



“Living with Golden-Rule Glasses”

Matthew 7:12

Sunday 2/7/2010

➔ **Introduction...** Glasses change the way we view others (what we can see and how we see them) and they also change the way others look at us. If we are going to live a legacy life that affects and changes others in a “God Way” we need to shift our view of others and put on what I would call Golden-Rule glasses. We need to start looking at others through the lenses of the Golden-Rule. We need to put on Golden-Rule glasses.

➔ **Open it...**

1. Is there some kind of habit or behavior or something that when you see it, it drives you crazy?
2. What is something you like to do that drives others crazy?

➔ **Explore it... Read Matt 7:12**

1. Let's review the Ten Commandments. Read Ex 20:1-17
 - a) How does the golden rule sum up the first four commandments?
 - b) How does golden rule sum up the last six commandments?
2. With glasses, we sometimes see things with a different perspective. Using the glasses of Matt 22:37-40 explain the differences and similarities between Jesus' quote here and the previous in Matt 7:12.
3. Read Matthew 6:12, 14-15. Describe how living with golden-rule glasses changes the way we extend grace to each other
4. Read Rom 12:10-21. List the way you can “do unto others” in these verses.

5. Have you ever had someone you didn't like, hated, or even considered an enemy, do something good for you? Describe it and how you felt. If not, how do you think you would feel?
6. There are two keys to being able to live the golden rule in Philippians 2:3-4. Discuss why they are so important.
7. Read Eph 4:15, 25. Describe how avoiding the truth when you speak to strangers, neighbors, or family members can cause harm. How does the golden rule change the way you speak so that the truth can be told?
8. How do you feel when you've done something special or something mundane over and over again and no one notices? What does this tell you about wearing golden-rule glasses?

➔ **Apply it...**As you think back on this lesson – answer these questions personally with I, me and my...

1. How well are you doing at wearing golden-rule glasses?
 - a) Is there someone you need to extend grace to and forgive? What is stopping you from doing it?
 - b) Is there someone (a person or group) that could use your help but you haven't done anything?
 - c) Rom 12:3 says not to think of yourself more highly than you ought. Are your "glasses" causing you to look down on others?
 - d) Is there someone you need to thank today? Don't put it off.

➔ **Pray it...**

Ask God to help you begin to think Golden-Rule thoughts and look for Golden-Rule opportunities. Ask Him to reveal these opportunities in your family, your workplace, and every encounter with people. Finally ask Him for the strength to follow through and act on the opportunities.