

Due Unto Others
Sermon Based Discussion (January 20, 2013)
Sermon Series: Sermon on the Mount

WARM UP

1. Has anyone ever shown you an act of unexpected kindness?

Have you ever been touched by someone's unexpected act of kindness? If you're like most people, it may have wanted to make you return the gesture with your own act of kindness. That's the spirit behind the Golden Rule.

In this session, we take a look at the Jesus' teaching on the Golden Rule.

INTO THE BIBLE (Matthew 7:12-14)

2. How does the Golden Rule ("do unto others as you would have them do unto you") sum up all the Old Testament Law and the Prophets?
3. After stating the Golden Rule, Jesus talks about the narrow and wide gate. Contrast these two paths.

UNDERSTANDING

4. Based on Jesus' teaching, does he expect most people to follow Him or not? Why or why not?

DIFFERENCE

In the sermon, Enoch mentioned three points about the Golden Rule.

First, that it **liberates** people from depending on "experts" in order to know how to properly treat people.

Second, the GR **empowers** people to be creative and initiate acts of love and kindness.

Third, the GR **encapsulates** all the ethical commands of the Bible in one memorable principle.

5. Which of these three points surprises or encourages you the most?

The gospel is that you are more lost and sinful than you dared imagine, but you are more loved and accepted in Christ than you dared hope. God applied the Golden Rule to us by sending his Son to die for our sins.

6. Would you agree that Jesus dying on the cross was the ultimate demonstration of the Golden Rule?
7. Who is someone in your home, work, or school that would be surprised by an unexpected act of kindness?

APPLICATION

8. Think of the person you mentioned above. Brainstorm some simple things you could do for this person as an act of unexpected kindness.
9. Can you pick one of the ideas you came up with and do that this week?

FOR REFLECTION

So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."
(Matthew 7:12, ESV)