forgiveness depend upon respect as an essential ingredient.

Respect is the reason we say “Please” and “Thank you.” It’s the reason we wait our turn, share our things, listen, obey requests, clean up after ourselves, and take care of personal property. Because of respect, we don’t push in front of others, interrupt conversations, demand attention, make fun of people, grab, yell, leave messes behind, disobey and much more.


God’s Word encourages us to treat others as we would have them treat us. Anytime we are confronted with a situation, we can ask ourselves, “How would I want to be treated?” This method will never fail.

Jesus instructed His followers to treat others as they would like to be treated, then he said, “for this is the law and the prophets.” In other words, the Old Testament laws taught by the men of God could be summed up in this simple formula. God still wants us to apply this rule to our lives today.

Family Prayer: Lord, you know our lives and our hearts. You see where we have succeeded and failed at showing respect to others. We are asking You to forgive our failures and help us to work together to obey Your Word. In Jesus’ Name, amen.

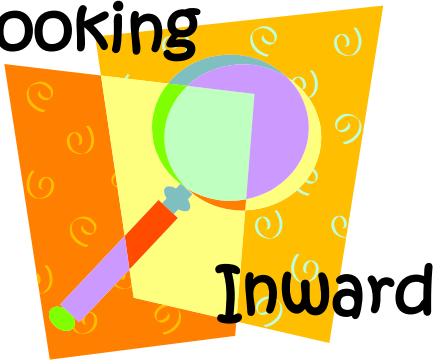


Includes
Family
Activities



Want more?
Scroll down for
Bonus
Pages

Looking



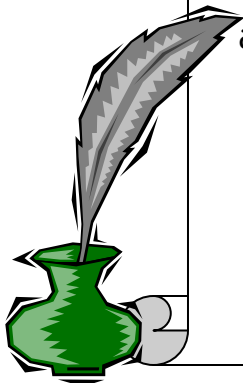
Inward

Gather supplies to make a decorative plaque to display in your home. Use a marker to inscribe the Golden Rule. Then make it attractive with decorative embellishments. Frame it and display it as a reminder to treat others as we would want to be treated.

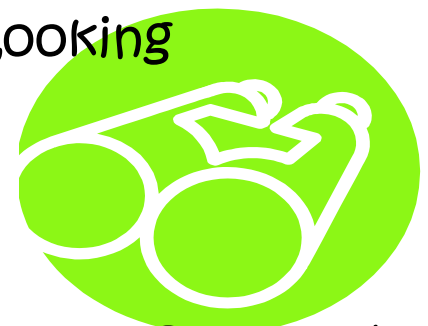
Let's talk!

Why is it always easier to judge others more harshly than we do ourselves for the same offense? Perhaps that is exactly why the Bible instructs us to love others as we love ourselves and to treat others as we want to be treated. We should always guard against that first, instinctive reaction to a situation and make sure that if we were the offender, how would we want to be treated? Discuss ways that we can learn to filter our reactions before they become impossible to retract.

Have each family member write and send a note of appreciation to someone who has impacted their life as a role model of using the "Golden rule." Be sure to include specific examples.



Looking



Outward

Additional Challenges

Jesus was challenged to define exactly who our ‘neighbors’ are considered to be, as Leviticus 19:18 says that one should ‘love their neighbor as thyself’. He used the parable of the Good Samaritan told in Luke chapter 10 to help answer this question.

Read Leviticus 19:18

Read Luke Chapter 10

What has happened to the traveller along his journey?

What was the priest’s response?

What was the Levite’s response?

What was the Samaritan’s response?

Why do you think the attitude of that day and time was so harsh toward the traveller?

Do you think that in the same situation today, a person who has been beaten, robbed and left for dead, would experience the same attitudes of indifference from some people who may pass by? Why or why not?

Who does Jesus consider to be our ‘Neighbor’ whom we need to love as ourselves?

The Golden Rule

Y A B P N C E T S W X W T Y P
R L K B O O R B G M Q R T K R
O U P W I R A Y G T E S F E O
A M O P T N H N P A E O T G P
S R U Z A E S A T N R C O O H
J O I C D R Y E O G A T F L E
L F I X N S D H I R H M W D T
R A G K U T F V A E N I R E S
M A W E O O E H R E H N K N T
P L L C F N C S T H G U A T G
P U M L E E O B E D I E N C E
R H M S E G A R U O C N E X G
X R S T C E P S E R W O R D M
B F Z B C W V J C K Z B W W M
M E T H O D B K W U E C W B Y

APPLY
ENCOURAGES
FOUNDATION
LAW
OTHERS
RULE
TREATED

CHARACTER
FORGIVENESS
GOLDEN
METHOD
PROPHETS
SHARE
WORD

CORNERSTONE
FORMULA
HONESTY
OBEDIENCE
RESPECT
TAUGHT

Be a Good Samaritan

