**As for me and my house – Pr. 3:27**

**Focal Truth: Godly parents treat others fairly and teach their children to do the same**

Do you treat others fairly?

As parents have you set an example for your children of treating others as you want to be treated?

Are you known as person of fairness & helpfulness toward others?

**Observations – 4 ways to treat others fairly**

1. **Godly parents do good to their neighbor & teach their children to do the same 27 - 28**

*do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, go and come back & tomorrow I will give it*

1. The godly do good to all people – Marg. our neighbors are the real owners of our good!
2. Luke 6:31 – treat others the same way you want them to treat you
3. Tit. 3:1 – be ready for every good deed
4. 2 Tim. 6:18 – do good, be rich in good works, be generous, and ready to share
5. The godly use what their resources to do good to all people

Gal. 6:10 – while we have opportunity let us do good to all people

Resources: Money, time, training, skills for others

1. The godly help their neighbors they do not delay till tomorrow what they can do today – *do not say to your neighbor, go and come back & tomorrow I will give it*

Matt. 8: 6-7 – Lord my servant is lying paralyzed at home, fearfully tormented. Jesus said to him, I will come and heal him.

1. The Lord Jesus went about doing good – Acts 10:38 – he went about doing good
2. **Godly parents do not harm their neighbor & teach their children to do the same 29**

*Do not devise harm against your neighbor, while he lives securely beside you*

“Secret malice plans harm for the innocent”

1. The godly do not secretly plan harm for their neighbor

They do not seek to destroy their reputation

They do not seek to destroy their family

They do not seek to destroy their marriage

They do not seek to destroy their families

1. The ungodly secretly plan to harm the innocent

Pr. 1:11 – come let us lie in wait for blood, let us ambush the innocent without cause

***Ways we can harm our neighbor***

Harm them with lying words

Harm them with gossiping words

Harm them with hateful words

Harm them by ignoring them

Harm them by avoiding them

Harm them by physically abusing or hurting them

1. The godly put aside all malice – 1Pet.2:1 – therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy & all slander
2. The Lord Jesus suffered betrayal of one of his closest disciples

Mark 14:10 – 11 – the Judas Iscariot who was one of the twelve went off to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. They were glad when they heard this, and promised to give him money. And He began seeking how to betray Him at an opportune time.

1. **Godly parents do not fight with their neighbor & teach their children the same 30**

*Do not contend with a man without a cause, if he has done you no harm*

“Causeless strife is an act of hatred to your neighbor”

1. Pr. 20:3 – keeping away from strife is an honor for a man but any fool will quarrel
2. Pr. 26:21 – like charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife
3. Pr. 28:25 – an arrogant man stirs up strife
4. Pr. 29:22 – an angry man stirs up strife, a hot -tempered man abounds in transgressions
5. Gal. 5:20 – the work of the flesh is…idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife…
6. Rom. 12:28 – as far as is possible with you be at peace with all men
7. The Lord Jesus did not fight when He was attacked

1 Pet. 2:23 – while being reviled, he did not revile in return, while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously

1. **Godly parents do not envy violent people & teach their children the same 31**

*Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways*

“Admiring the power of the violent man is a source of envy”

1. Do not admire their power – Pr. 24:1 – do not be envious of evil men, do not desire to be with them, for their minds devise violence and their lips talk of trouble

Eccl. 4:1 – I say the tears of the oppressed and they had no one to comfort them and on the side of their oppressors was power

1. Pr. 23:17 do not let your heart envy sinners, live in the fear of the Lord always

**Things to Remember**

1. Doing good to our neighbor is not an option but an obligation
2. If you can do good to your neighbor today, don’t delay!
3. God resists those who do harm to their neighbor – Pr. 3:32,33,34
4. God rewards those who do good to their neighbor – Pr. 3:33 – 34

**Daily Use – Family Challenge**

1. Who can you do good for today?
2. As a family what projects can you do for the good of someone today?
3. As a family talk together about, “who is our neighbor?”

**Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.**