Golden Rules for Living

It's the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Pretty good advice, huh?

And it is a philosophy that has been preached to us – at the dinner table, in the schoolroom, and from the pulpit – since we were children.

Recently, I ran across a collection of "Golden Rules for Living." The author, or collector, of these sayings is unknown, but they are most likely proverbs you have heard most of your life:

- If you open it, close it.
- If you turn it on, turn it off.
- If you unlock it, lock it up.
- If you break it, admit it.
- If you can't fix it, call in someone who can.
- If you borrow it, return it.
- If you value it, take care of it.
- If you make a mess, clean it up.
- If you move it, put it back.
- If it belongs to someone else and you want to use it, get permission.
- If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
- If it's none of your business, don't ask questions.
- If it ain't broke, don't fix it.
- If it will brighten someone's day, say it.
- If it will tarnish someone's reputation, keep it to yourself.

My guess is that these bits of wisdom have been directed your way by your parents, and most likely you are passing them along to your children.

– Beecher Hunter