

Love is Not Rude Nor Self-Seeking

“There is someone I love, even though I don’t approve of what he does.

There is someone I accept, even though some of his thoughts and actions revolt me.

There is someone I forgive, even though he hurts the people I love the most.

That person is me.”

Adapted by Jud Wilhite from C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Just Like Boasting Is An Outward
Expression of Pride,
Rudeness Is An Outward Expression
of Self-seeking.



Multiple Commentaries Have Said That The Problems of Rudeness, Self-seeking, Easily Angered, and Keeping A Record of Wrongs Unite To Form Coherent Profile of The Troubled Church At Corinth.

They Had Normalized These Behaviors and Their Relationships Showed The Effects.

Rudeness is a Softer Word Than the Original Language Would Suggest.

- Treat With Contempt
- Behave Indecently
- To Put To Shame
 - To Humiliate
 - To Dishonor
 - To Disgrace

It is not just cutting in line in front of someone at the checkout counter!

grossness shamelessness barbarity
disrespect boorishness
effrontery incivility
acrimony misbehavior disdain
boldness sharpness ungraciousness
bad irritability impertinence vulgarity crudity
discourtesy harshness impudence insolence nerve tactlessness audacity
asperity officiousness rudeness
bluntness manners
unmannerliness
crudeness unkindness cheek

Synonyms

1 Corinthians 11:20-34 (ESV)

When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat. For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk. What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not. For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.



That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for one another—if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home—so that when you come together it will not be for judgment. About the other things I will give directions when I come.



It's Called Communion For a Reason

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (NLT2)

When we bless the cup at the Lord's Table, aren't we sharing in the blood of Christ?

And when we break the bread, aren't we sharing in the body of Christ?

And though we are many, we all eat from one loaf of bread, showing that we are one body.

When the body eats the body, they must do it as one body.

The Church at Corinth was a Study in Oxymoronic Behavior.

- Christian Rudeness!
- Self-seeking Communion!
 - Arrogant Worship!
 - Envious Love!

Isaiah 58:5-9a Addresses This Problem

Isaiah 58:5-9 (NLT2)

You humble yourselves by going through the motions of penance... Do you really think this will please the LORD? “No, this is the kind of fasting I want: Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free, and remove the chains that bind people. Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help. “Then your salvation will come like the dawn, and your wounds will quickly heal. Your godliness will lead you forward, and the glory of the LORD will protect you from behind. Then when you call, the LORD will answer. ‘Yes, I am here,’ he will quickly reply.

Google: “Why are Christians so Rude?”

- “Because they think that just because they walk in a building to believe in their God that they’re better than us average people.”
- “Cause most of them think there [sic] better than anyone. This is a good part of the reason that idk [I don’t know] if I wanna go then.”
- “I say we burn the bibles, close the churches...it creates prejudice among the fellow man... wars almost always involve religion.”

Paul's Counter to Their Behavior

- 1 Corinthians 6:7 Even to have such lawsuits with one another is a defeat for you. Why not just accept the injustice and leave it at that? Why not let yourselves be cheated?
- 1 Corinthians 8:13 So if what I eat causes another believer to sin, I will never eat meat again as long as I live—for I don't want to cause another believer to stumble.
- 1 Corinthians 9:12b ...We would rather put up with anything than be an obstacle to the Good News about Christ.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (NLT2)

Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ. When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ....When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ. But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ. When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ.

Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings.

Every Rudeness Flows From
A Self-seeking Attitude!

The Opposite of Rudeness is Christ-
Conditioned Love.



I Want To Finish With Two Stories.

Luke 10:30-37 (NLT2)

Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling on a trip from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. “By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.



“Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’ “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked. The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”

Luke 10:30-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan.

To Understand This Story

“We Have To Be In The Ditch.”



A Story of A Love That Is Not Self-seeking

- *"You can't really know if you love someone until they give you a reason to not."*
- *"Things happen in life and sometimes they happen to you."*
- *"I took a vow and I aimed to keep that vow."*
- *"Besides, she needed to know she was worth more than the mistakes she made, and I was in a unique position to show her that."*

Let's Pray This Prayer

Dear Father, you have witnessed every contemptible, indecent, shaming, humiliating, and disgracing thing I have ever said or done to another person. I confess that I was self-seeking and not loving as Jesus did. Forgive me. Dull my tongue and soften my heart so that I may be able to pray with the psalmist...

"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer." Psalm 19:14