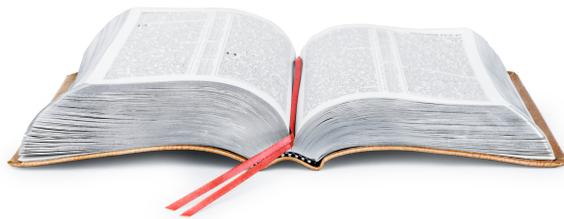


Kindness

Matthew 7:12 - So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. NIV



Kindness

Katelyn and Megan sat next to each other waiting for Sunday school singing to start. Each week all the kids sat together and sang songs with the teachers before going to their classes.

Katelyn looked across the room and saw a girl she didn't recognize. The girl didn't look happy. "Who is that?" she asked Megan.

Megan looked over, "That's the new girl. Her name is Heidi."

"I wonder why she's sitting by herself," said Katelyn.

"I heard from Staci that she was very rude when she met her. That's probably why she's by herself. No one wants to be by her."

"Maybe we should go sit by her then," suggested Katelyn.

Megan looked confused, "Why would we want to do that if she's mean?"

"We don't know for sure that she's mean," said Katelyn, "Maybe she needs a friend. Would you want to sit in a new place by yourself? My family just read in our devotions about kindness. God wants us to love others the way we would want to be loved. I know that if I didn't know any of the kids, it would make me feel really good to have someone be nice to me and sit with me."

"I don't know," said Megan, "Staci said she was no good."

"We shouldn't listen to Staci," answered Katelyn, "We should do what God wants. I'm going over there."

Katelyn walked across the room to the bench where Heidi sat, "Hey there. Are you Heidi?"

The girl looked up at Katelyn, "Yes."

Katelyn smiled. "I'm Katelyn. It's nice to meet you. I was wondering if you wanted to sit together. I can show you where to go once the singing is over."

Heidi smiled at Katelyn, "Thanks. That would be really nice." Katelyn smiled back.

Later, when Katelyn's family was back at church for the evening service, Katelyn saw her mother talking to another woman before sitting down with the family. Katelyn's mom sat down beside her and put her arm around her. "I'm so proud of you," her mom smiled.

Katelyn looked at her mom, "Why?"

"I was just talking to Heidi's mom. She told me that you were the only person who made Heidi feel welcome today. She said it meant a lot to Heidi and made her feel really good."

"I thought about how good I feel when others are kind to me, and that made me want to be kind to her. I knew God would want me to love her that way; the way I would want to be loved."

"Well you certainly made God happy too." Her mom kissed the top of her head.

"I'm glad what I did made her feel good. It made me feel good too," Katelyn said with a smile.