

Rom 12:14-19

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

Guidelines for Getting Along Well With Your Adult Kids

VIP Remember, all human relationships function like “bank accounts.” If you make withdrawals that are greater than your deposits, you will pay a heavy penalty. (As our children grow older, the time in which we can make deposits generally gets significantly shorter.) Keeping these great principles in mind for your adult children:

1. Don't shame them --- be careful here of “encoded language” ie “Hello, stranger.”
2. Don't try to manipulate them --- don't force relationships within the family.
3. Don't give your advice too freely --- asking for permission is a great idea.
4. Don't take sides with your kids --- taking up another's offense will always get you in trouble --- encourage them to work out their differences.
5. Remember that your kids are required to respect your *position* as a parent, but respect for you as a *person* is earned.
6. Be a likeable person that they want to be around --- don't be easily offended, because family and friends will avoid you --- see principles on the back
7. Determine to like their spouse --- think charitably of all concerned.
8. Treat them with the respect and dignity you would your closest friends.

Titus 3:9-11 NIV

9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. 10 Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. 11 You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

Heb 12:14-16 NIV

14 Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. 15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

How to Gain the Esteem of Others

1. Learn to remember names. Inefficiency at this point may indicate that your interest is not sufficiently outgoing. A man's name is very important to him.
2. Be a comfortable person so there is no strain in being with you -- be an old-shoe, old-hat kind of individual. Be homey.
3. Acquire the quality of relaxed easy-goingness so that things do not ruffle you.
4. Don't be egotistical. Guard against giving the impression that you know it all. Be natural and normally humble.
5. Cultivate the quality of being interesting so that people will want to be with you and get something of stimulating value from their association with you.
6. Study to get the "scratchy" elements out of your personality, even those of which you may be unconscious.
7. Sincerely attempt to heal, on an honest Christian basis, every misunderstanding you have had or now have. Drain off your grievances.
8. Practice liking people until you learn to do so genuinely. Remember what Will Rogers said, "I never met a man I didn't like." Try to be that way.
9. Never miss an opportunity to say a word of congratulation upon anyone's achievement, or express sympathy in sorrow or disappointment.
10. Get a deep spiritual experience so that you have something to give people that will help them to be stronger and meet life more effectively. Give strength to people and they will give affection to you.

The Power of Positive Thinking
by Norman Vincent Peale