

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 1-4: Remember the Golden Rule (金科玉律)

I grew up in Trenton, a west Tennessee town of five thousand people. I have wonderful memories (回忆) of those first eighteen years, and many people in Trenton influenced (影响) my life in very positive ways. My football coach, Walter Kilzer, taught me the importance of hard work, discipline (自律), and believing in myself. My history teacher, Fred Culp, is still the funniest (最滑稽) person I've ever met. He taught me that a sense of humor (幽默感), and especially laughing at yourself (取笑自己), can be one of life's greatest blessings (祝福).

But my father was my hero. He taught me many things. At the top of the list, he taught me to treat people (待人) with love and respect (敬重), to live the Golden Rule. I remember one particular instance of him teaching this "life lesson" as if it were yesterday. Dad owned a furniture store (家具店), and I used to dust (去掉灰尘) the furniture every Wednesday after school to earn my allowance (零用钱). One afternoon I observed my Dad talking to all the customers as they came in, the hardware store (五金店) owner, the banker (银行家), a farmer, a doctor (医生). At the end of the day, just as Dad was closing, the garbage collector (收垃圾的人) came in. I was ready to go home, and I thought that surely Dad wouldn't spend too much time with him. But I was wrong. Dad greeted him at the door with a big hug (拥抱) and talked with him about his wife and son who had been in a car accident (车祸) the month before. He empathized (同情), he asked questions, he listened, and he listened some more. I kept looking at the clock, and when the man finally left, I asked, "Dad, why did you spend so much time with him? He's just the garbage collector." Dad then looked at me, locked the front door to the store, and said, "Son, let's talk."

He said, "I'm your father and I tell you lots of stuff (事情) as all fathers should, but if you remember nothing else I ever tell you, remember this, *treat* (对待) every

human being (人) just the way that you would want to be treated." He said, "I know this is not the first time you've heard it, but I want to make sure it's understood. You would never have said what you said." We sat there and talked for another hour about the meaning and the power of the Golden Rule. Dad said, "If you live the Golden Rule everything else in life will usually work itself out, but if you don't, your life probably will be very unhappy and without meaning."

I recently heard some say, "If you teach your child the Golden Rule, you will have left them an estate (财产) of incalculable value (不计其数的价值)" Truer words were never spoken.

2. Discussion:

1. State the Golden Rule in your own words.
2. How important is a father's teaching to his child?
3. What is the power potential in the practice of this Golden Rule?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

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| 29. Bless you! | 祝福你! |
| 30. Follow me. | 跟我来。 |
| 31. Forget it! | 休想! |
| 32. Good luck! | 祝好运! |
| 33. I decline! | 我拒绝! |
| 34. I promise. | 我保证。 |
| 35. Of course! | 当然了! |

**Proverb: Do to others what you would have others do to you.
(Gospel of Matthew 7:21)**