

The BEST Rule To Live By Matthew 7:7-14

- One of the most memorable things Jesus said, and one most referred to, is found in Matthew 7:12. “All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them: for this is the law and the prophets.”
- Not the “Fools Gold” Rule – He who has the gold makes the rules.
- Not the “Iron Rule” – Do unto others before they do unto you.
- Or the “Bronze Rule” – Do unto others what they have done unto you times ten!
- There are historical variations...

The Golden Rule is Unique

- Others, in summary, are from a negative: “Don’t do to others what you don’t want done to you.”
- Jesus was positive, “Do to others what you want them to do to you.”
- Mat. 5:44 – Proactively doing what is good to others.
- Mat. 7:12b – It is the sum of the law and the prophets – Compare Lev. 19:18 (Mat. 22:36-40.)
- Rom. 13:8-10; Jn. 15:12; Col. 3:14; 1 Pet. 1:22; 1 Jn. 4:7-8.
- **Proactive**, def: creating or controlling a situation by causing something to happen rather than responding to it after it has happened.

The Golden Rule is Perfect

- No better guidance for general human conduct.
- Mat. 18:11-17 – A brotherly application.
- Gal. 6:7-8 – An application of the law of sowing and reaping.
- Lk. 10:30-37 – Used by the Good Samaritan.
- Eph. 4:15 – Beneficial in all personal interactions.
- Gal. 6:1-2 – Vital to restoring the fallen.
- **Mk. 11:25-26; 1 Cor. 13:1-7 – An absolute prerequisite to forgiveness in every context!**

The Golden Rule is Not the Plan of Salvation

- Mat. 7:21-23 – Some may believe that it is.
- Acts 4:12 – Jesus is the only way to heaven.
- Jn. 8:24 – Put complete, undivided faith in Him.
- Lk. 13:3 – Repent or perish, all of us! (Acts 17:30-31.)
- Mat. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10 – Confess Christ now, or will be compelled to later! (Phil. 2:9-11.)
- Mk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21 – Be baptized to be saved.
- Col. 1:23 – Then live faithfully (including the Golden Rule!) to have eternal life.

Decision...

- The Golden Rule is the best rule to live by.
- If we apply it in all of our interactions, in the church and without, the blessings will multiply.
- If we ignore, we can expect jealousy, dissension, strife, instability, and turmoil.
- The Golden Rule is good for all, but is most beneficial for Christians!
- And it is not a substitute for the Gospel plan of salvation!

Mat 5:43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

Mat 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Mat 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Lev 19:17 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.

Lev 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I *am* the LORD.

Rom 13:8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

Rom 13:9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Rom 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.

Joh 15:12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Col 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

Col 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do ye*.

Col 3:14 And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

1Pe 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently:

1Jn 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

1Jn 4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

Gal 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Gal 6:8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Gal 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Gal 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Eph 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:

Gal 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Gal 6:2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Mar 11:25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

Mar 11:26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

Mat 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

Mat 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.