

OUR CIVILITY CODE

"Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God,
honor the emperor"
1 Peter 2:17

Walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

²⁵ Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor,

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. . . .

³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Eph. 4:1-3, 25,29, 31-32

With these verses in mind, let's put them into practice in these ways:

- ◆ Lower volume levels to gentle, even voices no matter what the topic.
- ◆ Work hard to differ kindly and without demagoguery.
- ◆ Speak respectfully always.
- ◆ Tell the truth. Be kind, be gentle, be brave and always truthful.
- ◆ Do not interrupt or dominate in conversations.
- ◆ Listen, understand, ask questions before responding.
- ◆ Don't use incendiary words or accuse or ascribe motives.
- ◆ Build up others, no belittling, no mocking.
- ◆ Be courteous in word and deed. Say please and thank you.
- ◆ Speak well of others or remain silent.
- ◆ Never stereotype.
- ◆ Apologize immediately.
- ◆ Form opinions carefully and stay open if a better idea comes along.
- ◆ Show up when you say you will show up and do what you say you will do.

**Remember Jesus is Lord and you are called to walk worthy
as his representative.**