

A Golden Rule State

We see phrases on automobile license plates that proclaim *Land of a Thousand Lakes*, *Sunshine State*, *Famous Potatoes*, *Big Sky Country*, and *Volunteer State*.

States, indeed, have a variety of slogans, and they display them in a variety of ways.

But what about *Golden Rule State*? There is one. It's Arizona.

In the spring of 2003, State Concurrent Resolution 1006 was passed, designating Arizona as the Golden Rule State.

In part, the resolution states that “the citizens of Arizona recognize and appreciate the wonderful diversity of peoples, cultures, faiths and languages that make up our state, and the Golden Rule proclaims that we should treat others the way we would like to be treated.” Through application of the Golden Rule, it continues, “we may be able to reduce, and even eliminate prejudice, hate, bigotry and racial intolerance.”

The resolution concludes: “Living and practicing the Golden Rule will have a powerfully positive effect on each individual and the society in which we live.”

And yes, there is a Golden Rule specialty license plate that motorists may order.



Applying the Golden Rule to everyday life is contagious, even in the secular world. But as Christians, we should treat others the way we want to be treated, not just because it's a decent creed to live by. Matthew 7:12 tells us to “treat people the same way you want them to treat you (NASB).”

That's a tall order! But start by taking it one day at a time – even one minute at a time.

Think about how you can affirm a loved one or a co-worker right now. If you would like to receive attention and encouragement, make sure you are giving them out.

– Beecher Hunter