

GOLDEN RULERS

November 16, 2014 Matthew 7:1-12 by Bob Branch
The Truly Liberated Life, Part 21

MAIN IDEA: Part of the way God sets things right on the earth—person-to-person—is by his people practicing his Golden Rule.

¹² So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. **Matthew 7:12**

The “Golden Rule”... HOW WE DO LIFE “*in everything*”

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”
Matthew 5:17 (22:37f)

How do I want to be treated?

“If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.” **Matthew 10:39** NLT

¹ “Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye. **Matthew 7:1-5**

1. Golden Rule in Practice: *How we* JUDGE OTHERS

Don’t be judge-jury-executioner (Don’t condemn)

Q: *Is this the way I want to be treated? How I want God to treat me?*

Judge others the way you would like to be judged.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.”
Matthew 5:7

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” **Ephesians 4:32** (Mt. 6:12, 14-15)

⁶ “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you. **Matthew 7:6**

2. Golden rule in practice: *How we handle sacred matters?*

Do you want others to devalue matters sacred to you?

Golden rule in practice: *How and who we* CONFRONT?

When we’re confronting, *are they receptive?* Value input?

⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him! **Matthew 7:7-11**

3. Golden rule in practice: *Instead of judging people,* PRAY FOR THEM.

“love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you”
Matthew 5:44

If I am to be of any benefit to others in correction it must be soaked in prayer, with God’s generosity in full view.

4. Golden rule in practice: *Be* GENEROUS with others, as God is with you.

“ask our generous God” **James 1:5** NLT

God’s goodness and generosity toward us.

“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” **Colossians 3:13**

Boomerang Effect.