

MODULE 1 The Golden Rule

Sheet 1

AIM

To explore and understand the Golden Rule - "do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

OBJECTIVES

- To know and understand the Golden Rule.
- To think about how different religions share similar thoughts.
- To think about how we view the world, nations or communities.

KEY WORDS

Nations

People of one or more cultures or races organised as a single state.

Community

A group of people living in one particular area or people who are considered as a unit because of their common interests, background or nationality. A sense of belonging.

RESOURCES

- Plain paper and lined paper
- A4 laminated Golden Rule poster
- Flip chart
- Worksheet - Golden Rule
- World map

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Bahá'i Faith
Baha'u'llah

"Blessed is he who preferreth his brother before himself."

"Every religion emphasises human improvement, love, respect for others, sharing other people's suffering. On these lines every religion has more or less the same viewpoint and the same goal."

Buddhism
The Dalai Lama

Christianity
Luke 6:31, NIV

"Do to others as you would have them do to you."

"This is the sum of duty: do not do to others what would cause pain if done to you."

Hinduism
Mahabharata 5:1517

Humanist
British Humanist Society

"Don't do things you wouldn't want to have done to you."

"All created are Allah's dependents, and the most beloved of creation is the one who is good to his dependents."

Islam
Bayhaqi

Jainism
Lord Mahavira, 24th Tirthankara

"In happiness and suffering in joy and grief, we should regard all creatures as we regard our own self."

"And what you hate, do not do to any one."

Judaism
Tobit 4:15

Shinto
Ko-ji-ki Hachiman Kasuga

"The heart of the person before you is a mirror. See there your own form."

"No-one is my enemy, none a stranger and everyone is my friend."

Sikhism
Guru Arjan Dev : AG 1299

Taoism
T'ai Shang Kan Ying P'ien

"Regard your neighbour's gain as your own gain, and your neighbour's loss as your own loss."

"The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all."

Unitarian Principles

Wicca
Wiccan Rede

"And it harm no-one, do what thou wilt."

"That nature alone is good which refrains from doing unto another whatsoever is not good for itself."

Zoroastrianism
Dadistan-i-dinik 94:5

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LESSON PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Ask the group what they think the most important rule is in their school, madrassa, youth group, community and country i.e. do not steal (choose one or more, as appropriate). Ask why is this important? Write examples on the flip chart or board. These will be used at end of the session.

7 Mins

1 Hand out the Golden Rule sheets. Discuss what the Golden Rule is and what it means to members of the group (Task A).

5 Mins

2 Ask young people to look at the picture of the Golden Rule poster. Using the world map ask the group to identify the countries the people in the poster could be from (Task B).

10 Mins

3 Ask young people to complete Task C on the worksheet.

20 Mins

Pick 5 quotes from the sheet.

- a Do the quotes share a belief/beliefs?
- b What surprises you about the quotes?
- c How could these quotes change the world if they were followed?

Either create your own Golden Rule Poster OR write a letter to the world's leaders about why the Golden Rule is important.

4 Add the Golden Rule to the list of rules on the board. Bring the group back together to vote on which rule they think is the most important from the selection on the board.

10 Mins

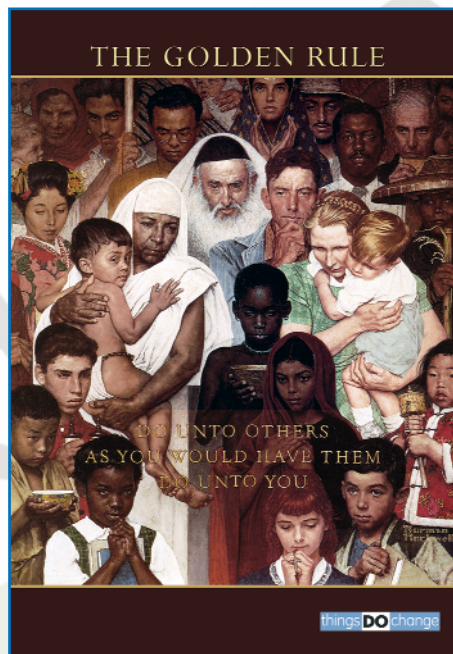
Discuss their results.

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WORKSHEET

- A** Discussion: What does the Golden Rule mean to you?
- B** Look at the picture of the group of people from different nations.
- Can you work out where they may be from?
 - How can you tell?
 - How does this picture make you feel about the world?
 - Can all these people be a symbol of peace? Look at the quotes to help you answer this.
 - Do you think peace can exist in your community today, if not, why not?
- C** Pick 5 quotes from the sheet.
- Do the quotes share a belief/beliefs?
 - What surprises you about the quotes?
 - How could these quotes change the world if they were followed?
 - Either create your own Golden Rule Poster OR write a letter to the world's leaders about why the Golden Rule is important.



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