

Scripture Reading: Mark 10:35-45

It's nice to be important, but it is more important to be nice. —John Templeton

I'm guessing that someone in your family told you, "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all." This is such a popular truism, that we might chuckle, because we remember our moms or grandmassaying this to us, perhaps with a finger in our faces.

We're fortunate if we grew up with "nice" values. And if we were raised that way, you no doubt raised your own children with the philosophy of "nice" in mind. This philosophy can be summed up in the words, "be nice." So you taught your children to say nice things, not naughty things. You insisted that your kids play nice and do nice things for others.

One person who has put this philosophy to work is Deirdre Freeman. She is a painter in the San Francisco Bay Area. Every week, she'll walk a mile or so to a busy corner with a large tote bag. In the bag are a hammer, nails and a colorful painting of a heart or hearts with some other random designs. She hangs the artwork, or what she calls her "heartwork," on a telephone post. She calls it a love and kindness movement. Her goal is to get people smiling and feeling a little love. Known by many as the heart lady, she is succeeding.

Freeman brings a little sunshine to her corner of the world. She's doing something nice. She's being nice. She is putting into action the words of the Sunday school chorus:

*Brighten the corner where you are!
Brighten the corner where you are!
Someone far from harbor "YOU" may guide across the bar;
Brighten the corner where you are!*

This is what the apostle Paul had in mind when he told the Christians at Ephesus, "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32).

Today, let's take a light to our corner of the world and brighten it up a bit. Put on a smile, write a note of thanks, give someone a kind or encouraging word. Pray about it. God will give you guidance.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, teach me more about your philosophy of nice. In your name. Amen.

*Blessings,
Jim & Pastor Ben Motz*

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: 1 Corinthians 11-16

Monday: Ezra 1-4

Tuesday: Haggai 1-2; Zechariah 1-2

Wednesday: Zechariah 3-6

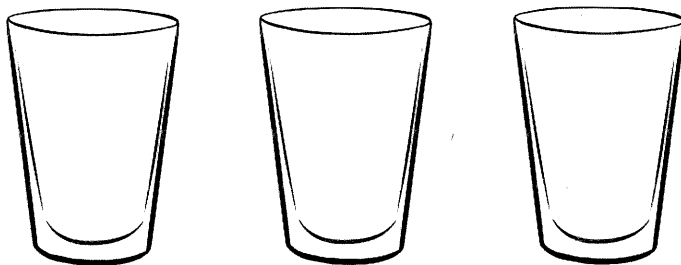
Thursday: Zechariah 7-10

Friday: Zechariah 11-14

Saturday: Psalm 119

Verse to Remember

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path. —Psalm 119:105*



WATER GLASS PROBLEM

Take three (3) empty water glasses and put them in a row. Turn the first and third glasses upside down, but leave the middle glass right side up. *Your task is to get all the glasses right side up, but you must follow these rules:*

1. You have only three moves.
2. For each move, you must turn over two glasses at a time — never one at a time.

SOLUTION TO CUP PROBLEM:
First move: Turn over the first and second glasses
Second move: Turn over the first and third glasses
Third move: Turn over the first and second glasses. At this point they should be all right side up.



- Answers to ROMAN NUMERALS:**
1. Tacoma
 2. Denver
 3. Dallas
 4. Miami
 5. Phoenix
 6. Atlanta
 7. Boise
 8. Cheyenne
 9. Helena
 10. Provo

ROMAN NUMERALS

Directions: Add a Roman numeral to the scrambled word, and then unscramble to come up with a city in the United States.

Example:

iphsem + 1,000 = *Memphis*

1. moata + 100 = _____
2. eendr + 5 = _____
3. Isaad + 50 = _____
4. amii + 1,000 = _____
5. onepih + 10 = _____
6. natata + 50 = _____
7. sobe + 1 = _____
8. yeehne + 100 = _____
9. eeahan + 50 = _____
10. ropo + 5 = _____