

Matthew 7:12 | THE GOLDEN RULE

Study Questions from 30.06.2019 sermon

Introduction

Things Come Apart is a book where 50 design classics have been taken apart and separated into their component pieces. We are going to do the same to this verse: Reverse engineer the verse; strip it back to its component parts and examine each one. Let's go!

“You”

- i. Who is the golden rule for; who is Jesus talking to when he gives the golden rule? (Back up your answer with Bible verses)

“Do”

- ii. Jesus begins the golden rule with “Do to others...” What are the big implications of the this little word ‘do’?

“What you would have them do to you”

- iii. This phrase is at the heart of the golden rule and is the power which drives it. Why is this?
- iv. Discuss how “Do to others what you would have them do to you” means Quality and Creativity. [It might be useful to look up Matt. 7:12 in the ESV for the ‘creativity’ part.]

“In everything”

- v. The phrase “in everything” makes the golden rule massively comprehensive! It covers every possible situation. What do you think are the areas in our individual personal lives and in our corporate church lives where we have a tendency to forget the broadness of the golden rule?

“To others”

- vi. The phrase “do to others” makes the golden rule utterly comprehensive, all-inclusive and all-encompassing in who we are to apply the golden rule to. Historically, which people has the universal church failed to apply the golden rule to? How can we learn from our mistakes?

“For” and “So”

- vii. Keeping the golden rule is hard! Why we should keep it and what will motivate us to keep it is contained within the verse. How does “For” tell us the reason we should keep the rule?
- viii. How does “So” motivate us to keep the golden rule? [Hint: what does “so” (or “therefore”) refer back to?]