

It seems I've forgotten the most obvious and over used cliché: The Golden Rule, I certainly try to live, by which served me well all my life. The Jewish Scriptures phrasing it somewhat differently than the New Testament. While The New Testament says DO unto others etc, the Old Testament says DONT do others what you dont want them to do to you. I think this makes more sense and it is more realistic. According to the "legends" the way this story started was when a young Jewish boy went to see a very famous rabbi (I think by the name of Hillel) and asked him to teach him the Scriptures. The Rabbi said all you have to remember is: "DONT do<sup>to</sup> others what you dont want them to do to you. All the rest are Commentaries - go study them."

I think Rabbi Hillel was right. As long as you keep that rule in mind and PRACTICE it you'll have very little trouble in life and everybody will consider you a decent, good person. If you want to put it in the vernacular part of it is MYOB (mind your own business). Dont bug people, be considerate, polite and thoughtful. "Your right to swing your arm STOPS where the other person's nose STARTS." This is not meant of course only literally but also figuratively. - The Golden Rule is incidentally all the "religion" you or anybody will ever need. Anything more are just superstitions and BS likely to get you into arguments and trouble.

"ALWAYS look for the writing on the wall." This also meant figuratively not literally of course. The meaning of it is to be AWARE of it what is going on around you, to be OBSERVANT of what the other person(s) is doing, what the Zeitgeist (spirit of the time) says or conveys - and ACT accordingly. I could have saved myself lots of trouble in my life if I would have remembered this and millions of jews could have avoided the Holocaust in Europe if they would have been smart enough and realistic enough to SEE what was "in the air" and gotten out of Europe while it was still possible instead of hoping that "it will blow over".

In a more mundane and "every day" situations try to look for the little subtle signs and signals which might be the forwarnings/heralding-in of "omens" of "bigger and worser" things to

come. Keep this specially in mind when "shopping" for a boyfriend or husband or when looking for a job. Turn "ON" that famous womanly intuition, open your eyes wide, LOOK. LISTEN and OBSERVE and record for further use what you picked up. When you go for a job interview try "not to miss a thing" from the second you were let in by the receptionist. Does the place look/smell neat and well maintained? Are the people friendly or grumpy? Do they look "happy" or do they look harassed? Do they seem to be helpful etc. Check out the restroom, does it look and smell clean and neat? Is it well appointed with all the little extras women need and like to have, like handlotions etc etc or or are there only the barest essentials and the cheapest brands? All these little signs can "speak volumes" about the ATTITUDE of the Management towards its workers. In one word does it look like a "happy ship" you would ENJOY to be part of? If there is a Cafeteria open to the public and visitors by all means have a meal there and keep your eyes, ears and nose open. People are more relaxed there and if you are good at "ear dropping" you could be able to hear some gossips re the companie's problems etc. If you are a good "mixer" - unlike myself - perhaps you can even start a convesation with somebody and ask some question without making yourself suspiciously "nosy".

If you are "shopping" for a boyfriend or husband and you are taken out for lunch or dinner the way the guy will be dressed will already tell you a lot about him. Is he appropriately dressed for the OCCASION, taking of course into consideration the prevalent "fads" and customs. His table manners will tell you all you need to know about the background he comes from. The way he eats will tell you more then just his good/bad manners IF you know what to look for. If he is one of those people I call "explorers" who picks up his fork and starts pronto picking apart his food lifting everything up and looking underneath for only HE knows what for, it is a very good bet he is a PICKY eater, which might not be a big problem for a boyfriend candidate but if you are looking for a husband - BEWARE! He will tell you that his Mom did NOT do it THIS way! Is he a good LISTENER or is it all I-I-I when you have a conversation? Is he picking up the check - at least at the first date - or is he "suggesting" to "go Dutch"? If affirmative, he is

probably a cheapskate because going Dutch might be acceptable by mutual consent once you "go steady" NO gentleman will expect his date to pay for her meal at the first date. Try to notice how much he tipped? Another sure sign of a cheapskate if he is a lousy tipper, or worse does not believe in tipping "out of principle". Is he willing to compromise or ALWAYS insists to go to HIS choice of movie, show etc? It is something of a truism that people who are inconsiderate in SOME things are inconsiderate in ALL things. Same is true of "control phreaks". Stay away from them unless you are looking for CONSTANT arguments and fights.

Is he on TIME for dates? Anybody can be late "once in a blue moon" for any number of VALID reasons but I think there is NO worse inconsiderateness than to make a habit of being LATE and I personally would NOT put up with this for ANYBODY. You have to make this "perfectly clear" right from the start so he KNOWS how you feel about it.

Make sure he is not getting into the habit of "borrowing small sums" for phone calls, papers etc etc, he consistently "forgets" to pay back, which will "improve" into larger and larger sums, stamping him of course as a freeloader or smoocher. DUMP him - pronto! As I said: LOOK FOR THE WRITING ON THE WALL! Try to become aware of "funny little mannerisms" which might look "cute" first but can easily become distracting at best and drive you nuts on the long run and their number is legion. One of the worst is of course nailbiting which can easily become an OBSESSION starting at a very early age and very hard to stop. This can be easily detected of course by looking at the persons nails which are often bitten down to the "quick". - Another very distracting mannerism is constant "fiddling" either with a part of one's body - like a lock of hair - or just being constantly "antsy".