

HOW TO KNOW WHEN A PERSON IS A GODLY PERSON

1 Kings 17:17-24

Introduction: How can you tell if a person is a Godly person or not? Is it by their speech, language? Is it by the promises they make? Is it by the impression they give? We can tell a lot by just looking at or listening to a person. "Body language" speaks very loudly. Sometimes people who do not speak the same language of someone they are with can still communicate to a degree with each other by using "body language." But when it comes to "Godly" ways, how can you tell if a person really is a good, Godly person? Elijah was a Godly person, so let's take a brief look at how he acted.

I. GODLY PEOPLE LOVE EVERYONE, THEY NEVER MEET A "STRANGER"

1. Godly people rejoice with and mourn with every one who rejoices and mourns.
 - They are not taken in by the glitz and glamour of those who are surrounded by "I, me, my, and mine."
2. Read the scripture and describe the situation between Elijah and the widow and her son.
3. Imagine the mother's feeling of anger, guilt, helplessness, and fear when her only child stopped breathing.
4. Who would you turn to if you hurt, were scared, desperate?
 - Would it be someone who feels what you feel?
 - Would it be someone who would continue to love you even while you "aired" your feelings?
 - Would it be someone who is a Godly person, someone like Elijah, perhaps?

II. TRUE GODLY PEOPLE PRAY FOR ALL PEOPLE, NOT JUST FAVORITES

1. Most people saturate their prayer time with "I, me, my, mine" and that's who they talk to the Lord about most of the time.
2. Godly people have a steady prayer time with God, the Father, the Holy Spirit, and the Lord Jesus and they talk to God about everybody, not just the same ones all the time, their family/friends.
3. Read Elijah's prayer.
4. Now, notice what Elijah did after praying.
5. Elijah cared for the widow and her son, so he persisted in prayer for them.
6. True Godly people pray for everyone in words and then do deeds.

III. TRUE GODLY PEOPLE SERVE ALL PEOPLE

1. "I, me, my and mine" worshipers also serve only "I, me, my and mine."
2. Those who worship at the altar of the Lord Jesus, also do what He did - serve all people.
3. Elijah's service of bringing the widow's son back to life created a bridge of love and prayer over which he was able to serve and help her.
4. True Godly people build bridges of love and prayer over which they are then able to help and serve others.

CONCLUSION:

1. Many have "fallen through the cracks" in life without ever having anybody love them enough to pray for them and build a bridge over which to serve them.
2. How many have and will go to their graves and never had anybody pray over them or love them or do something for them?
3. How many of us Christians will go to our graves without ever having prayed for and loved enough to build a bridge over which we have helped others?
4. A true Godly person loves all people, prays for all people and serves all people, over which bridges are built with love and prayer and help is given.
5. When we, Christians, do as Elijah did, others will say of us what the widow said of Elijah (**v24**).