

TOLERANCE

vs. Prejudice

Showing respect for others who are different than me.



I choose to:

- listen to others.
- Look for ways to connect with others.
- Help others, and myself, grow.
- Remember that not everyone is the same.
- Know the difference between what is “popular” and what is “right.”

Tolerance is showing people that we are more concerned about communicating Christ’s love than correcting wrong ideas or behaviour.

Tolerance in the home includes:

- * Family members being patient with each other
- * Sons and daughters recognizing that parents are still growing in character and are not perfect
- * Parents realizing that each child will grow and develop good character at varying levels of enthusiasm and maturity.

Benefits of Tolerance

DISCERNMENT – Realizing that other people have different convictions and levels of maturity enables a person to have greater discernment of another’s true needs.

APPRECIATION – considering other peoples needs, rather than judging their deficiencies, shows appreciation and acceptance of them. This is usually reciprocated in kind.



Thorny devils make their home in some of the most inhospitable desert country in the world. However, they have adapted and developed a high level of tolerance towards their surroundings. They obtain sufficient water from the dew on grass, they are content to only ever eat ants and their spiny bodies and dappled markings provide an excellent defence against predators.

Personal Evaluation

How tolerant are you?

Do you view each person as an individual rather than as a member of a race, culture, or group?

Do you make allowances for those who are not as wise and mature as they should be?

Do you look for common ground with people of different viewpoints and behaviour rather than focussing on differing opinions and standards?

Do you serve people regardless of their viewpoints and ask God to change those who need changing?