

MOUNTAINSTREAMNEWS

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THE GOLDEN RULE

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



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

We often struggle with how to treat others – but we rarely struggle with how we would like others to treat us. In Matthew 7:12, Jesus distilled these two realities into a simple, but powerful principle that has come to be called the Golden Rule. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. This principle summarizes the Bible's teachings on interpersonal relationships. If this rule is followed, most – maybe even all – of the friction and problems we experience in inter-

personal relationships would be eliminated. In this era of increasingly tense relationships, this is an incredibly important principle.

Whenever we find ourselves wrestling with how to treat someone, Jesus challenges us to ask this simple, but profound question. How would I like to be treated if I were in this situation? If we are honest with ourselves, the answer to that question is not very difficult. Generally, we all want to be treated with respect, kindness and consideration. So, that is how we should treat others. Knowing the answer is one thing. Doing it is another. Our sinful human nature resists doing the virtuous thing. This inner conflict reminds us just how much we need to depend on God, for it is He alone who can enable us to do what we know is right despite the objections of our reluctant hearts.

The Golden Rule is effective in both our

closest relationships and in our public approach to others. When we see someone in a situation of which we disapprove, or are asked to render an opinion on something, could we take a moment and consider how we would like to be treated if the situation were reversed? If we were the ones being discussed or confronted? When we choose to make social media commentary, could we take a moment to consider how we would prefer to be commented about? This approach would result in a kinder, gentler world where truth is much easier to be received.

May God help us to humbly seek His grace to obey His Golden Rule so we end up building golden relationships.

God bless you,

Pastor James

LOVE IN ACTION

If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

1 JOHN 3:17-18



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

CORPORATE PRAYER TUE @ 7 PM

April 27

Join us via Zoom video
Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

EVENING SERVICES 1st & 3rd SUN @ 6 PM

May 2 in-person at church

May 16 via Zoom

Please email us at mountainstreamchurch@gmail.com for login information.

WORSHIP SERVICE SUN @ 11 AM

May 2

In-person service and livestream.
Livestreaming only on Facebook and our church's website.

QUICK TIPS

Two ways to give your offering. Traditional with a check by mail or through our secured website online giving is now possible. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP FRI @ 6:45 PM

April 30

Youth meetings are in-person at church.

VIRTUAL KIDZONE SUN @ 4 PM

May 2

Kidzone is available every Sunday.
Contact Candice at candicebrich@gmail.com for log on information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Beginning in May, we will have **two evening services**. In-person on the First Sunday Evening in the month, and online on the Third Sunday. Both services start at 6 pm. Looking forward to seeing you!
- There will be Communion at this and every First Sunday's morning service. Those who are participating from home, please be sure to have your Communion elements ready.
- Please support the Pregnancy Resource Center of the Pocono's virtual Fundraising Banquet on Thursday May 13 at 7 pm. You may access the banquet at prepoconos.org.
- Our local Social Security office asked if we could pass this information on to you, especially in these challenging times precipitated by the Covid-19 pandemic: The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program provides monthly payments to adults and children with disabilities who have income and resources below specified amounts. SSI payments can also be made to people 65 and older without disabilities who meet the financial limits. Find more information at <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/ssi/> or call 1-800-772-1213.
- **Bible reading plans for 2021** are available at the Information Table and on our website. Pick up a copy or download one today. Also, please read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings.
- We are excited to have you at our in-person worship at 11 am on Sundays. Please call ahead to 570 856 3310 or email us at mountainstreamchurch@gmail.com to let us know you are coming.
- Please see our webpage for detailed information on in-person gatherings.