COURTEOUS

The King James version of the Bible reads thus in 1 Pet. 3:8 “Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.” The ESV reads: “Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.”

Courteous is defined: “marked by polished manners, gallantry, or ceremonial usage of a court, marked by respect for and consideration of others,” and Humble is defined: “not proud: not thinking of yourself as better than other people.”

The second word is described as the opposite of the first. Either way, we don’t see as much of it anymore as we once did. Some older folks still practice it but it isn’t seen much in young people. Some parents make a valiant effort, but it is difficult when their children are thrown with so many who could care less.

Christians, by nature are courteous, showing preference to those older and to women, which is as it should be.

Today we see children of all ages who show little regard for the rights and safety of others. In public places they cut in front of other people, intent on doing what they want, recklessly running in and out of crowds with disregard for their rights and their safety. Many an elderly person has been seriously injured by such.

Parents need to do a better job. Read Ephesians 6:1-3.

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