

## *The Frenchman Richelieu*

The powerful French statesman Richelieu (1585-1642) was also known as a man of great courtesy. On one occasion, someone applied to him for a job, knowing that he would be turned down. Richelieu's manner of speech was so warm and accepting that it was worth having a request denied just to hear how graciously he expressed himself – even when he said no.

We can all learn from that example. We as Christians ought to be so sensitive to the needs, hurts and disappointments of others that no unkind words come from our lips and no harsh tone is heard in our voices – even when we find it necessary to be firm, and we will in the work we are called to do in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home. We have Christ dwelling within us, and as we yield to His control, His love will become evident not only in what we say, but also in how we say it.

The difference between being an offense or a blessing is sometimes just a manner of speaking.

Think about it. Gentle words fall lightly but carry great weight.

*Let your speech always be with grace.* Colossian 4:6

--Beecher Hunter