



Love is not rude

1 Corinthians 13:5

Breaking the Ice:

What do you consider particularly rude behavior? (no rants allowed)

For Reflection:

Love does not behave itself unseemly; that is, it doesn't act peculiar. It is true that in 1 Peter the believers are called a peculiar people, but they shouldn't act peculiar. It literally means a people for His possession. We are to exercise courtesy. We are not to be rude. We are not to act like strange people. We ought to be polite. Unfortunately, there is so much today that can be called unlovely religion. But love does not behave itself unseemly. --J. V. McGee

Definition: rude (*covered in intro video*)

ἄσχημονέω *aschēmonéō*; uncomely, indecent. To behave in an ugly, indecent, unseemly or unbecoming manner (1 Cor. 13:5). To be disgraced, suffer. The exact opposite of the noun derived from *aschēmonéō* is found in 1 Cor. 7:35, *tóeschōmon*, that which is comely or constitutes proper behavior.¹

RUDE ʁüd

1. not having or showing concern or respect for the rights and feelings of other people: not polite
2. being in a rough or unfinished state
3. lacking refinement or delicacy:
4. offensive in manner action
5. marked by or suggestive of lack of training or skill

¹Zodhiates, S. (2000). *The complete word study dictionary: New Testament* (electronic ed.). Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers.

The Greek word translated “rude” comes from two words: ana, “back,” strepho, “to turn”, hence, “to move about in a place, to sojourn.” It could be rendered shapeless or formless. That which is rude does not fit within the shape of what is proper, it does not fall within the guidelines of how proper people behave. Maybe we should treat all others with the same respect we would treat a boss or superior; for if we love someone we give preference to them rather than ourselves. – JPW

Why is it easy to treat a superior with respect rather than someone we perceive that is our peer or subservient to us? How might a reordering of our view of others help us have less rude behavior?

Is it easy to detect rude behavior in others? How can observing others help us understand and refine our own behavior?

Look at the following statements by Jesus and see if you can detect occasion in which others would have spoken in rudeness but Jesus extended love instead.

Luke 22:31-34 *John 15:15* *Luke 23:34*

Response:

Ask God to give you the ability to treat all in love and to change our words, tone and behavior into positive, encouraging and respectful expressions of love.

Bottom Line:

Allow respect to win over rudeness.