

Worried about loved ones?
Do your best to encourage them...



The People We Encounter

One of the most challenging aspects of Christianity has to do with how we deal with the people in our lives. Daily we deal with spouses, family members, co-workers, friends, those in need and total strangers. The Bible gives us guidance as to how we can interact with people in a Godly way? This lesson will focus on what the scriptures tell us about our actions as they relate to the people we encounter.

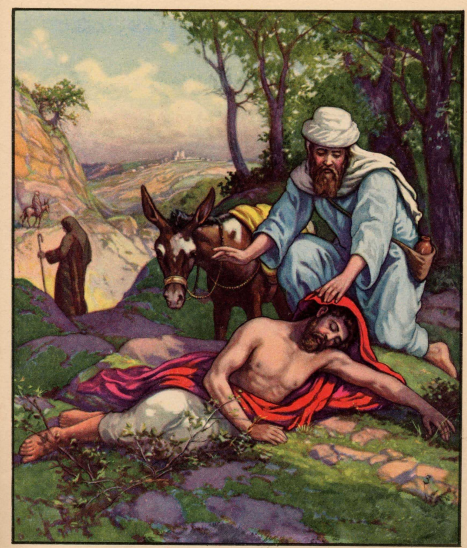
Dealing with People...

- How do you respond when you see someone in need?
- What do you do when a person mistreats or disrespects you?
- Are there people in your life who you deal with and you know that they are a hindrance to your relationship with God?
- Somebody you are close to needs help from God. How do you deal with the person who you are concerned about?
- What is your relationship like with your brothers and sisters in Christ?

Questions about Dealing with People...

**Bible Answers that remind Christians of
how we should deal with the people we
come across in life.**

The Good Samaritan



THE STORY OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

How Should I Deal with My Neighbor?

- Luke 10: 25-37
 - Clearly, this man is in need.
 - Two men passed the man in need without helping him. Why do you think they didn't get involved? Do, we, too have the same philosophy sometimes?
 - Jews and Samaritans historically did not have a good relationship with each other. However, in this story, the most unlikely person, the Samaritan, stopped to help him. What do the actions of the Samaritan tell us about how we should behave when we come across a person in need?
 - The Bible tells us to **Go and do likewise.**
 - Do you think most of us are like the Samaritan or are we more like the priest and the Levite?
 - Notice in Verse 25-28 that our treatment of our neighbor is linked to whether or not we inherit eternal life.
- Matthew 25: 31-46

True or False?



How Should I Deal with My Enemy?

- Matthew 6: 38-48
 - Verse 39 says: *Do not resist an evil person. What does that mean? How should we behave when dealing with an evil person?*
 - The Bible says that our Father “causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous”. This seems to imply that our Father, in the midst of blessing His children, also ends up blessing the evil and unrighteous. *This implies that we, too, should treat our enemies with the same kindness as we do our friends.*
- Romans 12: 17-21

Family



How Should I Deal with My Loved Ones?

- Romans 14: 9-12
 - **Worried about loved ones and their relationship with God?** Do your best to encourage them to do better. If that doesn't work, you must realize that they are ultimately responsible for their own soul. Every one will stand on their own before Christ.
- 2 Timothy 4: 2, Luke 17: 3-5
 - In families we can expect that conflict will sometimes occur. **When it does, the Bible tells us to rebuke, correct and encourage others.** If someone hurts us, we have a duty to rebuke...and then forgive

Is someone influencing you to do the wrong things?



How Should I Deal with **My Stumblingblocks?**

- 2 Corinthians 6: 14
 - What fellowship can light have with darkness? What fellowship can the Godly have with the ungodly?
- I Corinthians 15: 33-34
 - Do not be misled... Bad company corrupts good character. Eventually, bad company will erode a person's good character.
- Mark 8: 31-33
 - When confronted with a situation that acted as a potential stumblingblock to his Father's will, Jesus said, "Get behind me, Satan!"
 - Anything that stands in the way of you doing God's Will is not of God...

Church Family



How Should I Deal with My Brothers and Sisters in Christ?

- I Thessalonians 2: 17-20, 3: 1-13
 - Examine Paul and his relationship with his brothers and sisters in Christ. We should strive to have this type of Christian bond with each other.
 - Paul thinks of them
 - They provide him with glory and joy
 - Strengthening and Encouraging one another
 - Concerned about one another
 - Praying for each other
 - Love for each other
 - Working towards holiness
- When our relationship with our brothers and sisters isn't all that it can be, we should do something positive to make it better...

When dealing with a difficult situation involving people, consult the Word of God before acting and then do what Jesus would have you to do...